

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Regional Trade Agreements

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AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA, THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Notification by Latvia

The following communication, dated 19 May 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Latvia with the request that it be circulated to Members.

The delegations of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania have the honour to inform the Members of the World Trade Organization that a Free-Trade Area between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania was formed by entry into force of the following agreements:¹ Free Trade Agreement between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania (signed on 13 September 1993, came into force on 1 April 1994); Free Trade Agreement between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania on trade in agricultural products (signed on 16 June 1996, came into force on 1 January 1997) and the Agreement on Abolition of Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania (signed on 20 November 1997, came into force on 1 July 1998).

The three Agreements contain provisions relating to trade in goods that are of relevance to the Members of the World Trade Organization.

The Agreements together provide for the establishment of a free-trade area between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania in the sense of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994. Duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce have been eliminated on substantially all trade between the signatories.

¹ The texts of the Agreements are circulated in document WT/REG77/1.