



**ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD**

Tamara Finkelstein
Permanent Secretary
Department for Environment, Food and Rural
Affairs

Your ref

Our ref

Date

20/1754-

18 December 2020

Dear Tamara Finkelstein,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to set out for your Ministry and stakeholders how Norway will regulate our trading relationship concerning sanitary matters as well as organic products and organic production.

Norway greatly values its longstanding and strong trading relationship with the United Kingdom. The swift conclusion of a comprehensive and high-quality free trade agreement is a shared ambition. I would like to reassure you that Norway will continue to prioritise these negotiations with the aim of the entry into force of the free trade agreement as soon as possible in 2021.

31 December 2020 marks the end of the transition period and the United Kingdom will no longer be part of the European single market. This means that there will be changes to our trading relationship concerning sanitary matters, as well as organics. We agree that it is prudent to put in place mitigating actions to ensure continuity in our trading relationship after the end of the coverage period, when the United Kingdom will no longer be covered by the Trade-Related Agreements between the European Union and one or both of Iceland and Norway, until the entry into force of the free trade agreement. Primarily the United Kingdom and Norway will be able to continue trade in goods through the interim goods agreement, signed 8 December 2020.

In addition, concerning sanitary measures, it is Norway's intention to treat imports from the United Kingdom no less favourably than the European Union treats import from the United Kingdom after the end of the coverage period and until a free trade agreement has entered into force. This includes applying all the third country listings Norway follow through the EEA Agreement.

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Concerning recognition of organic products and organic production, it is Norway's intention to treat imports from the United Kingdom no less favourably than the European Union treats import from the United Kingdom at the end of the coverage period.

Norway welcomes reciprocation of this treatment from the United Kingdom where possible, considering the United Kingdom's current or future agreements with the European Union.

This letter does not constitute a legally binding agreement. Norway and the United Kingdom will communicate any changes to existing and future processes.

Norway will work towards the conclusion of a high quality, comprehensive free trade agreement, to come into force as soon as possible in 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne Marie Glosli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Marie Glosli
Secretary General