

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Regional Trade Agreements

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FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EFTA STATES AND MOROCCO

Communication from the Parties to the Agreement

Addendum

The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) covers trade in processed agricultural products. Due to the different agricultural policies of the EFTA States, the individual EFTA States (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) and Morocco have concluded bilateral agricultural arrangements for basic agricultural products that also form part of the instruments creating the free trade area (see Section 8.1 of document WT/REG91/3). The provisions of the FTA do not apply to the bilateral agricultural arrangements.

The agricultural arrangements have been submitted to the Secretariat for consultation by interested Members.

Agricultural Arrangement between Iceland and Morocco

The bilateral arrangement between Iceland and Morocco provides for duty-free treatment as of entry into force for products originating in Morocco, such as for natural honey, vegetables, fruit, seeds, nuts, oils, beans, fruit juices etc.

In addition, a periodical review for trade in agriculture is foreseen and a clause on consultations in the event of difficulties concerning trade in agricultural products.

The agricultural arrangement contains specific rules of origin, generally based on the “wholly-obtained” criteria.

Agricultural Arrangement between Norway and Morocco

The bilateral arrangement between Morocco and Norway provides for duty-free treatment or duty reductions as of entry into force for products originating in Morocco, such as fresh plants, flowers, vegetables and fruit etc.

In addition, a periodical review for trade in agriculture is foreseen and a clause on consultations in the event of difficulties concerning trade in agricultural products.

The agricultural arrangement contains specific rules of origin, generally based on the “wholly-obtained” criteria.

Agricultural Arrangement between Switzerland and Morocco

Agricultural products originating in Morocco benefit on import into Switzerland from the provisions set out in Annex I. For those products (notably fruit and vegetables) customs duties are eliminated or reduced. For certain products, customs duties are eliminated or reduced within the limits of tariff quotas. Agricultural products originating in Switzerland benefit on import into Morocco from the provisions set out in Annex II. For these products (notably cheese, coffee and tea extracts), Morocco applies reduced customs duties within the limits of tariff quotas.

In addition, a periodical review of trade in agriculture is foreseen and a clause on consultations in the event of difficulties concerning trade in agricultural products.

The agricultural arrangement contains specific rules of origin, generally based on the “wholly-obtained” criteria.
