



US Poultry Industry Urges for Free Trade with EU

<http://www.worldpoultry.net/news/us-poultry-industry-urges-for-free-trade-with-eu-4747.html>

The American poultry industry has urged US trade representative Ron Kirk to pursue a World Trade Organization (WTO) act against European Union rules that block American poultry from the European market. The presidents of the National Chicken Council (NCC), National Turkey Federation (NTF), and USA Poultry & Egg Export Council (USAPEEC) told Kirk's agency by letter the injustice against US poultry has continued for long time, and it is time to begin to rectify the unjust. They encouraged USTR to pursue the dispute settlement process.

The EU bans US poultry that has been processed using chlorinated water, which helps to control potentially pathogenic microorganisms and is considered safe and effective by US authorities. The industry estimates that the policy prevents it from developing a market in Europe worth about \$240 million for chicken and \$60 million for turkey and duck.

The industry leaders noted WTO rules require that sanitary measures must be based on sound science and risk assessments to make sure they are employed fairly, justifiably, and non-discriminately. George Watts, president of NCC; Joel Brandenberger of NTF; and James H. Sumner of USAPEEC wrote the EU has conducted no risk assessment to justify the ban on US poultry. The EU has not been able to demonstrate nor justify the reason to use of pathogen reduction treatments is not scientifically acceptable and a politically expedient decision should be acceptable. Pursuing the WTO dispute settlement process may not only prove to restore US poultry exports to the EU but will promote and reinforce the critical WTO principles that address the international rules of trade and will provide for more predictable and fairer opportunity for agricultural exports to participate in the global market.

NCC represents integrated

chicken producer-processors, the companies that produce and process chickens. NTF is the advocate for all segments of the US turkey industry.

USAPEEC promotes the export of US poultry and egg products around the globe.

(Jeska Daslita)

Indonesia Proposes ASEAN Delay FTA

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/05/indonesia-proposes-asean-delay-fta.html>

The Indonesian government submitted a proposal to the ASEAN Council last week to postpone tariff reductions on 228 items under the free trade agreement between the regional grouping and China. Industrial Minister Mohamad Suleman Hidayat stated the Indonesia notification sent to the ASEAN Council last week stipulates that Indonesia wish a renegotiation.

Coordinating Economic Minister of Republic of Indonesia, Hatta Rajasa stated the formal renegotiations will be held later this year, with the Trade Ministry as the government's representative on the deal table. Indonesia and the ASEAN Council have continuously held informal talks with their counterparts. They will renegotiate, while referring to the protocols of their agreement.

The AC-FTA (ASEAN CHINA Free Trade Area), effective early this

year, applied zero tariffs on 6,682 tariff lines in 17 sectors, including 12 in manufacturing, and 5 in agriculture, mining and maritime sectors. In addition to the Agriculture Ministry's plans, the Industrial Ministry will set tighter control through, antidumping measures as tariff barriers are no longer an option.

Anti-dumping measures enforced to counter dumping occur usually by imposing additional import tariffs, while dumping happens when a manufacturer exports products to another country at prices below those charged in the home market, or even below production costs. Hidayat added Indonesia needs another strategy to be more selective regarding imported goods, thus they do not flood the domestic market without any guard.

Apart from anti-dumping measures, the Industrial Ministry issued

mandatory SNIs (Indonesian National Standard) on, among others, safety shoes, packaged mineral water, dry batteries and zinc-aluminum-coated steel in 2009. It is set to mandate SNIs on cocoa powder and children's toys later this year.

Agriculture Minister Suswono proposed another measure to protect domestic industries from an influx of Chinese products, tightening quarantine on fruit vegetable imports at entry points. Suswono said the government had prepared necessary facilities in quarantines across the archipelago. He

also said his ministry had teamed with state surveying firm PT Sucofindo and would collaborate with private companies for tighter control. He added domestic producers and importers have said they are willing to cooperate with the Agriculture Ministry. The government would maximize the implementation of sanitary phytosanitary measures — a WTO agreement on food safety and animal and plant health standards. The Agriculture Ministry would also issue mandatory SNIs on food.

(Jeska Daslita)

Digital Piracy Hits the e-book Industry

http://edition.cnn.com/2010/TECH/01/01/ebook_piracy/index.html?iref=allsearch

Digital piracy, long confined to music and movies, is spreading to books. And as electronic reading devices such as Amazon's Kindle, the Sony Reader, Barnes & Noble's Nook, smartphones and Apple's much-anticipated "tablet" boost demand for e-books, experts say the problem may only get worse. Albert Greco, an industry expert and professor of marketing at Fordham Univer-

sity, said piracy of e-books is exploding. Sales for digital books in the second quarter of 2009 totaled almost \$37 million. That's more than three times the total for the same three months in 2008, according to the Association of American Publishers (AAP).

