

**Seventeenth Meeting of the Export Trade Council  
21 November 2019, Iveagh House**

**Opening remarks and adoption of agenda**

The Tánaiste welcomed members to the meeting and introduced the agenda, which was adopted by the Council.

**Item 1 Brexit**

The Council noted the current state of play on Brexit, including ongoing preparatory work to ready Ireland for all possible scenarios.

**Item 2 (a) Global Ireland - Support for trade and investment by expanding mission network**

The Tánaiste provided an update to the Council on the implementation of *Global Ireland*, including the expansion of Ireland's mission network and the Ireland House concept; Ireland's participation at Expo 2020; the campaign for membership of the UN Security Council; and the Global Reputation and Communication strategy.

**Item 2 (b) Global Ireland - Regional strategies update**

The Tánaiste briefed the Council on regional strategies recently launched by the Department, and those in the process of being finalised. These strategies, for the Americas, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, are part of the wider context of the Global Ireland strategy, and in particular, the strengthening of the trade and economic relations with the countries of these regions.

**Item 3 Future Jobs**

The Council noted the progress in implementing actions under Future Jobs Ireland on the basis of an update provided by the Department of the Taoiseach.

**AOB - Smart Nation 2040**

The Council had an exchange of views on the paper submitted by the private sector members on Smart Nation 2040. It was agreed that this would be considered and follow-up discussed at the next meeting of the ETC.

**Trade Division, DFAT  
21 November 2019**

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**In attendance:**

*Government Departments*

Simon Coveney T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (Chair)  
Eamonn McKee, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Michael Loneragan, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Nigel Clarke, Department of the Taoiseach  
Patrick Gaule, Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation  
Vincent Landers, Department of Education and Skills  
Peter Cleary, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

*State Agencies*

David Kennedy, Bord Bia  
Kevin Sherry, Enterprise Ireland  
Kieran Donoghue, IDA Ireland  
Niall Gibbons, Tourism Ireland  
Christine Sisk, Culture Ireland

*Private Sector Members*

Pat Ivory, IBEC  
Simon McKeever, Irish Exporters Association  
Ruth Andrews, Incoming Tour Operators Association Ireland  
Pat Beirne, Mergon  
Caroline Keeling, Keelings  
Pól Ó Móráin, Silicon Kingdom Holdings  
Mairead Sorensen, Butlers Chocolates  
Liam Ryan, SAP

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Agenda

Item 1: Brexit

Item 2 (a): Global Ireland - Support for trade and investment by expanding mission network

Item 2 (b): Global Ireland - Regional strategies update

Item 3: *Future Jobs* update

AOB - *Smart Nation 2040*