



**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON**  
**THE EXPANSION OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE EFTA STATES AND TURKEY**

NOTING that the Free Trade Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) between the EFTA States and the Republic of Turkey (hereinafter referred to as “Turkey”) was signed on 10 December 1991;

UNDERLINING the already close economic ties between the EFTA States and Turkey, and the significant potential to advance economic cooperation and exchange by further enhancing the framework conditions for trade and investment between them;

NOTING that the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint Committee under the Agreement was held in Ankara on 19 June 2014, whereby the Parties confirmed their readiness to modernize the Agreement and to extend its scope and whereby the Parties set out a work agenda to this effect;

WELCOMING the conclusion in substance of the negotiations on the expansion of the Agreement at the sixth negotiating round held on 14-16 November 2017, in Ankara;

RECALLING the intention to undertake all necessary efforts to make available in a timely manner an enhanced framework for trade and investment to economic operators on both sides;

The Ministers of Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey:

- (1) take note of the successful conclusion in principle of the negotiations on the expansion of the Agreement, subject to follow-up work in a few areas and the legal review of all relevant texts; and
- (2) mandate their representatives to promptly work towards the finalising of all legal documents necessary for an early signing of the expanded and modernised Free Trade Agreement.

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*Geneva, 24 November 2017*