When Dan Brown's novel "*The Lost Symbol*" was released to stores in September, it may have offered a

peek at the future of bookselling. On Amazon.com, the book sold more digital copies for the Kindle e-reader in its first few days than hardback editions. This was seen as something of a paradigm changing in the publishing industry, but it also may have come at a cost. Less than 24 hours after its release, pirated digital copies of the novel were found on file-sharing sites such as Rapidshare and BitTorrent. Within days, it had been downloaded for free more than 100,000 times.

Statistics are hard to obtain, and many publishers are reluctant to discuss the subject for fear of encouraging more illegal downloads. However, digital theft may pose a big headache in 2010 for the slumping publishing industry, which relies increasingly on electronic reading devices and e-books to stimulate sales. Hachette Book group stated that piracy is a serious issue for publishers. The company that publishes Stephenie Meyer's popular "Twilight" teen novel series said that it considers copyright protection to be of paramount importance.

Authors are concerned as well. For instance, Sherman Alexie, a novelist and poet, gave his concern to best seller authors such as Stephen King and James Patterson. It becomes easier to be pirated, when their books become digitized completely. He also opined the open-source culture on the

internet caused the idea of ownership of artistic ownership become vanished.

It is not just bestsellers novel that are targeted to piracy. Ed McCoyd, director of digital policy at AAP, said Textbooks are frequently pirated, so are many other categories. We can see piracy of professional content such as medical books and technical guides, general fiction and non-fiction. Thus it runs the scope.

Piracy of digital music has been a threat to recording companies for more than a decade. For many years, the record companies tried different approaches to combat illegal downloading, from shutting down web sites to encrypting songs with digital-rights management software to sue individual file-sharers.

To some industry observers, this may be where the future of the book industry is heading. However, publishers and authors give wide range of opinions in combating e-book piracy. Some publishers may try to minimize theft by delaying releases of e-books for several weeks after physical copies being published. Simon & Schuster recently delayed the e-book release of Stephen King's novel, "*Under the Dome*," However the publisher stated the decision was made to prevent cheaper e-versions from diminishing hardcover sales.

Some authors have gone far to minimize e-book technology. J.K. Rowling has refused to make any of her Harry Potter books available in digital version because of piracy fears and intention to see the readers experience her printed books. However, some evidence shows authors' and publishers' claims of damage from illegal piracy may be overstated.

Recent statistics have shown consumers who purchase an e-reader buy more books than those who buy the traditional bound volumes. Amazon re-

ports Kindle owners buy, on average, 3.1 times as many books on the site as other customers. Ana Maria Alessi, publisher for Harper Media at HarperCollins, told CNN they have to be vigilant in their punishment, yet more attractive is simply make the technology better. She opined E-book technology offers many positives for both the author and the consumer. She also added Consumers who invest in one of these dedicated e-book readers tend to read more and load it up.

(Jeska Daslita)

Australians, Canadian Held on Human Trafficking Allegations

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/28/australians-canadian-held-human-trafficking-allegations.html>

Police in Merak, Banten province, have arrested two Australians and one Canadian on charges of human trafficking.

National Police chief detective, Commander General Ito Sumardi, identified Australians and Canadian. They were arrested for posing as humanitarian activists who helped asylum seekers stranded in Indonesia.

He also said they have preliminary evidence that they were involved in human trafficking activities. But they

need to question them for more information. He added he had not yet received a complete report about the arrest.

Local media reported that the foreigners were activists with the Refugee Action Coalition (RAC). They are currently being detained at the Merak Police station.

Indonesian activists have criticized the arrest, saying the police did not have sufficient evidence to arrest the foreigners.

A local labor activist, Mahendra, said the women had come to Indonesia to monitor how Indonesia has handled the 200 or so Sri Lankan boat people who stranded in Merak for three months on a boat which designed to accommodate 50 people. Mahendra said they did not know the reason they were being arrested since the police officers did not have any warrants.

The boat, which only has one toilet, the asylum seekers survive on government rations that are far from adequate. Many of the boat people suf-

fer from various diseases including rashes and diarrhea. Indonesia is holding dozens of boat people from Afganistan, Pakistan and Myanmar elsewhere in the country.

Mahendra said the foreign activists were arrested at Indah Kiat Port near the boat where the Australia-bound Tamil boat people were being held by Indonesian authorities.

