

Thank you Marc,

As for the overall advancement of the negotiations, we found that the overall ambition is there, but that in practice, not much progress has been made.

We note the efforts in the small groups and feel there is still much to do.

We are encouraged by the discussion on the new approach for MFN. Our capital experts are still having a look at this new concept and we understand that this could be a way forward.

1. Israel is in the view that the Annex on Movement of Natural Persons should only apply to those sectors committed in Part 2 of its schedule. This has been our position all along and formed the basis for the discussions with our authorities. The EU request for readmission is of concern to us. We do not see it as a trade related matter and believe that matters of migration should be treated elsewhere.
2. As for the next steps, leading up to conclusion of the negotiations, we think that intersessional work will be required by the proponents of various open topics in order to create landing zones to be discussed during the next round. The round itself should be dedicated to cleaning up the texts and presenting the Ministers with a limited number of open matters, which they can discuss and agree upon in a form of a concluding package.

Thank you.