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## MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**  
Climate Change Service  
Legal Affairs Service  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau  
Forest Management Bureau  
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

FROM : **The OIC Director**  
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **4TH PH-EU FTA INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON 13 OCTOBER 2023 AT 09:30 AM VIA ZOOM**

DATE : **11 OCT 2023**

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This has reference to the electronic mail dated 11 October 2023 from the Department of Trade Industry – Bureau of Trade and International Affairs inviting the Department's technical representative to the **4th PH-EU Free Trade Agreement (PH – EU FTA) Inter-agency Meeting on 13 October 2023, 09:30 AM onwards**, via Zoom, in preparation for the upcoming stocktaking session on **27 October 2023**.

For reference, please refer to the attached annotated provisional agenda and the zoom meeting link below:

**<https://zoom.us/j/96380232172>**  
**Meeting ID: 963 8023 2172**

Likewise, we would like to reiterate our communication dated 22 August 2023, requesting your respective Offices to **provide inputs/comments**, particularly your reservation and/or offensive interest in relation to the Chapters on Energy and Raw Materials (Chapter 13) and Trade and Sustainable (Chapter 19).

We would appreciate receiving the confirmation of at least one (1) of your **Trade Focal/s<sup>1</sup>** and an advance copy of your responses **on or before 12 October 2023** through our email address: [psddivision@gmail.com](mailto:psddivision@gmail.com).

For your preferential action, please.

  
**CHERYL LOISE T. LEAL**

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<sup>1</sup> DENR SO No. 2023-458

**4<sup>th</sup> Inter-agency Meeting for the Philippines – European Union  
Free Trade Agreement Stocktaking Exercise**

13 October 2023, 0900-1100H

Via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96380232172> | Meeting ID: 963 8023 2172

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Highlights of the Bilateral Meeting between DTI Assistant Secretary Allan B. Gepty and EU Directorate-General for Trade Head of Unit Christophe Kiener**

*Chair to share the highlights of the bilateral meeting.*

- 3. Matters Arising from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stocktaking Session (06 October 2023)**

*Agencies to discuss the outcomes and follow-up actions arising from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stocktaking Session (official exchange of focal points and proposed schedule of intersessional meetings).*

- 4. Agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stocktaking Session (27 October 2023)**

*Chair to present the agenda for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session. Note that the program has yet to be shared by the EU.*

- 5. Discussion on the FTA Chapters for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stocktaking Session**

*Agencies will be requested to provide an assessment on each FTA chapter, as well as questions to be raised to the EU.*

- Trade and Sustainable Development (c/o NEDA-ANRES/DOLE/DENR)
- Energy and Raw Materials (c/o DOE)
- Competition and Subsidies (c/o PCC)
- State-Owned Enterprises (c/o PCC)
- Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (BSMED)
- Transparency and Good Regulatory Practices (c/o ARTA/NEDA-GOVS)

- 6. Matrix of PH Lead and Alternative Representatives**

*The List of PH Leads and Alternative Representatives will be presented for the inter-agency's information and further inputs.*

- 7. Preparations for the 4<sup>th</sup> Stocktaking Session at the Chief Negotiators' Level (December 2023)**

*Chair to present proposed preparations (focal and contact points, intersessional meetings, updated assessment per FTA chapter) for the 4<sup>th</sup> session. Agencies are invited to provide their views and propose preparatory activities.*

#### **8. Proposed Next Steps**

*The Meeting to discuss possible next steps in order to arrive at a common assessment of the issues and challenges foreseen with respect to possible resumption of FTA negotiations with the EU.*

*The Chair may also wish to inform the agencies of related activities under the ARISE+.*

#### **9. Other Matters**