The Indonesian government has cooperated with Australia in the handling of asylum seekers.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

Commemorating Anti-Human Trafficking Day

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/12/12/commemorating-antihuman-trafficking-day.html>

In addition to three other commemorations this month, the World AIDS Day on December 1st, the International Anti Corruption Day on December 9th and the Human Rights Day on December 10th, Indonesia needs to formally commemorate Anti-Human Trafficking Day which falls on December 12th.

Indonesia Against Child Trafficking (Indonesia ACTs) has been campaigning to stop child trafficking and

intensifies its programs in December every year, in collaboration with the media, stakeholders and the public. A campaign against child trafficking is conducted every year on December 12th to commemorate the adoption of the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime adopted in Palermo, Italy, on Decem-

ber 12th, 2000. On the occasion of Anti-Human Trafficking Day on December 12th, 2009, Asia Against Child Trafficking (AsiaACTs) is reminding everyone of their responsibility to protect children against trafficking and exploitation.

Over 115 awareness-raising events will be conducted in Southeast Asia to commemorate the adoption of the UN protocol supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

Coordinator of the Indonesia ACTs National Presidium, Emmy Lucy Smith, said that the network in Indonesia was staging special events to commemorate Anti-Human Trafficking Day this year (2009). She said, they will always make December 12th as a formal day to campaign against human trafficking. In March this year (2009), Indonesia ratified the Palermo protocol, which was endorsed on December 12th, 2000. She added that this year's campaign is themed "child protection is everyone's responsibility - stop child trafficking!". The activities will be held on December 12th by Indonesia ACTs' network, namely, Yayasan Kusuma Buana, SARI, Samin Foundation, Yayasan Kawan Kami, Kakak Foundation, Rifka Annisa, Rumah Perempuan, Yayasan Anak dan Perempuan, LBH Apik Pontianak, Perkumpulan Panca Karsa, KKSP and Setara Foundation. Indo-

nesia ACTs' activities include theater presentations, film screenings, art competitions, song and traditional dance performances, radio dialogue and discussions with journalists.

Child trafficking continues to exist as unscrupulous people in the local and international markets are free to create a demand for exploitation, while countries that serve as sources of supply still provide inadequate protection for their children. The Global Report on Trafficking in persons in 2009 of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime states, 79 percent of all global trafficking is for sexual exploitation, followed by forced labor, which there was 15 to 22 percent increase in the proportion of minors involved in various forms of human trafficking between 2003 and 2007, and that children comprise almost 20 percent of all trafficking victims.

Being a multi-faceted form of violence, collaborative and comprehensive action must be carried out to address the problem of child trafficking. Thus, Asia ACTs urges individuals, families, government officials, NGOs, religious groups, media practitioners and civil society to work together and perform their duty of protecting children, upholding the rights of children who are victims of trafficking and ensuring their full recovery and reintegration.

Children are also encouraged to protect themselves and their peers from being trafficked. As a regional campaign against child trafficking, Asia ACTs, with support from the European Union and Terre des Hommes Netherlands, will make this appeal in South-east Asia through its campaign partners.

Human trafficking has a devastating impact on individual victims, who often suffer physical and emotional

abuse, rape, threats against self and family, and even death. The impact of human trafficking goes beyond individual victims. It undermines the health, safety and security of all the nations it touches. Commemorating Anti-Human Trafficking Day will eventually increase our awareness to protect children and will hopefully prevent human trafficking.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

Indigenous People Get '20%' REDD Money

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/29/indigenous-people-get-%E2%80%9920%E2%80%99-redd-money.html>

A Minister said at least 20 percent of revenue from the forest carbon scheme should be transferred to indigenous people who play crucial roles in protecting the forest to avoid emission leakages. State Environment Minister, Gusti Muhammad Hatta, said that much revenue from the carbon trade was needed to ensure the sustainability of emission reduction in tackling climate change. He said, giving indigenous people a fair share also acknowledges their rights. Furthermore, the government could not leave the indigenous people behind in projects relating to

the forest as they were at the forefront of environmental preservation. In addition, indigenous people had great knowledge about how to protect the forest. He added the traditional people have long been conscious of the environment. It is important to include them in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) projects.

REDD was expected to be an alternative to emission cuts from forests, which contributed about 20 percent to global emissions. Under the scheme, countries that protect their forests can

receive financial incentives through the carbon trade from rich nations. However, debates on land and forest rights have been a hot topic at both national and international levels, mainly concerning efforts to mitigate global warming.

