



Parliamentary questions

17 March 2016

E-016118/2015

Answer given by Ms Malmström on behalf of the Commission

Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) negotiations with Morocco were launched on 1 March 2013. Four rounds of negotiations took place with good technical progress. After the fourth round, Morocco has asked for a break in the negotiations in order to launch accompanying studies on different sectors. In May 2015 a high level meeting took place in which Morocco indicated that it needed more time to come back with clear negotiating positions.

On 10 December 2015, the General Court delivered a judgment annulling Council Decision 2012/497/EU of 8 March 2012 on the conclusion of the EU-Morocco Agreement concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products, processed agricultural products, fish and fishery products. The agreement entered into force on 1 October 2012. The annulment by the GC is partial and only concerns the territorial scope; 'insofar the Council decision approves the application of the agreement to the territory of Western Sahara'. The Council has lodged an appeal against this judgment. It is at the current state too early to assess what the implications of the judgment will be on the EU-Morocco DCFTA negotiations.

Last updated: 18 March 2016

[Legal notice](#)