

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.

2. Upon the date of entry into force of this Agreement, Romania and the Republic of Moldova shall abolish all customs duties on imports for products originating in Romania, and respectively, in the Republic of Moldova.
3. On the same date, Romania applies an import charge of 0.5 per cent ad valorem to all its imports, and the Republic of Moldova an import charge of 0.25 per cent.

Article 4

Customs duties of a fiscal nature

The provisions of Article 3 shall also apply to customs duties of a fiscal nature.

Article 5

Customs duties on exports and charges having equivalent effect

1. No new customs duty on exports or charge having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between Parties.
2. On the date of entry into force of the Agreement, Romania applies an export charge of 0.5 per cent ad valorem to all its exports, and the Republic of Moldova an export charge of 0.25 per cent.

Article 6

Quantitative restrictions on imports and measures having equivalent effect

No quantitative restrictions on imports and measures having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between the Parties.

Article 7

Quantitative restrictions on exports and measures having equivalent effect

1. No quantitative restriction on exports or measures having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between the Parties.
2. Quantitative restrictions and measures having equivalent effect shall be abolished on the date of entry into force of the Agreement, except those provided for in Annex I, for Romania and, those provided for in Annex II, for the Republic of Moldova.

Article 8

Information procedure on draft technical regulations

The Parties to this Agreement shall notify each other, at the earliest practicable stage, the draft technical regulations and draft amendments thereto which they intend to issue.

Article 9

Rules of origin and co-operation in customs administration

1. Protocol A lays down the rules of origin and methods of administrative co-operation.
2. The Parties to this Agreement shall take appropriate measures, including regular reviews by the Joint Committee and arrangements for administrative co-operation, to