

Débats du Conseil des négociations UE-Japon

At the meeting of the Trade Council, ministers also discussed the free trade negotiations with Japan. These negotiations are subject to a review clause, meaning that the EU can decide to stop the negotiations in June 2014 if it feels that Japan has not made enough progress on the dismantling of several non-tariff barriers in the industry sector.

At a meeting of the Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe with Commission President José Manuel Barroso and European Council President Herman van Rompuy, the leaders of both sides affirmed their support for the negotiations and welcomed the recent exchange of tariff offers.

In a press conference, EU Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht said that the tariff offers are “not stunning, but they are what you would expect for a first offer”, thereby hinting that offers could still improve.

The leaders of the EU and Japan would like to conclude the negotiations by the end of 2015.

Source : [Newsletter de Freshfel N° 17 \(09/05/2014\)](#)