



Department for  
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HM Treasury

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21 April 2026

### Post Ratification Trade Scrutiny

Dear Liam,

Thank you for your letter dated 13 April 2026, regarding your request for the Government to extend its existing FTA scrutiny commitments to cover the post-ratification period.

As the Committee is aware the Government's non-statutory commitments extend to the objectives, negotiation and ratification of a Free Trade Agreement. However, the Government is committed, and acknowledges the important role, of robust Parliamentary scrutiny of its Free Trade Agreement. Consequently, I can reassure the Committee that the Government is already committed to providing monitoring reports after two years of an FTA coming into force, and evaluation reports after five years.

I can confirm that monitoring and evaluation reports will be sent to the relevant Select Committees on publication.

These evaluation and monitoring reports, as outlined by the then Government Minister, and current Chair of the International Agreements Committee, Lord Johnson, during Parliamentary debates on the Trade (Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership) Act 2024 will cover items such as:

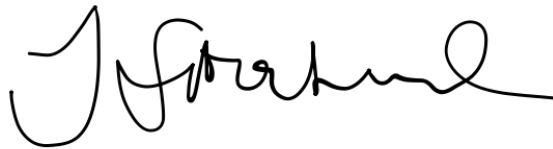
*"...trade flows...utilisation of the agreement; ISDS cases, which will be important to many speakers today; an overview of the work of the committees under the agreement to facilitate co-operation and implementation—that is particularly relevant when it comes to labour standards, environmental standards, reduction of the risk of deforestation and many other areas. There will be information on the environment covering many of the issues discussed today and on the impact of the agreement on all parts of the United Kingdom."*

The Government can also confirm that it will provide written updates to Committees, on a confidential basis, during these reviews and should the Committee request, Ministers or officials will appear before the Committee to answer questions.

Amendments to treaties are published via the FCDO treaty series website ([Treaties published in the Treaty Series from 2018 to present - GOV.UK](#)) and are fully available to the Committee.

It should be noted that the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act (CRaG) 2010 recognises that amendments are also legally binding instruments. CRaG therefore applies equally to amendments as it does new treaties, subjecting to scrutiny those that would enter into force upon ratification. Should a Committee seek a debate on these amendments, the Government will see if a debate could be facilitated, though this will be subject to Parliamentary time.

With best wishes,

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

**Lord Stockwood of Great Grimsby and Cleethorpes**  
**Minister for Investment**  
**Department for Business and Trade and His Majesty's Treasury**