

The Parties agree to cooperate in this field. The cooperation will be geared mainly to the harmonisation of statistical methods and practice to enable processing, according to mutually agreed bases, of data on trade in goods and services and, more generally, on any field covered by the Agreement lending itself to statistical treatment.

TITLE IV

Economic Cooperation

Article 50

Introduction

The Parties agree to develop and promote cooperation on economic and industrial matters to their mutual advantage and in the interest of the southern African region as a whole, by diversifying and strengthening their economic links, promoting sustainable development in their economies, supporting patterns of regional economic cooperation, promoting cooperation between small and medium-sized enterprises, protecting and improving the environment, promoting the economic empowerment of historically disadvantaged groups, including women, protecting and promoting worker and trade union rights.

Article 51

Industry

The aim of cooperation in this area is to facilitate the restructuring and modernisation of the South African industry while fostering its competitiveness and growth and to create conditions favourable to mutually beneficial cooperation between South African and Community industry.

The aim of the cooperation shall be, inter alia:

- (a) to encourage cooperation between the Parties' economic operators (companies, professionals, sectoral and other business organisations, organised labour, etc.);
- (b) to back the efforts of South Africa's public and private sectors to restructure and modernise industry, under conditions ensuring environmental protection, sustainable development and economic empowerment;
- (c) to foster an environment which favours private initiatives, with the aim of stimulating and diversifying output for the domestic and export markets;
- (d) to promote improved utilisation of South Africa's human resources and industrial potential through, inter alia, the facilitation of access to credit and investment finance and support to industrial innovation, technology transfer, training, research and technological development.

Article 52

Investment Promotion and Protection

Cooperation between the Parties shall aim to establish a climate which favours and promotes mutually beneficial investment, both domestic and foreign, especially through improved conditions for investment protection, investment promotion, the transfer of capital and the exchange of information on investment opportunities.

The aims of cooperation shall be, inter alia, to facilitate and encourage:

- (a) the conclusion, where appropriate, between the Member States and South Africa of agreements for the promotion and protection of investment;
- (b) the conclusion, where appropriate, between the Member States and South Africa of agreements to avoid double taxation;
- (c) the exchange of information on investment opportunities;
- (d) work towards harmonised and simplified procedures and administrative practices in the field of investment;
- (e) support, through appropriate instruments, the promotion and encouragement of investment in South Africa and in the Southern African region.

Article 53

Trade Development

1. The Parties undertake to develop, diversify and increase trade between them and to improve the competitiveness of South African production on domestic, regional and international markets.
2. Cooperation in the field of trade development shall in particular focus on the following:
 - (a) drawing up appropriate trade development strategies and creation of a trade environment supportive of competitiveness;
 - (b) capacity building and development of human resources and professional skills in the field of trade and support services in both the public and private sector, including labour;
 - (c) exchanges of information on market requirements;
 - (d) know-how and technology transfer through investment and joint ventures;
 - (e) development of the private sector, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in trade;
 - (f) establishment, adaptation and strengthening of organisations concerned with the development of trade and support services;
 - (g) regional cooperation for the development of trade and trade-related infrastructure and services in southern Africa.

Article 54

Micro-enterprises and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

The Parties shall aim to develop and strengthen micro enterprises (MEs) and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in South Africa, as well as to promote cooperation between SMEs in the Community and in South Africa and the region in a manner that is sensitive to gender equality. The Parties shall, inter alia:

- (a) cooperate, where appropriate, in the creation of enabling legal, administrative, institutional, technical, tax and financial frameworks for the setting up and expansion of MEs and SMEs;
- (b) provide assistance required by MEs and SMEs, whatever their legal status, in areas such as financing, skills training, technology and marketing;

- (c) provide assistance to companies, organisations, policy makers and agencies providing services referred to under paragraph b through appropriate technical support, information exchange and capacity building;
- (d) establish and facilitate appropriate links between South African, southern African and Community private sector operators in order to improve the flow of information (relating to strategy formulation and implementation, business trends and opportunities, networking, joint ventures and transfer of skills).

