

Press release: Prime Minister vows to deliver a Brexit that unites the UK

The Prime Minister will travel around the country talking to a range of people and emphasising that, regardless of whether they backed Leave or Remain, what is important now is making Brexit a success for everyone.

Kicking off in Scotland, the Prime Minister will visit textile workers at a factory in Ayrshire, before travelling to Newcastle to meet with a local parent and toddler group. She will have lunch with farmers near Belfast before travelling to Barry to host a roundtable with Welsh businesses. She will finish the day in West London where she will have tea with a group of Polish citizens who have made the UK their home.

Today, one year until the UK leaves the EU and begins to chart a new course in the world, I am visiting all four nations of the Union to hear from people across our country what Brexit means to them. I am determined that as we leave the EU, and in the years ahead, we will strengthen the bonds that unite us, because ours is the world's most successful union. The UK contains four proud and historic nations, but together we amount to so much more than the sum of our parts and our Union is an enormous force for good.

We see that on the global stage, where the UK stands up for liberal and democratic values and leads the world in international development action. And we see the enormous benefits of our Union at home too, as we face challenges together, freely pooling and sharing risks and rewards as one united people.

As we leave the EU, powers will return from Brussels to the parliaments and assemblies of the UK, closer to the people we all serve and with greater ability to deliver for their needs. Each of the devolved nations will see an increase in their decision-making powers. Make no mistake, this government is absolutely committed to the devolution settlements as we have demonstrated beyond question with landmark pieces of legislation over the last few years.

But as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, I have an absolute responsibility to protect the integrity of the United Kingdom as a whole. That means ensuring that no new barriers are created within our common domestic market and that the UK is able to meet its international obligations in the future. No Prime Minister could leave these things to chance, because they are absolutely crucial to our success as a country in the future.

The government is taking action to benefit the whole UK, from supporting the security services that keep us all safe and pursuing a modern industrial strategy which will deliver jobs and economic growth in every community, to pursuing an international trade policy which will open up new markets for our world-beating exports around the world.

I am determined that our future will be a bright one. It's a future in which we trade freely with friends and partners across Europe and beyond. Having regained control of our laws, our borders and our money, and seized the opportunities provided by Brexit, the UK will thrive as a strong and united country that works for everyone, no matter whether you voted Leave or Remain.

Press release: PM call with Chancellor Merkel: 28 March 2018

The Prime Minister spoke with German Chancellor Angela Merkel this evening.

The PM began by thanking the Chancellor for her strong support and solidarity following the Salisbury attack.

The Chancellor and Prime Minister both agreed on the need to continue to work together to counter increased Russian aggression.

They also discussed the temporary exemption announced by the US in relation to steel and aluminium tariffs.

The two leaders also discussed the importance of the Iran nuclear deal and agreed to stay in touch on these issues.

Press release: Reino Unido e Brasil assinam acordos durante 10ª reunião do JETCO

Ministro de Comércio Internacional do Reino Unido, Liam Fox e Ministro da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços, Marcos Jorge de Lima.

Londres (28 de março) – O ministro da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços, Marcos Jorge de Lima, e o Ministro de Comércio Internacional do Reino Unido, Liam Fox, presidiram hoje a 10ª reunião do Comitê Econômico e de Comércio Conjunto Reino Unido – Brasil (JETCO na sigla em inglês), realizada em Londres.

“Estou convicto de que o JETCO ganha em relevância nesta nova fase de nossas relações comerciais e este encontro certamente cria as base para resultados

concretos e mutuamente benéficos para nossos países”, declarou o ministro Marcos Jorge.

Para o secretário Liam Fox, como a maior economia da América do Sul, o Brasil tem um enorme potencial que as empresas britânicas podem utilizar.

“Continuaremos a trabalhar em estreita colaboração com o governo brasileiro para derrubar as barreiras ao comércio e apoiar nossas economias em benefício mútuo”, disse.

