

ANNEX

**NOTIFICATION OF REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT**

<b>1. Member(s) notifying:</b>	The SACU States (consisting of the Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of South Africa and the Kingdom of Swaziland, together forming the Southern African Customs Union) and the EFTA States (consisting of the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation, together forming the European Free Trade Association)
<b>2. Date of notification:</b>	29 October 2008
<b>3. Notification pursuant to:</b>	[ X ] Article XXIV:7(a) of GATT 1994
<b>4. Parties to the Agreement:</b>	The Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation, Members of the European Free Trade Association (“the EFTA States”); and the Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of South Africa and the Kingdom of Swaziland, together forming the Southern African Customs Union (“the SACU States”)
<b>5. Date of signature:</b>	26 June 2006
<b>6. Date(s) of entry into Force:</b>	1 May 2008
<b>7. Brief description of the Agreement:</b>	<p>The Agreement covers trade in industrial products, including fish and other marine products, and processed agricultural products. In addition, the individual EFTA States and SACU concluded bilateral agreements on basic agricultural products, which form part of the instruments creating the free trade area. The main objective of the Agreement is to achieve liberalisation of trade in goods in conformity with the relevant WTO provisions. Thereby, the EFTA States will grant the SACU States free trade in all industrial goods from the entry into force of the Agreement, whereas the SACU States will dismantle their tariffs progressively.</p> <p>The Agreement also includes trade-related disciplines as well as an article which stipulates special treatment for Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland. Moreover, the Agreement contains provisions on the protection of intellectual property rights, as well as cooperation regarding investment, services and government procurement. It also includes a chapter on economic cooperation and technical assistance, and one on institutional and procedural provisions. The Agreement establishes a Joint Committee, which supervises the application thereof.</p>

**8. Text and related schedules, annexes and protocols are:**

submitted to the WTO Secretariat (electronic format)

available from the following official Internet link(s):

<http://www.efta.int/content/free-trade/fta-countries/southern-african-customs-union-sacu;>  
[www.sars.gov.za](http://www.sars.gov.za)

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