Article 55

Information Society - Telecommunications and Information Technology

1. The Parties agree to cooperate in the area of information and communication technology (ICT) which they consider as key sectors of modern society and which are vital to economic and social development and to the development of an information society. Communication in this context encompasses post, broadcasting, telecommunications, information technologies. The aim of cooperation shall be to:
 - (a) improve the access of South African public and private entities to means of communications, electronics and information technologies through support to the development of infrastructural networks, human resources and appropriate information society policies in South Africa;
 - (b) support cooperation between the countries of the southern African region in this area, in particular in the context of satellite technology;
 - (c) address the challenges of globalisation, new technologies, institutional and sector restructuring, and the developing gap in basic information services and in advanced services.
2. Cooperation shall include among others:
 - (a) dialogue on different aspects of information society, including regulatory aspects and communications policy;
 - (b) information exchanges and possible technical assistance on regulation, standardisation, conformity testing and certification of information and communications technologies and the use of frequencies;
 - (c) dissemination of new information and communication technologies, and the development of new facilities, particularly in relation to interconnection of networks and interoperability of applications;
 - (d) promotion and implementation of joint research, technological development on projects in the field of new technologies related to the information society;
 - (e) access for South African organisations to Community projects or programmes on the basis of the arrangements applying in the various fields concerned, and access for European Union organisations to operations initiated by South Africa under the same conditions.

Article 56

Postal Cooperation

Cooperation in this area shall include:

- (a) exchange of information and dialogue on postal matters in relation to, inter alia, regional and international activities, regulatory aspects and policy decisions;

- (b) technical assistance on regulation, operational standards and human resource development;
- (c) promotion and implementation of joint projects, including research, on technological development in this sector.

Article 57

Energy

1. Cooperation in this area shall include the aim of cooperation in this area shall be:
 - (a) to improve the access of South Africans to affordable, reliable and sustainable sources of energy;
 - (b) to reorganise and modernise the energy producing, distributing and consuming subsectors so that appropriate services are provided on optimum terms of economic efficiency, social development and environmental acceptability;
 - (c) to support cooperation between countries in the southern African region to exploit locally available energy resources in an efficient and environmentally friendly manner.
2. Cooperation shall specifically aim:
 - (a) to support the development of appropriate energy policies and infrastructure in South Africa;
 - (b) to diversify energy supplies in South Africa;
 - (c) to improve energy operators performance standards in technical, economic and financial terms especially in the electricity and liquid fuels sectors;
 - (d) to facilitate capacity building of local expertise especially by general and technical training;
 - (e) to develop new and renewable forms of energy and support infrastructure especially for rural energy power supply;
 - (f) to improve the rational use of energy notably by the promotion of energy systems' efficiency;
 - (g) to promote transfer and use of environmentally friendly technologies;
 - (h) to promote regional energy cooperation in southern Africa.

Article 58

Mining and Minerals

1. The aim of cooperation in this area is, inter alia:
 - (a) to support and promote policy measures that improve health and safety standards in the mining industry as well as conditions of employment;
 - (b) to make mineral resources and geoscience information accessible for exploration and mining investment. The cooperation should also create a mutually beneficial climate for attracting investment in the sector, including SMEs (and previously disadvantaged communities);
 - (c) to support policies which ensure that mining activities take place with due consideration for the environment and sustainable development, taking into account the specific circumstances in the country and nature of mining;
 - (d) to cooperate on mining and minerals technology research and development.

2. Cooperation will include South African activities undertaken within the framework of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mining Coordination Unit.

Article 59

Transport

1. The aim of the cooperation in this area shall be:

- (a) to improve the access of South Africans to affordable, safe and reliable modes of transport and to facilitate the flow of goods in the country through the support to the development of intermodal infrastructure networks and transport systems, that are economically and environmentally sustainable;
- (b) to support cooperation between the countries of the southern African region in order to create a sustainable transport network for regional needs.

2. Cooperation shall specifically focus on:

- (a) contributing to the restructuring and modernisation of road, rail, port and airport infrastructure;
- (b) gradually improving the conditions of air transport, rail, road and multimodal transit, as well as the management of roads, railways, ports and airports, and maritime and air traffic;
- (c) improving the safety of air and maritime traffic by improving aids to navigation and training to enable efficient programmes.

