



EUMCCI TRADE AND INVESTMENT FORUM 2019

MEDIA COVERAGE REPORT

APRIL 19, 2019

ONLINE PRESS

EU-MALAYSIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY NEWS CLIPPINGS

EUMCCI TIF 2019 Coverage Clippings

Client : EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Medium : Bilaterals.org

Date : April 18, 2019

Headline : Malaysia might continue suspending FTA talks with EU and EFTA

Link : [Click Here](#)

Journalist : -

Malaysia might continue suspending FTA talks with EU and EFTA

posted 18-April-2019



New Straits Times - 18 April 2019

Malaysia might continue suspending FTA talks with EU and EFTA

By Agory Yusof

Malaysia may continue to suspend Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks with the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) until the issue of unfair and discriminatory practices against palm oil is resolved.

International Trade and Industry Ministry deputy secretary general (trade) Datuk Seri Norazman Ayob said Malaysian palm oil crop was singled out for deforestation with the highest indirect land use risk, contributing to high carbon emission.

"However, there is evidence that soybean contributes to higher carbon footprint and how is it possible crops such as soybean, rapeseed and sunflower produced in the EU are not subjected to the same risk as palm oil?" he said at the EU-Malaysia Trade and Investment Forum 2019 here today.

He said the FTA negotiations with the EU had been suspended due to the unfair treatment of Malaysian palm oil and its products.

"Malaysia supports international rules on trade, hence it should be fairly applied. Asian leaders have heard our views and agreed to suspend the elevation of that partnership. We hope the issue can be resolved.

"We do not rule out the possibility of taking other measures that will have far reaching implications on the trade relations with some EU countries," he added.

Norazman is hopeful that the EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EUMCCI) can help convey the message from the local palm oil industry to the EU.

Meanwhile, French ambassador to Malaysia Frédéric Laplanche said it was a common interest of the EU to find a positive outcome of the current setback.

"The EU is the second largest consumer of palm oil from Malaysia worldwide. This is not exactly a protectionism because we are a big customer and will continue to be open with the Malaysian palm oil," he said.

However, Laplanche said there was a requirement of sustainability not only for palm oil products but across other vegetable oils.

"The Malaysian government is taking a strong approach for the sustainability of the palm oil industry over the environmental issue.

"It deserves our full support and I'm convinced we (EU) will find positive outcomes for this FTA discussion as the new agreement ensures everybody benefits from it," he said.

EUMCCI chief executive officer Roberto Benedito is also hopeful of the resumption of the talks.

"We are examining some of the studies that the EU has done to prove the effectiveness of a possible FTA between Malaysia and EU," he said.

EUMCCI TIF 2019 Coverage Clippings

Client : EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Medium : Taiwan Trade Date : April 18, 2019

Headline : Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Malaysia said due to the palm oil dispute, the negotiations between Malaysia and the EU Free Trade Agreement and the European Free Trade Association were put on hold Link : [Click Here](#)

Journalist : -

馬來西亞貿工部副秘書長稱，由於棕油爭議，導致馬國與歐盟自由貿易協定和歐洲自由貿易協會談判被擱置

2019/04/18 / 撰稿人：經濟部/駐馬來西亞台北經濟文化辦事處經濟組



馬來西亞國際貿易暨工業部副秘書長諾阿茲曼(Norazman Ayob)表示，歐盟(EU)計劃限制使用棕油作為生質燃料的原料為導致馬國與歐盟自由貿易協定(MEUFTA)和歐洲自由貿易協會(EFTA)談判被擱置的主要因素。馬國不排除將採取其他可行性措施，這些措施將對馬國與歐盟的貿易關係產生深遠影響。諾認為馬國與歐盟的關係須以互惠為基礎，而不是單向的。

諾阿茲曼副秘書長還稱，馬國與印尼繼續其他東協成員國不要提升東協與歐盟的戰略夥伴關係，且歐盟已制定一個工作小組來處理馬國、印尼與歐盟之間的問題。

法國駐馬國大使Frédéric Laplanche表示，歐盟將繼續購買馬國的棕油，並深信棕油爭議將獲得解決。目前歐盟為馬國第二大棕油出口市場。諾特別強調指出，前述棕油爭議將可取得積極成果。馬國與歐盟不應再等待重啟該協定的談判。

EU-MALAYSIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY NEWS CLIPPINGS

2018年馬國與歐盟雙邊貿易額約為400億歐元，較十年前的約280億歐元增加42.86%。

另一方面，馬國對外貿易發展局（MATRADE）執行長旺拉迪夫(Wan Latiff)指出，馬國與歐盟對棕油的爭端將不會影響馬國對歐盟的出口。據該局統計數據顯示，2019年前2個月馬國與歐盟雙邊貿易額為286.5億馬幣(約合69.14億美元)，較2018年同期下跌3.5%，占馬國總貿易額10.18%；其中馬國對歐盟出口額為164.2億馬幣，成長4%；主要出口產品為電子與電腦產品、金屬製品、機械、設備與零件以及棕油製品。同期，馬國自歐盟進口額為122.3億馬幣，下跌12%。

“以上資訊為駐馬來西亞代表處經濟組提供”

備註:經濟部駐外單位為利業者即時掌握商機，廣泛蒐集相關資訊供業者參考。國際貿易局無從查證所有訊息均屬完整、正確，讀者如需運用，應自行確認資訊之正確性。