



EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

EFTA – CHILE

FOURTH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS

Geneva and videoconference, 21 to 24 November 2022

PUBLIC REPORT

Context

The fourth round was held in Geneva from 21 to 24 November. Mr Erik Andreas Underland, Specialist Director in the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, acted as the EFTA spokesperson, while Mr Sebastián Gómez, Director General of Bilateral Economic Affairs at the Undersecretariat for International Economic Affairs headed the Chilean delegation.

General Assessment

Delegates met in expert groups in the areas of trade in goods, trade in services, government procurement, intellectual property and trade and sustainable development. Overall, very good progress was made in all working groups. On government procurement EFTA and Chile concluded the negotiations.

Trade in Goods

EFTA and Chile continued efforts to modernise the existing chapter. They also continued to make progress on market access negotiations, addressing the modernisation of the schedules of concessions and the improvement of the coverage of the existing EFTA-Chile FTA.

Trade in Services

On trade in services, both sides made good progress edging closer to an agreement on a financial services text that takes account of both sides' interests, with only a few items remaining outstanding. Discussions also revolved around market access, where the parties walked each other through their respective requests and indicated areas where improvement

could be achieved. Some intersessional activity is foreseen to deepen the discussions based on revised offers at the next round.

Intellectual Property Rights

Intellectual property rights experts attained textual progress within the areas of international conventions, trademarks, and industrial designs. All areas outstanding were discussed, and experts exchanged relevant information and revised proposals aimed at facilitating future discussions and finding mutually acceptable solutions.

Trade and Sustainable Development

Experts held constructive discussions and were able to make considerable progress on several issues outstanding in the chapter. In particular, the provisions relating to labour standards as well as those relating to inclusive trade and gender equality are close to finalisation. Discussions at the next round will focus on environmental issues as well as on provisions related to institutional arrangements.

Government Procurement

Experts on government procurement were able to solve all issues outstanding and concluded the negotiations on a fully modernised chapter including up to date market access coverage.