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Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
Foreign Economic Affairs Directorate

Update of 25.06.2015

Free Trade Agreement EFTA-GCC

The EFTA-GCC Free Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 July 2014. While the EFTA States have fully applied the agreement since the date of entry into force, GCC countries have not yet implemented the agreement due to some technical issues, in particular in connection with the use of the certificate of origin (form EUR.1).

Member States of the GCC have now informed EFTA they will fully apply the EFTA-GCC Free Trade Agreement as from 1 July 2015. Importers of goods originating in an EFTA State should therefore be able to claim preferential treatment in the GCC States from 1 July 2015, when using the EUR.1.

This decision will enter into force on the 1 July 2015. It is assumed that the competent authorities in GCC Countries will validate from 1 July 2015 on certificates of origin and preferential treatment in the EFTA States can be claimed on the basis of that.