Article 60

Tourism

1. The Parties will cooperate with the aim of strengthening the development of a competitive tourism industry. In this context the Parties in particular agree:

- (a) to promote the development of the tourism industry as a generator of economic growth and empowerment, employment and foreign exchange;
- (b) to seek to establish a strategic alliance involving public, private and community interests in order to ensure the sustainable development of tourism;
- (c) to carry out joint operations in such areas as the development of products and markets, human resources and institutional structures;
- (d) to cooperate on tourism training and capacity building in order to improve service standards;
- (e) to cooperate in promoting and developing community-based tourism through pilot projects in rural areas;
- (f) to facilitate liberal movement of tourists.

2. The Parties agree that cooperation in the field of tourism will be based, inter alia, on the following guidelines:

- (a) respecting the integrity and interests of local communities, particularly in rural areas;
- (b) stressing the importance of cultural heritage;
- (c) facilitating training, know-how transfer and awareness creation in the wider community;
- (d) providing positive interaction between tourism and environmental preservation;
- (e) promoting regional cooperation in southern Africa.

Article 61

Agriculture

1. Cooperation in this area shall be aimed at the promotion of integrated, harmonious and sustainable rural development in South Africa. Cooperation will in particular be geared:

- (a) to modernise and restructure, where appropriate, the agricultural sector through methods including the modernisation of infrastructure and equipment, the development of packaging and storage techniques and the improvement of private distribution and marketing chains;
- (b) to facilitate the development and the enhancement of competitiveness of farmers from previously disadvantaged communities and the provision of appropriate agricultural services in this regard;
- (c) to diversify and develop output and external markets;
- (d) to achieve and develop cooperation in animal health, plant health and agricultural production techniques;
- (e) to examine measures to harmonise standards and rules on animal and plant health, with a view to facilitating trade, taking into account the legislation in force for both Parties and in conformity with the rules of the WTO.

2. Cooperation will take place, inter alia, through the transfer of know-how, the establishment of joint ventures and capacity building programmes.

Article 62

Fisheries

Cooperation in this area shall aim at promoting sustainable management and use of fisheries resources in the long-term interest of both Parties. This will be achieved by exchanges of information and the design and implementation of agreed arrangements which may address the economic, commercial, developmental, scientific and technical aspirations of the Parties. These arrangements will be set out in a separate mutually beneficial fisheries agreement which the Parties undertake to seek to complete as soon as possible.

Article 63

Services

The Parties agree to foster cooperation in the services sector in general and in the area of banking, insurance and other financial services in particular, through, inter alia:

- (a) encouraging trade in services;
- (b) exchanging, where appropriate, information on rules, laws and regulations governing the services sector in the Parties;
- (c) improving accounting, auditing, supervision and regulation of financial services and financial monitoring, for example through the facilitation of training schemes.

Article 64

Consumer Policy and Protection of Consumer Health

Parties shall start cooperation in the area of consumer policy and consumer health protection, in particular aiming at:

- (a) establishing systems of mutual information on domestically prohibited and dangerous products;
- (b) exchanging information and experience on the establishment and operation of post-market surveillance of products and product safety;
- (c) improving information provided to consumers especially on prices, characteristics of products and services offered;
- (d) encouraging exchanges between consumer interest representatives;
- (e) increasing the compatibility of consumer policies and systems;
- (f) exchange of information on increasing consumer awareness through information and education;
- (g) notifying enforcements and cooperation between the Parties in investigating harmful or unfair business practices;
- (h) exchange of information on effective ways of redressing any wrongs to consumers victimised by illegal activities.

TITLE V

Development Cooperation

SECTION A

General

Article 65

Aims

1. Development cooperation between the Community and South Africa shall be conducted in a context of policy dialogue and partnership, and shall support the policies and reforms carried out by the national authorities.
2. In particular, development cooperation shall contribute to South Africa's harmonious and sustainable economic and social development and to its insertion into the world economy and to consolidate the foundations laid for a democratic society and a state governed by the rule of law in which human rights in their political, social and cultural aspects and fundamental freedoms are respected.
3. Within this context, priority shall be given to supporting operations, which help the fight against poverty.

Article 66

Priorities

1. The areas of development cooperation will mainly concern the following:
 - (a) support for policies and instruments towards the progressive integration of the South African economy into the world economy and trade, for expansion of employment, for development of sustainable private enterprises, for regional cooperation and integration. In this context, special attention will be given to providing support to the