



**ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF  
TRADE, INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES**

Mr Crawford Falconer  
Second Permanent Secretary  
Department for International Trade  
King Charles Street  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AH

Your ref

Our ref

Date

20/302-

18 December 2020

Dear Mr Crawford Falconer,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries to set out for your Ministry and stakeholders how Norway will regulate our trading relationship concerning Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).

Norway 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 technical barriers to trade. 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 technical regulations, standards and conformity assessments, 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.

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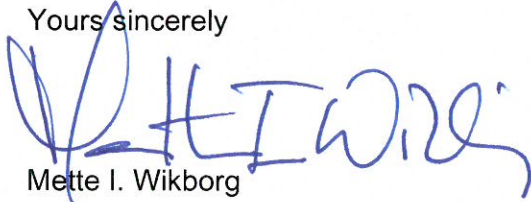
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Norway welcomes reciprocation of this treatment from the United Kingdom where possible, considering the United Kingdom's current or future agreements with the European Union.

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, appearing to read 'Mette I. Wikborg', is written over the typed name.

Mette I. Wikborg  
Secretary General (b.a.)