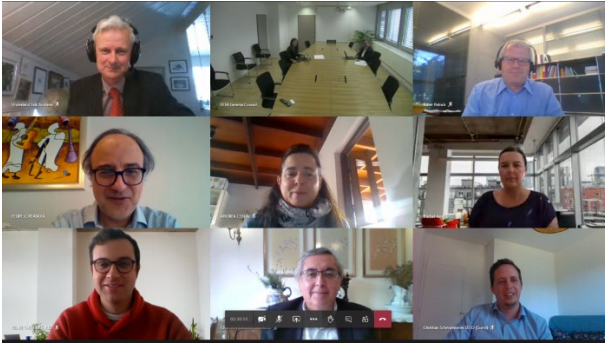


<https://www.efta.int/Free-Trade/news/EFTA-and-Chile-Heads-delegation-meet-518591>

## EFTA and Chile Heads of delegation meet

10-07-2020



A meeting of Heads of delegations from the EFTA States and Chile on the modernisation and expansion of the existing EFTA-Chile free trade agreement (FTA) was convened on 9 July 2020 via video conference. Mr Erik Andreas Underland, Specialist Director at the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries acted as the EFTA spokesperson, while Mr Felipe Lopeandia, General Director of Bilateral Economic Affairs at the Chilean Undersecretariat of International Economic Affairs headed Chile's delegation.

Heads of delegations took stock of the intersessional meetings at expert level which had taken place in June and early July, namely trade in goods, rules of origin, trade facilitation, technical barriers to trade, trade in services, intellectual property rights, government procurement and trade and sustainable development. Regarding the way forward, delegations agreed to hold another series of expert meetings as well as a Heads meeting via video conference in autumn 2020.

Bilateral trade between EFTA and Chile has grown strongly since the FTA entered into force in 2004. Excluding gold, EFTA's imports from Chile have more than doubled from USD 109 million in 2004 to 230 million in 2019, while exports increased from 178 to 488 million over the same period. In total, trade has increased by 150 percent in the 16 years after the entry into force. EFTA's main exports to Chile in 2019 included pharmaceuticals, machinery, medical instruments and watches, while fruits, inorganic chemicals, wine and fish oil were important imports.