Acordos

Durante a reunião, Marcos Jorge e Liam Fox assinaram um Memorando de Entendimento para fomentar temas importantes no comércio bilateral, como facilitação de comércio, cooperação regulatória e promoção da cultura exportadora, com estímulo para maior participação das micro, pequenas e médias empresas (MPMEs) no comércio exterior. Além disso, o Memorando alcança ainda o apoio para reestruturação do Instituto Nacional da Propriedade Industrial (INPI) e para a implementação de instrumentos de compliance para permitir o acesso do Brasil à Organização para a Cooperação e Desenvolvimento Econômico (OCDE), candidatura oficializada em maio de 2017.

Marcos Jorge ressaltou a importância da parceria com o Reino Unido. “Acredito que uma das características mais importantes de nosso relacionamento tem sido a capacidade de inovar na identificação de meios de fomentarmos projetos de desenvolvimento associado, como é o caso da cooperação no contexto do Fundo da Prosperidade, o “Prosperity Fund” declarou o ministro.

O Prosperity Fund é o fundo de cooperação do Governo Britânico financiado pelo Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Ministério das Relações Exteriores Britânico). Entre 2011 e 2016, o fundo britânico investiu mais de 14 milhões de libras em projetos no Brasil, com o intuito de melhorar o ambiente de negócios, bem como atrair novos investimentos em infraestrutura com melhorias no ambiente regulatório e capacitação em parcerias público-privadas.

Intercâmbio comercial

O ministro também destacou as trocas comerciais entre o Brasil e o Reino Unido, que chegaram, em 2017, ao valor de cerca de US\$ 5,15 bilhões. “Apenas nos dois primeiros meses deste ano, nosso intercâmbio de bens já cresceu 30% de lado a lado, o que demonstra o potencial existente para o incremento de nossas trocas comerciais”, afirmou.

Em termos de investimentos, o Brasil possui estoque de US\$ 30 bilhões e o Reino Unido, US\$ 4 bilhões. “Isso demonstra o grande esforço e empenho de nossas empresas para o incremento das relações bilaterais. Por isso, Brasil e Reino Unido, inclusive por intermédio do engajamento do MDIC e do DIT no JETCO, têm trabalhando com afinco para dar mais fluidez ao ambiente de negócios”, lembrou Marcos Jorge. .

Parceria INPI-UKIPO

Durante o Jetco, o diretor-executivo do Instituto Nacional da Propriedade

Industrial (INPI), Mauro Maia, e o diretor-executivo e controlador-geral do Escritório de Propriedade Intelectual do Reino Unido (UKIPO, na sigla em Inglês), Tim Moss, assinaram um acordo que vai acelerar a análise de pedidos de patentes.

O acordo prevê a colaboração entre o INPI e o UKIPO através de um projeto piloto de Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH). Neste modelo de parceria entre dois países ou regiões, o solicitante da patente poderá pedir que o exame de seu pedido seja priorizado em um dos países, após ter sido concedido pelo outro.

Deste modo, um pedido de patente já concedido no Brasil poderá ter seu exame acelerado no Reino Unido, ao mesmo tempo em que uma solicitação deferida no instituto britânico poderá ser agilizada no INPI. Em média, segundo o INPI, o prazo é reduzido de cerca de 10 anos para nove meses, via PPH.

Segundo o ministro Marcos Jorge, é importante destacar que “patentes concedidas com agilidade são essenciais para estimular a inovação e a competitividade das empresas, inclusive para as que pretendem investir no mercado externo. Também contribuem para atrair investimentos no Brasil”, informa.

Neste PPH entre o INPI e o UKIPO, que entrará em vigor no terceiro trimestre de 2018, poderão ser incluídos até 100 pedidos de patentes por ano. Os campos tecnológicos ainda serão definidos pelos dois institutos.

Atualmente, o Brasil possui projetos de PPH com os Estados Unidos, o Japão, a China, o Escritório Europeu de Patentes e os países latino-americanos que fazem parte do projeto denominado PROSUR.

Speech: Adapting UN Peacekeeping to Fit Our Times

Thank you Mr President, first of all for convening this debate and for your contribution at this most opportune and important time.

