



Department for
International Trade



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
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The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith QC
Chairman
International Agreements Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

30 December 2020

Dear Lord Goldsmith QC,

Economic Partnership Agreement between the United Kingdom and Cameroon

The United Kingdom and Cameroon have today secured an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) that ensures mutual continuity of trade.

The deal allows businesses to trade freely as they do now, without any additional barriers or tariffs, and provides a foundation to extend our trading relationship in the future. The United Kingdom is committed to supporting developing countries by encouraging growth through trade. The preferential terms for key exports, such as bananas, will support jobs and economic development in Cameroon, and make sure British consumers get the products they want.

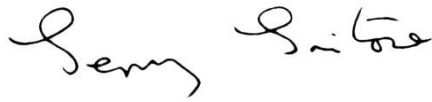
Total trade between us and Cameroon amounted to £200 million in 2019. Top goods imports to our shores from Cameroon in 2019 were in fruit and nuts, mostly bananas (£27 million), and wood and wood products (£25 million). 12 per cent of all exports of bananas from Cameroon come to Britain and this agreement will maintain their tariff-free market access here. It guarantees continued market access for British exporters too, who sold £51m in goods to Cameroon in 2019.

In under two years, HM Government has agreed trade agreements with 63 countries, plus the EU. Total trade with these countries was worth £867 billion in 2019. As set out in our election manifesto, we have ambitious goals for Britain's trade. We want to secure free trade agreements with countries that cover 80 per cent of our trade within three years.

This agreement will be entered into effect using a bridging mechanism, based on an initialled trade agreement. We expect to formally sign this agreement shortly.

I look forward to providing further information in due course, but wanted to write to you at the earliest opportunity.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grimstone', written in a cursive style.

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
Minister of State for Investment
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