

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Regional Trade Agreements

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## FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CROATIA AND ALBANIA

The following communication, dated 8 March 2004, is being circulated at the request of the Delegations of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Albania.

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### Notification from the Parties to the Agreement

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia and the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania pursuant to Article XXIV:7(a) of GATT 1994 and the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of GATT 1994, have the honour to inform the Members of the WTO that the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Albania was signed on 27 September 2002 and following the respective ratifications in both Parties, entered into force on 1 June 2003.<sup>1</sup>

The Agreement contains provisions relating to trade in goods that are of relevance to Members of the World Trade Organization.

The Agreement provides for the gradual establishment of a free-trade area between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Albania in the sense of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994 and the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of GATT 1994, over a transitional period ending on 1 January 2008. At that time, duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce will have been eliminated on substantially all the trade between the signatories of the Agreement.

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<sup>1</sup> The text of the Agreement will be circulated in document WT/REG166/1.