

Report of the meeting on the EU-Myanmar Investment Protection Agreement

Yangon – 26 and 27 April 2017

On 26 and 27 April 2017, the chief negotiators met in Yangon to discuss the issues outstanding from the 4th round of negotiations held in December 2016. Both sides discussed on the newest elements of the EU's reformed approach to investment protection and investment dispute resolution, including a robust code of conduct for the judges of the Investment Court System. Very good progress was achieved and agreement was reached on the main elements. This builds on the agreement found on the transparency and sustainable development chapters of the agreement. Discussions will continue in order to finalise the text.

Once this agreement enters into force, it will establish a level playing field and ensure the protection and fair treatment of investment from both sides, as well as promote transparency and good administrative behaviour for measures that impact investment. The agreement safeguards the right to regulate of the Parties and also aims to protect workers' rights and the environment, as well as boost responsible business conduct.

A Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) conducted in 2016 provides an in-depth analysis of the agreement's potential economic, social, environmental and human rights impacts. The Commission has recently published its position paper [add link] indicating how it intends to take into account the recommendations made in the SIA.