

RS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



### EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DE LIBRE-ÉCHANGE

9-11 RUE DE VAREMBE - 1211 GENEVA 20 - SWITZERLAND - TELEPHONE 34 90 00

GENÈVE

2nd September 1974

11/74/F

N°

*In Library  
File in  
press release  
binders*

#### EFTA's Fourteenth Annual Report Published

A greater use of the framework provided by EFTA for discussions on matters of more general economic interest was one of the features of EFTA activities in the twelve months to the end of June 1974.

The EFTA countries - Austria, Finland, Iceland, Portugal, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland - exchanged views within EFTA institutions on a number of economic problems which they and others aimed to solve in various larger international bodies.

These questions of great common concern included the problem of inflation, the price and supply of raw materials and energy and the rules governing world trade, and as the Fourteenth Annual Report of EFTA, published today, states, these are problems which can not be overcome by separate national action.

The administration of the free trade between the EFTA countries remained the principal task of EFTA, and the Report gives an account of all aspects of this work. In particular it records that changes were introduced during the year in the rules of origin on which are based the free trade arrangements both within EFTA as well as between the EFTA countries and the European Communities.

High priority was given throughout the year to the elimination of technical obstacles to trade, and the Report summarises the work done in this field in EFTA and on the basis of ideas originally devised in EFTA but applied in a wider context.

The Annual Report is available in English, French and German versions.

\* \* \*