

## **PRIORITIES OF THE SWISS CHAIR OF THE EFTA COUNCIL**

### **Second half 2020**

#### **1. Relations amongst EFTA countries**

- Continue to adapt the EFTA Convention and its annexes to changing needs, for example trade in agricultural products
- Ensure transparency among EFTA States regarding ongoing discussions with the UK.

#### **2. Trade relations with third countries**

##### *Horizontal issues*

- Finalise the evaluation of the possibilities to establish greater transparency with respect to information related to trade negotiations
- Foster close and regular dialogue and consultation with the EFTA Advisory Bodies
- Enhance reporting on Trade and Sustainable Development

##### *Ongoing FTA negotiations*

- Finalise the legal review and resolve outstanding issues with Mercosur
- Continue discussions with India, Malaysia and Vietnam in order to make progress
- Prepare relaunch of negotiations with Thailand

##### *Management and development of existing FTAs*

- Work towards the conclusion of the review of the Agreements with SACU and Chile
- Update the bilateral agricultural Agreements with the Palestinian Authority
- Continue discussions on modernising the Agreement with Mexico

*Potential partners and other activities*

- Further explore the possibility to strengthen trade relations with ASEAN
  - Finalise preparation for negotiations with Moldova and launch negotiations
  - Prepare for a possible negotiation with Kosovo
  - Continue preparation for possible negotiations with Pakistan, by in particular completing the scoping exercise
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