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PRESS RELEASE

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SACU MEMBER STATES, MOZAMBIQUE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

1. The Economic Partnership Agreement between the SACU Member States (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa) and Mozambique on the one part, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the other part (SACUM-UK EPA), was signed on the on the 9th October 2019 in London, United Kingdom. South Africa signed on the 16th October 2019 in Cape Town, South Africa.
2. The SACUM-UK EPA entered into force on the 1st January 2021, following the end of the UK's transition period and the deposit of the instruments of ratification by all the Parties to the SACUM-UK EPA.
3. The SACUM-UK EPA establishes a free trade area between the SACU Member States and Mozambique (SACUM) and the UK and replicates the effects of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Southern African Development Community States (EU-SADC EPA) signed on the 10th June 2016. In this regard, it replicates the preferential tariff treatment of the EU-SADC EPA, with the exception of the volume limitations on Tariff Rate Quotas.
4. The entry into force of the SACUM-UK EPA will provide for the continuity of trade between the UK and the SACU Member States and Mozambique as the UK ceases to be a Member of the EU single market and customs union.
5. The Agreement solidifies the strong trade relations and partnership between the Parties. It also reflects the commitment of the Parties to maintain a strong trading relationship as the UK develops its independent trade policy.

Issued by:

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