Activists said the unclear status of indigenous people and tribal communities managing forests would hamper the implementation of REDD programs.

Meanwhile, Hatta signed a memorandum of understanding with the Alliance of Archipelagic Indigenous People (AMAN) on environmental protection. Hatta also inaugurated 35 indigenous people, also AMAN members, as the country's ambassadors in protecting the environment.

AMAN secretary-general, Abdon Nababan, welcomed Hatta's statement. Nonetheless he said, that their main concern was not on the percent-

age of revenue. They want the government to acknowledge the rights of indigenous people.

There are currently 1.163 tribal communities in AMAN. AMAN claimed that from Indonesia's 210 million population, between 50 million and 70 million were part of customary communities earning their livelihood from forests.

Abdon said that the government continued to ignore communal rights by allowing natural resources of customary land and forests to be exploited. Hatta said that about 20 percent of money from REDD projects should also be allocated to local administrations that controlled the forests. The remaining expected revenue from forest carbon trade will be for investors. While ten percent will go to the central government. The REDD scheme was expected to take effect in 2013.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

Japanese Technology for Cleaner RI Slaughterhouses

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/29/japanese-tech-cleaner-ri-slaughterhouses.html>

The government of Japan has offered a co-benefit cooperation to develop eco-friendly slaughterhouses and landfills to cope with climate change

and pollution in Indonesia. Japan would provide technology to capture emissions from slaughterhouses and landfills in Indonesia and alter them as en-

ergy sources to generate electricity for citizens.

However, the Deputy assistance on pollution control from the agro industry sector at the State Environment Ministry, Tuty Hendrawaty said, the total emission cuts from projects belong to Indonesia. She said that pilot projects would be in slaughterhouses in Palembang, South Sumatra and the landfill in Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan.

She said experts from Japan and Indonesia have conducted feasibility studies on the planned projects. The governments of Indonesia and Japan organized a two-day workshop on co-benefit cooperation in Jakarta, which attended by officials from several provinces.

Slaughterhouses and landfills are among the major sources of water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, especially in developing countries due to poor management. Untreated wastewater often flows into rivers, which are the main sources of clean water for the public. Slaughterhouses and landfills also carry diseases that can be transferred to humans, while wastewater generates methane gas. Methane is reported as far more dangerous to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

The Japanese government launched the "Cool Earth 50" initiative in 2007 to establish a global warming management framework with the long-term target of halving greenhouse gas emissions until 2050. Japan and Indonesia signed a joint statement on environmental protection through the co-benefit approach in 2007, including the implementation of the 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle). Afterwards, Indonesia produced massive campaigns on the 3R concept to reduce the size of landfills.

The data taken from the State Environment Ministry shows more than 60 percent out of the 170 surveyed cities in 2008 relied on poorly managed landfills. Showed many cities only disposed around 65 percent of daily waste at the final disposal site with the remaining illegally dumped in rivers or at parks and were illegally burned. The report stated Indonesia produced a large amount of methane gas from garbage. Producing around 45 million cubic meters of garbage annually, mostly from metropolitan cities, Indonesia may be producing around 520,000 tons of methane, the report said. Indonesian President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has promised to cut 26 percent of emissions by 2020, of which about 6 percent of emission reduction would be from the waste sector.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

Papuans Rally to Gain International Support

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/28/papuans-rally-gain-international-support.html>

During a rally demanding a referendum in Timika, Papua, a protester holds a poster that reads "Indonesia, be honest in recognizing the freedom of our West Papuan nation". Around 1500 Papuans in Mimika staged a rally to support the registration of the International Parliamentarians for West Papua and the International Lawyers for West Papua at the European Union in Brussels. Rally coordinator, Mario Pigei, of the West Papua National Committee said his organization had been entrusted by the international committee to serve as a domestic coordinator for the movement.

The rally started at the Kemah Injili church and ended at the regency legislative council, it aimed to gain support for its agenda from West Papuans. While reading up a written statement during the rally, Mario said the international committee calls on the whole components of West Papua from Sorong to Samarai to be serious and to take part in the movement by showing support to the agenda. The agenda is very valuable for the identity of Papuans. In their speeches, rally participants demanded a referendum to decide the political status of Papua,

arguing that the 1969 poll, known as Pepera, was not in line with international law. They urged the United Nations to review the poll.

Mario said Papuans are always accused of separatism. Many of us have been killed in the name of separatism. He urged the European countries that provided funds for the implementation of special autonomy in Papua to stop disbursing the money. He claimed 60 percent of the fund had been spent on military operations. He said Papuans, through the national committee for West Papua, urge the United Nations Security Council to unveil human rights violations in Papua which committed during the military operations. He added that Papuans demanded a dialogue with the international community because they considered Indonesia have failed to address basic problems in Papua.

