In accordance with the conclusions of the seventh meeting of the European Union – Chile Negotiations Committee in Santiago from 10 to 14 December 2001, the eighth meeting of the Negotiations Committee was held from 28 January to 01 February 2002 in Brussels.

The Chilean delegation was presided by Mr. Alberto van Klaveren, Ambassador from the Chilean mission to the EU, and the delegation of the European Union by Mr. Guy Legras, Director General for External Relations of the European Commission.

The meeting developed as follows:

1. Approval of the agenda:
Both sides agreed on the agenda.

2. Results of the meeting:

A) Political Dialogue:

The European Union informed the Chilean Delegation that the EU Ministers of Foreign Affairs, during their Council meeting of 28 January 2002, had issued a declaration to support the objective of concluding the association negotiations with Chile by the second EU-Latin American/Caribbean Summit in Madrid in May 2002.

Discussions then continued on the texts related to the nature and scope of the agreement and to the political dialogue. An agreement was reached on all texts for the Political Dialogue section of the future agreement, including the Preamble, Title I (Nature and Scope), Title II (political dialogue) and title III (Institutional Framework), with the exception of the text still in brackets for Article I.2.4.b. These brackets will be lifted once all sections of the future agreement have been negotiated.

The Parties also agreed to further discuss on the institutional framework at a later stage.

B) Co-operation:

In the area of economic co-operation an agreement was reached on all texts for this section of the future agreement, with the exception of the texts on agricultural co-operation and fisheries co-operation.

C) Trade:

In the trade area, work continued on all items, notably tariffs and non-tariff issues; customs procedures; rules or origin; standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures; sanitary and phytosanitary measures; wines and spirits; trade defence instruments; services; investment; intellectual property rights; government procurement; competition; dispute settlement and other horizontal issues.

All groups booked very substantial progress. The text on intellectual property rights was closed. The texts on customs and related trade matters, on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, and on oenological practices are practically closed. On government procurement, work on texts continued and both sides exchanged their offers; they
also agreed on the objective of finalising negotiations on texts at the next round. Very substantial steps were taken on competition matters and sanitary and phytosanitary issues. In services, negotiations on the text are very close to completion; delegation exchanged their services offers. Good progress was booked on investment, reciprocal protection of names on wines and dispute settlement. Tariff negotiations continued to progress, in particular in the area agriculture. Technical work continued on rules of origin with good progress. Finally, the EU raised the need to progress on spirits whereas Chile considers that further domestic analysis is necessary.

Both sides agreed that the major steps achieved at this round allowed to envisage that the negotiations might be completed in due time in view of the Madrid Summit. To that end, they were instructed to prepare the next meeting with a view to reach agreement on the maximum possible of the pending issues. They also agreed to exchange in the coming days a single consolidated text of the future agreement. In the same vein, a number of subgroups will continue working in preparation of the next round.

Both sides agreed that the scope and general objectives, institutional framework, final provisions and the co-operation chapter needed to be reviewed on consistency with the trade provision.

3. Date and place of the next meeting of the Negotiations Committee:

The Parties agreed to hold the ninth meeting of the Negotiations Committee in the week of 4 March 2002 in Santiago, Chile.