

## **CHAPTER 15 ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION**

### **Article 15.1 Objectives**

The Parties shall seek to:

- (a) Strengthen and enhance economic co-operation between them on the basis of equality and mutual benefit;
- (b) Explore new areas of and develop appropriate measures for closer economic co-operation as a means to greater economic integration between the two countries; and
- (c) Support and augment economic co-operation in accordance with developmental needs, including the development of regulatory frameworks, of each other and the welfare of their respective peoples.

### **Article 15.2 Scope of Co-operation**

- 1. The Parties shall promote economic co-operation between them in various fields, and encourage exchange of information and technical expertise in those fields. Such economic co-operation may include all possible areas that the Parties may deem fit and beneficial to their citizens and to which both Parties have agreed.
- 2. All co-operation activities under this Chapter shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of each Party.

### **Article 15.3 Implementation of Co-operation**

- 1. Co-operation between the Parties in various areas identified under this Chapter shall be effected, where applicable, through relevant Memoranda of Understanding, Agreements or Protocols that have been concluded between the Parties and so long as they remain in force.
- 2. Where such Memoranda of Understanding, Agreements or Protocols do not cover areas of co-operation identified in Article 15.4 (Areas of Co-operation), the Parties shall consult in good faith concerning the making of arrangements for such activities, through the conclusion of appropriate Memoranda of Understanding, Agreements or Protocols between authorised institutions or bodies in accordance with the laws and regulations in force from time to time in each country.

**Article 15.4**  
**Areas of Co-operation**

1. The areas of co-operation may include, but are not limited to, the following fields:
  - (a) Construction and Building;
  - (b) Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation;
  - (c) Energy;
  - (d) Environment Protection;
  - (e) Financial Services;
  - (f) Intellectual Property Rights;
  - (g) Investment and Trade Promotion;
  - (h) Manufacturing;
  - (i) Science and Technology;
  - (j) Small and Medium Enterprises;
  - (k) Transport and Infrastructure;
  - (l) Tourism and Hospitality; and
  - (m) Urban Solutions.
2. The areas of co-operation may be reviewed, expanded and updated through consultation between the Parties.
3. Proposals for the review, expansion and update of this Chapter, may be submitted by either Party to the Joint Committee established under Chapter 17 (Institutional, General and Final Provisions) for consideration. Implementation of co-operation in such new areas shall proceed in accordance with and subject to the fulfilment of the requirements outlined in Article 15.3 (Implementation of Co-operation).
4. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as preventing the Parties from entering into new economic co-operation agreements and/or programmes, with a view to further enhancing the economic and technical co-operation between the Parties.

**Article 15.5**  
**Non-Application of Dispute Settlement**

1. Neither Party shall have recourse to any dispute settlement procedure in respect of the provisions under this Chapter. Chapter 16 (Dispute Settlement) shall not apply to this Chapter.
2. Any differences or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Chapter shall be resolved through consultations between the Parties. Consultations shall take place in the Joint Committee established under Chapter 17 (Institutional, General and Final Provisions).