FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROMANIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

PREAMBLE

Romania and the Republic of Moldova, hereinafter called the parties,

Recalling their intention to participate actively in the process of economic integration in Europe.

Considering the importance of the traditional, historical and spiritual links existing between Romania and the Republic of Moldova and the common values they share, and recognizing that Romania and the Republic of Moldova wish to strengthen these links and to establish close and lasting cooperation and economic integration relations, Reaffirming their commitment to pluralistic democracy based on the rule of law, of human rights and fundamental human freedoms,

Firmly convinced that this Agreement will promote the increasing of bilateral mutually advantageous trade exchanges, will foster to the creation of enlarged free-trade area, thus constituting an important contribution to the European integration process, Resolved to this end to eliminate progressively the obstacles in their bilateral trade, in accordance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Considering that no provision of this Agreement may be interpreted as exempting the States Parties to this Agreement from their obligations under other international

agreements, Have decided:

Article 1 Objectives

- 1. Romania and the Republic of Moldova shall establish a free-trade area, in accordance with the provisions of the present Agreement.
- 2. The objectives of this Agreement are:
- (a) to promote, through the expansion of mutual trade, the harmonious development of the economic relations between Romania and the Republic of Moldova, the improvement of living and employment standards, increasing of productivity and financial stability;
- (b) to provide fair conditions of competition for trade between the States Parties to this Agreement;
- (c) to contribute in this way, by the removal of barriers to trade, to the harmonious development and expansion of world trade.

Article 2 Scope

The Agreement shall apply to products originating in the States Parties to this Agreement.

Article 3

Customs duties on imports and charges having equivalent effect

1. No new customs duty on exports or charge having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between Romania and the Republic of Moldova.