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FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC AND UZBEKISTAN

The following text reproduces the Agreement and the Protocol on Exceptions to the Free Trade Regime between the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan.

AGREEMENT ON FREE TRADE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, hereinafter referred to the Contracting Parties,

Aspiring to the development of trade economic cooperation between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

Taking into account the formed integration economic relations of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan and intercomplementation of economies of the two States,

Being guided by the provisions of the Agreement on the Creation of a Common Economic Area,

Considering that the free transfer of goods and services requires the execution of mutually coordinated measures,

Confirming the adherence of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan to the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO),

Hereby agreed as follows:

Article 1

Being guided by the principles of equality and mutual profit and interest, the Parties shall develop and expand trade economic relations between business entities regardless their form of ownership on the basis of direct economic relations, following legislative acts in force in the Contracting States.

Each of the Parties shall refrain from actions which can damage economically the other Party.

Article 2

1. The Contracting Parties shall provide a free trade regime to each other.

The Contracting Parties shall not apply customs duties, taxes and levies, which have equivalent effect, as well as quantitative restrictions, to exportation and/or importation of goods originating in the customs territory of one of the Contracting Parties and intended for the customs territory of the other Contracting Party. Exceptions to this trade regime according to the coordinated Goods Nomenclature shall be in the form of documents which are integral part of this Agreement.

2. In accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, the Contracting Parties shall yearly develop and coordinate a general schedule of exceptions to the free trade regime and methods of applying such exceptions.

3. For the purposes of this Agreement and for the period it is effective, goods originating in the territories of the Contracting Parties shall be goods determined by the Regulations on Determining a Country of Origin, as of 24 September, 1993, approved by the Decision of the Governments Heads' Council of the Community of Independent States.

Article 3

Each Contracting Party shall not:

- directly or indirectly impose on goods of the other Contracting Party, subject to this Agreement, domestic taxes or levies which exceed the relevant taxes or levies imposed on similar domestically produced goods or goods originating in third countries;
- introduce with respect to importation or exportation of goods, subject to this Agreement, any special restrictions or requirements which in a similar situation are not applied to similar domestically produced goods or to goods originating in third countries;
- with respect to warehousing, transshipping, storing and transporting goods originating in the territory of the other Contracting Party and with respect to payments and transfer of payments, apply rules other than those which are similarly applied with respect to its own goods or goods originating in third countries.

Article 4

Under the framework of this Agreement, in mutual trade the Contracting Parties shall refrain from applying with respect to the other Contracting Party discriminatory measures, or from introducing quantitative restrictions or measures, equivalent with them, with respect to exportation and/or importation of goods. The Contracting Parties may unilaterally establish quantitative or other special restrictions, but only in reasonable limits and for a strictly appointed term. These restrictions must be exclusive and may be applied only in cases provided by the Agreements under the GATT/WTO. A Contracting Party which applies quantitative restrictions in compliance with this Article must, as far as possible in advance, provide the other Party with full information concerning the basic reasons for the