

Motion nr. 32500-V, 110 [Parliament of the Netherlands]

The Parliament,

after hearing the deliberations,

putting on record that the EU is negotiating with India about a free trade treaty and has the intention to include a sustainability chapter in which sustainable development and fundamental labour rights are central issues;

putting on record that India has indicated not to want such a chapter and that the negotiations on this issue have therefore not progressed very much;

considering that the absence of such a paragraph threatens to increase the large social inequality and environmental problems in India;

of the opinion that the absence of such a chapter would be undesirable as it would undermine the sustainability chapters in other EU trade agreements;

considering that the 250 million so-called Dalits are still discriminated and exploited massively and that India has the largest number of working children in the world;

requests the government to exert its efforts in the European context for a robust sustainability chapter, in which among other things is being aimed at: the reduction of child labour, the improvement of the position of Dalits, the availability of medicines for HIV/AIDS and a dispute settlement mechanism; and not to be agree with strongly weakened compromise,

and returns to the order of the day.

The motion has been suggested by Member of Parliament Voordewind

The motion has been adopted on 16 December 2010