

Ref. 15750
Geneva, 22.12.06

Dear Mr. Director-General,

Please find attached a joint notification from the EFTA States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and the Republic of Lebanon concerning the Agreement establishing a Free Trade Area between the EFTA States, on the one hand, and the Republic of Lebanon on the other. The full text of the Agreement is enclosed in its official English version.

I would kindly ask you to take the necessary steps to distribute the notification and the text of the Agreement to the Members of the WTO.

Yours sincerely,

Pierre-Louis Girard
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the WTO
Chairman of the EFTA Council

Gébran Soufan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Lebanon

Enclosure

Mr Pascal Lamy
Director-General
World Trade Organisation
Centre William Rappard
Rue de Lausanne 154
1211 Geneva 21

22.12. 2006

**FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE EFTA STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**

Notification from the Parties of the Agreement

The Delegations of the EFTA States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and of the Republic of Lebanon have the honour to inform the Members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) that an Agreement establishing a free trade area for trade in goods, in the sense of Article XXIV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 94) was signed between the aforementioned Parties in Montreux, Switzerland, on 24 June 2004

The Agreement will enter into force on 1 January 2007¹.

The Parties to the Agreement will submit detailed information on the Agreement at a later stage in a separate communication.

The EFTA States and the Republic of Lebanon wish to express their willingness to contribute to the process of examination of the Agreement in accordance with the procedures agreed upon in the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements.

¹ The complete text of the Agreement with annexes, and the bilateral agreements on agriculture between the EFTA-states and the Republic of Lebanon, are available on the websites of EFTA (<http://www.efta.int>) and of the Republic of Lebanon (<http://www.economy.gov.lb>). The text of the Agreement will also be circulated by the WTO Secretariat.