

Belgium drama over, EU and Canada to sign trade deal



Minister-President of Belgium's French-speaking Walloon Region Paul Magnette, *centre*, gestures as he speaks with Walloon Minister of Economy, Industry, Innovation and IT Jean-Claude Marcourt, *right*, and Walloon Minister of Public Works, Road Safety, Health, Social Affairs, Family Allowances, Equal Chances, Economic Activities and Heritage Maxime Prevot during the vote on the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement at the plenary session of the Walloon Parliament in Namur, on Friday.

AFP, Brussels

EU nations approved a landmark free-trade deal with Canada late Friday, clearing the way for its signing after a drama that saw Belgian regions threaten to torpedo years of negotiations.

"Mission accomplished!" European Union president Donald Tusk tweeted, announcing that the deal would be signed at a summit in Brussels on Sunday with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

The Canadian premier wrote back on Twitter: "Great news and I'm looking forward to being there."

In a phone call with Tusk, he hailed the deal as "a good sign in an uncertain world", an EU source said.

Trudeau also tweeted applause for Chrystia Freeland, Canada's trade minister, thanking her for her "skill and dedication in negotiating a deal to grow Canada's middle class and strengthen our economy".

Officially known as the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), the deal removes 99 percent of customs duties between the two sides, linking the single EU market of 500 million people with the world's 10th largest economy.

Sunday's signing summit will begin at 0930 GMT, with the signing due at 1100 GMT, Tusk's spokesman Preben Aamann said on Twitter.

Just days ago the CETA deal -- the most ambitious ever negotiated by the EU -- had been hanging by a thread due to protests from Belgium's Wallonia region and other French-speaking communities over its potential damage to local interests.

The trade agreement requires all 28 EU member states to endorse it and in some cases -- as in Belgium -- regional governments also have to give their approval, meaning Wallonia and the other holdouts were effectively blocking the deal.

Trudeau had been due to arrive in Brussels on Thursday to sign the deal but that had to be called off, with leaders including Tusk warning that the debacle was further damaging EU credibility following Britain's shock vote to leave the bloc.

Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel held marathon talks in a bid to win the holdout regions over, finally announcing Thursday that the two sides had reached a deal.

Belgium became a lightning rod for warnings that the EU's international standing, hit by a migration crisis as well as the Brexit vote, would suffer further if seven years of trade negotiations were to go to waste.

After hitting deadlock in talks with Walloon leaders last week, an emotional Freeland dismissed Brussels as "incapable" of achieving an international agreement.

Paul Magnette, head of the southern French-speaking Wallonia, had fought for the region's farming interests and guarantees against international investors forcing governments to change laws against the wishes of the people.

While Michel has said the fraught talks with Wallonia "did not change a comma" in the deal, Magnette says he walked away with assurances from the federal government of strengthened social and environmental protection.

"CETA amended, CETA corrected -- that is fairer than the former CETA and offers more guarantees," Magnette said.

The EU was cleared to sign the pact shortly after Wallonia's parliament voted to approve the deal, along with that of the Brussels-Capital region and the Federation Wallonia-Brussels.

Once signed, the pact will go into effect on a provisional basis, pending full member state ratification -- a process that could take years.



Finance Minister AMA Muhith hands over an award to Brac Bank Managing Director Selim RF Hussain at a ceremony at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka on October 26 as the bank won the ICMAB Best Corporate Award 2015 in the private commercial bank (traditional operation) category. Parvez Sajjad, chief financial officer of the bank, was also present.

Chakri.com Presents
BUP Career & Education Fest 2016

Chief Guest: Major Ahteram Uddin, rcds, psc
 Venue: Bangladesh University of Professionals

Associate Partner: Chakri.com

Ahteram Uddin, chief operating officer of Prothom Alo Digital, speaks at a session of Career & Education Fest 2016 at Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) on October 25. Chakri.com in collaboration with BUP organised the event.



Kazi M Aminul Islam, executive chairman of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, receives a crest from Md Humayun Kabir, vice chancellor (designate) of IBAIS University, Dhanmondi, as Islam attended a discussion on "investment promotion and entrepreneurship development" at the university auditorium yesterday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Office of the Project Director
 Establishment of Institute of Livestock Science & Technology Project
 Department of Livestock Services, Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215
 Phone & Fax: 02-9128616, E-mail: ilst.dls@gmail.com

Invitation for e-Tender

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, registration in the National e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

Sl No.	Tender ID and Reference No.	Name of scheme	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time
01	71807 ILST/WD-09/Gopal/16-17/1216	Construction of girls hostel of 5-storied building with 6-storied RCC frame structure foundation at Gopalganj under ILST Project	29 Nov 2016 at 13.00 hours	29 Nov 2016 at 13.30 hours
02	72235 ILST/WD-09/Netro/16-17/1214	Construction of girls hostel of 5-storied building with 6-storied RCC frame structure foundation at Netrakona under ILST Project	29 Nov 2016 at 13.30 hours	29 Nov 2016 at 14.00 hours
03	72029 ILST/WD-09/Khul/16-17/1215	Construction of girls hostel of 5-storied building with 6-storied RCC frame structure foundation at Dumuria, Khulna under ILST Project	29 Nov 2016 at 12.30 hours	29 Nov 2016 at 13.00 hours

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Dr. Muhammad Haider Ali
 Project Director
 Establishment of Institute of Livestock Science & Technology Project
 Department of Livestock Services (DLS)

GD-2161

Spain's growth slowed but remained firm in third quarter

AFP, Madrid

Spain's growth slowed but remained firm in the third quarter, official data showed Friday, just as the country emerges from 10 months of political crisis with the conservatives set to head up a minority government.

