

**PRIORITIES
DURING THE NORWEGIAN EFTA COUNCIL CHAIR**

Second half 2019

1. Relations amongst EFTA countries

- Continue to adapt the EFTA Convention and its annexes to changing needs, including trade in agricultural products.

2. Trade relations with third countries

Horizontal issues

- Establish a working group in order to make progress towards a new EFTA approach for e-commerce.

Ongoing FTA negotiations

- Conclude negotiations with Mercosur.
- Resume discussions with India, with a view of concluding the negotiations.
- Continue discussions with Malaysia and Vietnam in order to make substantial progress in negotiations.

Management and development of existing FTAs

- Conclude the review of the Agreement with SACU, start the modernisation of the Agreement with Chile and the bilateral agricultural Agreements with the Palestinian Authority, and to continue discussions on modernising the Agreements with Canada and Mexico.

Potential partners and other activities

- Pursue closer relations with countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, including agreeing on a Joint Declaration on Cooperation with the EAC and continue to assess the possibility to strengthen trade ties with Nigeria.
- Further explore the possibility to strengthen trade relations with ASEAN.
- Continue the Trade Policy Dialogue with the United States

- Finalise preparation for negotiations with Moldova.
- Monitor the situation in Kosovo regarding the use of trade measures against neighbouring countries.
- Continue preparation for negotiations, by in particular completing the scoping exercise with Pakistan.
- Continue to monitor developments in Thailand and hold a technical meeting.

3. Brexit and relations with the United Kingdom

- Continue to closely monitor developments under the current extension period, until 31 October 2019 and beyond.
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