



Department for International Trade

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Dear Angus,

Update on UK–Mexico Free Trade Agreement Negotiations

I am writing to update you and your committee on the ongoing UK-Mexico Free Trade Agreement Negotiations which I launched alongside my counterpart, Secretary of Economy of the United Mexican States, Tatiana Clouthier, on 20 May.

The first round of negotiations was held during the week commencing 11 July, with technical discussions taking place both in person in Mexico City and virtually.

During this round, technical experts from both sides came together for discussions in 28 separate sessions covering 31 policy areas including; Goods Market Access, Rules of Origin, Cross-Border Trade in Services, Financial Services, Professional Business Services, Transport Services, Investment, Temporary Entry of Business Persons, Legal and Institutional Provisions, Labour, Trade and Gender Equality, Environment, Customs and Trade Facilitation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Animal Welfare, Competition, Subsidies, Consumer Protection, State Owned Enterprises, Technical Barriers to Trade, Digital, Telecommunications, Procurement, Good Regulator Practice, SMEs, Anti-corruption, Development, Innovation, Remedies, Disputes, Intellectual Property.

The negotiations were productive and demonstrated our shared ambition to secure a comprehensive deal that is significantly more ambitious than the current Trade Continuity Agreement, removing existing trade barriers and creating new opportunities for business in the UK and Mexico. An upgraded agreement will support UK trade across key areas such as financial and digital services. The majority of service exports to Mexico are delivered digitally. Therefore, including a modern digital commitment in the Free Trade Agreement will maximise opportunities for digital trade across all sectors of the economy.

The second round of official level negotiations with Mexico is due to take place in Autumn 2022 in London. I will write again to update you on progress following the second round. I would like to reiterate the commitment made by our Department to make the Chief Negotiator and relevant Senior Civil Servant experts available to brief the committee in private as negotiations progress. Our Department is committed to being transparent and keeping Parliament updated.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne-Marie Trevelyan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade