



18 January 2021

(21-0536)

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Committee on Regional Trade Agreements

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION OF REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT**

<b>1. Member(s) notifying:</b>	United Kingdom, Switzerland, Liechtenstein
<b>2. Date of notification:</b>	31 December 2020
<b>3. Notification pursuant to</b> <b>[X] Article XXIV:7(a) of GATT 1994</b> <b>[ ] Article V:7(a) of GATS</b> <b>[ ] Paragraph 4(a) of the Enabling Clause</b>	
<b>4. Parties to the Agreement:</b>	United Kingdom, Switzerland, Liechtenstein
<b>5. Date of signature:</b>	11 February 2019
<b>6. Date(s) of entry into Force:</b>	1 January 2021
<b>7. Brief description of the Agreements:</b>	<p>The previous trading relationship between the United Kingdom ("UK") and Switzerland was governed by the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation and all associated agreements and protocols (see document series WT/REG94). In the context of the UK's exit from the European Union, the UK and Switzerland identified the agreements relating to trade and transitioned them as closely as possible through a single UK-Switzerland Trade Agreement. In addition, the European Economic Area Agreement (see document series WT/REG138) governed the previous trading relationship between the UK and Liechtenstein.</p> <p>The UK-Switzerland Trade Agreement establishes a free trade area for trade in goods, within the meaning of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994. The objective of the Agreement is to ensure that the existing mutual rights and obligations between the UK and Switzerland continue to apply as far as possible after the UK has left the European Union. The Agreement incorporates by reference relevant provisions of the trade-related EU-Switzerland agreements, with modifications made, where necessary, to ensure the content of the relevant EU-Switzerland agreements works in a bilateral UK-Switzerland context. In addition to preferential trade in goods, the Agreement includes provisions on areas such as government procurement, mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment, and cooperation and administrative assistance to combat fraud related to customs and indirect tax offences. The UK-Switzerland Trade Agreement applies as of the date on which the EU-Switzerland agreements have ceased to apply to and in the UK.</p> <p>Certain provisions of the UK-Switzerland Trade Agreement are extended to Liechtenstein via an accompanying Additional Agreement between the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The rationale for extending these provisions to Liechtenstein is based on its inclusion in the Switzerland customs territory.</p>

**8. Text and related schedules, annexes and protocols are:**

**[ ] submitted to the WTO Secretariat (electronic format)**

**[X] available from the following official Internet link(s):**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cs-switzerland-no42019-ukswitzerland-trade-agreement>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cs-liechtenstein-no12019-ukliechtenstein-additional-agreement-extending-certain-provisions-of-ukswiss-trade-agreement-to-liechtenstein>

[https://www.seco.admin.ch/seco/en/home/Aussenwirtschaftspolitik\\_Wirtschaftliche\\_Zusammenarbeit/Wirtschaftsbeziehungen/brexit.html](https://www.seco.admin.ch/seco/en/home/Aussenwirtschaftspolitik_Wirtschaftliche_Zusammenarbeit/Wirtschaftsbeziehungen/brexit.html)