May I also take this opportunity to thank Secretary-General Guterres for his leadership and his commitment to reform on peacekeeping; Chairperson Faki; and to Ms Touré. You gave a passionate, powerful and poignant reminder through your reflections on the role of peacekeeping and how its effectiveness can be improved. And I am sure we all heard your voice, your plea and your contribution in very clear terms.

Mr President, as we mark 70 years of UN Peacekeeping, it is right that we pause, we reflect, on the many lives saved, and on the regions and countries that have been stabilised over the years. There are millions of people living

in some of the most challenging places on earth. They have been given hope, they have been given opportunity. This is the proud legacy of the toil and sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of men and women who have put their lives at risk. Some indeed have lost their lives. And why? To protect the most vulnerable.

In this 70th anniversary year, we salute their service and the service of those who support UN efforts through regional bodies, like the AU Mission in Somalia. Over the past 70 years, the challenges that peacekeepers have faced have evolved: disputes are increasingly complex; mission settings are increasingly dangerous; and too often, our collective contribution in this building has failed to keep pace.

Mr President,

UN Peacekeeping is far too important to fail. In recent years, we have indeed made progress – for example in planning and force generation. The Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial Meetings in London in 2016 and Vancouver in 2017 delivered 80 new pledges of personnel and capability. This progress must continue. We welcome the Secretary-General's call to action this year and also I welcome his statement today on the sharpened focus on the safety and security of peacekeepers, and the UN's Action Plan to implement some of the recommendations is also very timely. I also welcome the Secretary-General's statement today to provide regular updates on the delivery of this Action Plan.

And as we embark on this collective effort to improve UN Peacekeeping, the United Kingdom would suggest three areas on which to focus:

Firstly, the Security Council must take its responsibilities seriously, and have the information available in order to do so. We must set clear, achievable objectives for Peacekeeping Operations, and not be afraid to sequence, so that mandates provide the right direction, the right resources, at the right time. We should go further, setting mandates that are more strategic and take a longer-term view. To do this, the Council needs high quality, timely, and accurate information and analysis. We need to work together better to achieve this – both states and institutions.

Secondly, to succeed, Peacekeeping Operations need to be complemented by all the tools that the UN and international community have at our disposal. We need better coordination – at headquarters and in the field – with peacebuilding, better development, and all the other arms of the UN to support. This is why we support the vision and themes underpinning the Secretary-General's Sustaining Peace Proposals and his Peace and Security Architecture reforms.

And thirdly, we must, we must, improve performance, and strengthen accountability for underperformance. There needs to be a better match between the capacity of the troops, and the tasks they are asked to perform. This requires the Department for Peacekeeping Operations to reinforce work on force generation, on training, and on performance monitoring and indeed on evaluation. It also requires Member States to deliver the capabilities they

have committed. We must continue to recognise the essential role of women in ensuring the successful delivery of peacekeeping and engage more women in all components of all missions.

And above all we must, we must stop sexual exploitation and abuse by those sent to protect civilians, and we must offer real protection for women, children and indeed all vulnerable communities, as Ms Touré highlighted in her contribution.

Furthermore, addressing conflict-related sexual violence is equally crucial. The United Kingdom is looking to host an international meeting in 2019 marking progress and next steps, five years on from the Global Summit on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict. And whilst welcoming the progress made, in particular the UN's new victim-centred approach, there still remain too many incidents of concern across the UN system.

Mr President,

Through the leadership of the Secretary-General, we have an opportunity to make UN Peacekeeping fit for our times. It is the responsibility of all of us to work together to seize that opportunity – that means the Council, the Secretariat, regional and sub-regional bodies, host states, and those who provide troops, police and financing. And let us not forget those UN Peacekeepers, under the banner of the United Nations, act in the name of each and every one of us. It is therefore our responsibility to ensure they embody the ideals of the UN Charter, because through them we ultimately “unite our strength to maintain international peace and security”.

Thank you.

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