

Free trade negotiations between EFTA and Mercosur continue



The third round of free trade negotiations between EFTA and MERCOSUR States took place from 10 to 13 April 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr Jan Farberg, Director General at the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, acted as the EFTA Spokesperson while the Mercosur side was led by Victorio Carpintieri, Deputy Secretary of Economic Integration in the Americas and Mercosur at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina.

Building on progress from previous rounds and intersessional exchanges, negotiating teams from both sides continued their talks on a broad range of topics. Expert working groups discussed topics such as trade in goods, rules of origin, trade remedies, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and trade facilitation, trade in services, investment, competition, government procurement, intellectual property rights, trade and sustainable development as well as legal and horizontal issues including dispute settlement.

Both sides agreed to continue negotiations with a view to make swift progress. The next round of negotiations is foreseen to take place in summer 2018.