

## **CHAPTER 22**

### **TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

#### **Article 22.1**

##### **General Provisions**

1. The Parties acknowledge the importance of development in promoting inclusive economic growth, as well as the instrumental role that trade and investment can play in contributing to economic development and prosperity. Inclusive economic growth includes a more broad-based distribution of the benefits of economic growth through the expansion of business and industry, the creation of jobs, and the alleviation of poverty.
2. The Parties affirm trade as a vehicle for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for all countries.
3. The Parties acknowledge that effective coordination of trade, investment and development policies can contribute to sustainable economic growth for all countries.
4. The Parties affirm their commitment to promote and strengthen an open, fair and equitable trade and investment environment that seeks to improve livelihoods, reduce poverty, and facilitate economic development across all countries.
5. The Parties affirm the importance of creating a conducive environment for active participation of developing countries in the global economy and recognise the vital contribution of the World Trade Organization to trade and development.
6. The Parties recognise that building a stronger and wider relationship across a range of interests in trade and development cooperation, based on shared values, individual strengths and strategic interests, and mutual support for South-South cooperation, can be a significant contributor to regional and global economic development and prosperity. In pursuing these interests, the Parties recognise their differing experiences, capacities, and available resources.

#### **Article 22.2**

##### **Joint Development Cooperation Activities**

1. The Parties recognise the value in undertaking joint development cooperation activities relating to trade and investment that support inclusive and sustainable economic growth in developing countries. These activities may include:
  - (a) an exchange of information between the Parties, relating to experiences, cooperation, best practice, technical assistance, or capacity building;

- (b) mutually agreed cooperation, technical assistance, or capacity building including through existing mechanisms or projects on issues such as customs procedures, trade facilitation, technical barriers to trade, trade in services, digital trade, innovation, or trade and gender equality;
  - (c) mutually agreed cooperation in international fora;
  - (d) inviting, as appropriate, the assistance of relevant international institutions, private sector entities, non-governmental organisations, or other institutions; or
  - (e) an exchange of views on economic and development policies to be adopted in times of global economic crisis.
2. Each Party may monitor and assess the role this Agreement plays in relation to development, subject to its laws, regulations, policies, and practices and shall endeavour to share any outcomes with each other. The outcomes may be used to inform discussions about development cooperation activities under this Chapter which could also enhance trade between the Parties. Any activities undertaken pursuant to the outcomes of monitoring under this Chapter shall not affect the commitments and obligations contained elsewhere in this Agreement.
3. The nature and implementation of specific activities pursuant to this Article shall be mutually agreed between the Parties, and is subject to the availability of resources.

### **Article 22.3**

#### **Sustainability Subcommittee**

The Sustainability Subcommittee shall consider any matter under this Chapter related to cooperation and support any activities pursuant to Article 22.2 (Joint Development Cooperation Activities).

### **Article 22.4**

#### **Contact Points**

Each Party shall designate a contact point from its relevant authorities within 90 days of entry into force of this Agreement, in order to facilitate communication between the Parties on any matter relating to this Chapter. Each Party shall notify the other Party of the contact details of its contact point and shall promptly notify any change to its contact point or those contact details.

### **Article 22.5**

#### **Non-Application of Dispute Settlement**

Neither Party shall have recourse to dispute settlement under Chapter 29 (Dispute Settlement) for any matter arising under this Chapter.