Referring to the leader of Free Papua Movement (OPM), Mario said, human rights violations continue being committed in Papua with the killings of Papuan figures including Kelly Kwalik. The Indonesian government has to take responsibility for his death.

He called on the Papuan police and military to withdraw their troops from the region and urged the international peace force to reveal those responsible for the latest shooting inci-

dent at mining firm, PT Freeport Indonesia, and insisting that the incident had not been committed by OPM.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

Parties to Three International Treaties on Hazardous Waste to Join Forces

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/02/02/parties-three-int%E2%80%99l-treaties-hazardous-waste-join-forces.html>

Over 1.000 signatories to three international treaties on hazardous chemical substances will hold meetings in Bali to discuss coordinated efforts to mitigate toxic pollutants. The meeting of over 160 parties to the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions will be held from February 22 to February 24.

Indonesian delegate, Rasio Ridho Sani, said, for Indonesia, joint cooperation between the members of the three treaties will have a positive budget impact as more funds will be spent on activities in the field rather than on administrative matters. Indonesia is party to the Basel and Rotterdam conventions. He added that Indonesia is on the way to ratify the Rotterdam agreement.

State Environment Minister, Gusti Muhammad Hatta, will be the president of the conference of parties

(COP) to the Basel convention.

The Bali meeting will focus on six issues, including joint activities, joint managerial functions, joint services, synchronization of budget cycles and a joint audit account. The idea to enhance cooperation among the three multilateral environmental treaties was raised in 2006 to resolve overlapping work in regard to chemical pollutants.

The Basel Convention on the control of trans-boundary movements of hazardous waste and its disposal has been ratified by 172 countries. The convention requires parties to ensure that hazardous waste is managed in an eco-friendly manner to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of pollutants.

The Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) promotes the open exchange of information on the trade of certain hazardous

chemicals and pesticides. Under the Rotterdam treaty, which went into force in 2004, parties can decide whether to allow or ban the importation of chemicals listed in the Agreement.

The Stockholm convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) obliges each party to take measures to curb the release of pollutants into the environment. POPs are toxic chemicals that remain in the environment for a long period and can accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms.

Currently, 164 countries have signed the Stockholm convention, which came into effect in 2004. Indonesia ratified the Stockholm conven-

tion last year (2009) after the country signed it in 2001.

The convention bans 12 chemicals, known as the "dirty dozen", because they do not break down easily in the natural environment, can travel long distances, and accumulate in human and animal tissue.

The Global Ministerial Environmental Forum was organized by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Indonesian delegate, Liana Bratasida, said the country would raise ocean issues at the ministerial meeting to press for global recognition of the role of oceans in mitigating climate change.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)

UN committee criticizes North Korea rights violations

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/11/20/un-committee-criticizes-north-korea-rights-violations.html>

A key United Nations (UN) committee expressed a very serious concern at widespread reports of torture and other grave human rights violations in North Korea and strongly urged the government to put an end to the violations.

North Korea's deputy United Nations ambassador, Pak Tok Hun, rejected the resolution by the UN, call-

ing it the result of a political conspiracy led by the United States against the country in an attempt to obliterate the state and social system. The resolution was approved by the General Assembly's Human Rights Committee by a vote of 97-19 with 65 abstentions. It has to be approved at a plenary session of the 192-member world body, where its adoption is virtually

certain. The resolution expresses very serious concern at public executions, arbitrary detentions, limitation on freedom of movement, punishment of refugees and asylum seekers, and restrictions on freedom of speech, religion and assembly in North Korea. It strongly urges the reclusive communist nation to immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and gravel violations of human rights and to ensure that those responsible for violations are brought to justice before an independent judiciary. The resolution was co-sponsored by Japan and the European Union. Pak accused the European Union (EU) of acting as a surrogate for the United States and called Japan as a criminal state.

Sweden, which currently holds the EU presidency, stated the General Assembly has adopted resolutions against human rights violations in North Korea since 2005, but the government has ignored them.

Pak said all attempts to isolate and suffocate North Korea will fail. He said the country's Korean-style socialist system will be unshakable and North Korea will remain invincible forever. Pak accused the resolution's sponsors of "double standards" in dealing with human rights, citing the U.S. invasion of foreign states and killing of civilians, Japan's crimes against humanity, and the racial discrimination and xenophobia rampant in the EU countries.

(Ni Putu Anggraeni)