

3. The States Parties to this Agreement shall apply their regulations in veterinary, plant health and health matters in a non-discriminatory fashion and shall not introduce any new measures that have the effect of unduly obstructing trade.

ARTICLE 14

Internal taxation

1. The States Parties to this Agreement shall refrain from any measure or practice of an internal fiscal nature establishing, whether directly or indirectly, discrimination between the products originating in an EFTA State and like products originating in Romania.

2. Products exported to the territory of one of the States Parties to this Agreement may not benefit from repayment of internal taxation in excess of the amount of direct or indirect taxation imposed on them.

ARTICLE 15

Payments

1. Payments relating to trade between an EFTA State and Romania and the transfer of such payments to the territory of the State Party to this Agreement where the creditor resides shall be free from any restrictions.

2. The States Parties to this Agreement shall refrain from any exchange or administrative restrictions on the grant, repayment or acceptance of short and medium-term credits covering commercial transactions in which a resident participates.

3. Until a full convertibility of the Romanian currency in the meaning of Article VIII of the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund is introduced, Romania reserves the right to apply exchange restrictions connected with the granting or taking up of short and medium-term credits to the extent permitted according to Romania's status under the IMF, provided that these restrictions are applied in a non-discriminatory manner. They shall be applied in such a manner as to cause the least possible disruption to this Agreement. Romania shall inform the Joint committee promptly of the introduction of such measures and of any changes therein.

ARTICLE 16

Public procurement

1. The States Parties to this Agreement consider the effective liberalization of their respective public procurement markets as a desirable and important objective of this Agreement.

2. As of the entry into force of this Agreement, the EFTA States shall grant companies from Romania access to contract award procedures on their