The Ine statistics agency said that GDP expanded by 0.7 percent compared to the previous three months, which had registered 0.8 percent growth.

Compared to the same period in 2015, the economy rose 3.2 percent from July to September, the same rate as in the second quarter.

This is well above the eurozone average of 1.6 percent in the second quarter -- the latest figures published by statistics agency Eurostat.

The GDP figure for the third quarter is the same as that predicted last month by the central bank, which pointed to a slight fall in exports compared to the previous three months.

But the central bank had said that household and company spending remained strong, as unemployment drops and interest rates remain low.

For 2016, the government predicts growth of 2.9 percent, while the central bank thinks it will be higher, at 3.2 percent.

The growth figure comes a day after the Ine agency said unemployment dropped to its lowest rate in six years at 18.9 percent in the third quarter, thanks in large part to the services sector during a bountiful summer season for tourism.

S&P confirms British rating, warns on Brexit

AFP, London

Standard & Poor's maintained Friday its rating for Britain, having removed its coveted 'AAA' status after the June 23 EU exit referendum, and warned again over the impact of Brexit.

S&P said in a statement that Britain's assessment remained at 'AA' with a negative outlook, meaning that the agency could lower the rating in the medium term.

"In our opinion, Brexit presents a significant risk to the UK's track record of strong economic performance, and to its large financial sector in particular," S&P said.

"The Leave result has also led to a less predictable and stable policy framework for the UK."

It added: "The outlook remains negative, reflecting the continued institutional and economic uncertainty surrounding Brexit negotiations, and what arrangements will emerge post-departure."

S&P also flagged uncertainty over the future of Britain's membership of the single market.

"The recent decision to exit the European Union -- the destination for 44 percent of the UK's goods and services exports -- poses a potential risk to the UK's national income, as well as its fiscal and external balances," it said.

Office of the Chief Engineer
 Khulna University
 Khulna

Memo No: KU/Engg/04/2016(07)-201 Date: 26-10-2016

Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

1.	Employer	Ministry of Education.
2.	Agency	Khulna University.
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Chief Engineer, Khulna University.
4.	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present.
5.	Procuring Entity District	Khulna.
6.	Expression of Interest for selection of	Consulting Firm (National).
7.	EOI Ref No.	KU/Engg/04/2016(07)-201
8.	Date	26/10/2016
KEY INFORMATION		
9.	Procurement sub-method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS).
FINDING INFORMATION		
10.	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
11.	Project Code	N/A
12.	Project Name	Further Infrastructural Development of Khulna University.
13.	EOI Package No.	05 to 09
14.	EOI Publication Date	Within 5 days.
15.	EOI closing Date and Time	Up to 29/11/2016 2.30pm
16.	EOI Opening Date and Time	On 29/11/2016 3.00pm
17.	Place of EOI Submission	Office of the Chief Engineer, Khulna University, Khulna.
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
18.	Brief Description of the Assignment	a) Detail Architectural, Structural, Electrical, Sanitary/Plumbing Design/Drawing and 3D view/animation of the following structure. Package : 05 • 4 th Academic Building. Package : 06 • Teachers' Students' Centre (TSC) and Auditorium. • Medical Centre. Package : 07 • Institute of Education and Research (IER) Building. Package : 08 • Gymnasium. Package : 09 • Residential Building. b) Top supervision of Architectural, Structural, Electrical and Plumbing etc works of the above projects.
19.	Experience, Resources and Delivery capacity required	The consulting firm should have a general experience for at least 5 (five) years. All assignment must be completed satisfactorily. The EOI to be submitted along with the following documents: (i) Registration of the firm. (ii) Background of the firm with brochures. (iii) Summary of similar nature of works experience of last 3 (three) years with assignment name, starting date, completion date including financial year. (iv) Organization information, manpower having relevant experience and professional qualification. (v) Availability of resources. (vi) Support service of the firm. (vii) Availability of resources supported by audit report for the last 1 (one) year. (viii) Logistic services of the firm.
20.	Other Information	a) Consulting firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement Rules-2008 (PPR-2008). Interested consulting firms may obtain further information from the undersigned during office hours excepting university holidays. b) The consulting firm may be limited company/individual firm/firms in Joint Venture/Association (National). c) Proposal will be submitted individually for individual package. d) One firm may not be awarded more than two Nos. packages. e) The bidders are liable to abide by the decisions of the university authority. f) The VAT/Income Tax and other taxes, if any, imposed by the Govt. of Bangladesh will be deducted from their bills.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
21.	Name and Official Inviting EOI	Office of the Chief Engineer.
22.	Designation of official inviting EOI	Chief Engineer (I/C), Khulna University, Khulna.
23.	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Chief Engineer, Khulna University, Khulna-9208.
24.	Contact details of official EOI	Tel. No: 041-733729, Fax No: 880-41-731244 720171-3, Ex 5006
25.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI.	

Md. Abdur Razzaque
 Chief Engineer (In-charge)
 Khulna University, Khulna

GD-2174