

In this connection, each Contracting Party shall ensure unhindered transit through its territory of commodities originated from the customs territory of another Contracting Party and/or third countries and intended for the customs territory of the other Contracting Party or any third country, and provide to exporters, importers or carriers all the available and required facilities and services for transit on terms that are not worse than those on which the very same facilities and services are provided to their own exporters, importers or carriers of any third country.

The transit tariffs for any type of transport, including tariffs of loading and unloading, shall be economically justified and not exceed the normal operational expenses, the reasonable profit rates included.

Article 10

Nothing in the present Agreement shall hinder any of the Contracting Parties to take measures it considers necessary for the protection of its vital interests or which are undoubtedly necessary for the performance of the international treaties to which it is a party or intends to be a party, if these measures concern the following:

- information that affects the interest of national defense;
- trade in weapons, ammunition and materiel;
- research or production related to the needs of defense;
- delivery of material and equipment used in the nuclear industry;
- protection of public morals and public order;
- protection of industrial or intellectual property;
- gold, silver or other precious metals and stones;
- protection of the health of people, animals and plants.

Article 11

The provisions of the present Agreement shall replace the provisions of the agreements concluded earlier between the Contracting Parties insofar as the latter are either incompatible with the first or identical to them.

Article 12

The present Agreement does not affect the validity of the agreements the Contracting Parties concluded with third countries.

Article 13

Nothing in the present Agreement shall hinder the Contracting Parties from maintaining relations with third countries, which does not contradict the purposes and terms of the present Agreement, as well as with their associations and international organizations.

Article 14

Disputes between the Contracting Parties as to the interpretation or application of provisions of the present Agreement shall be settled through negotiations. For achieving agreement, the Parties shall take guidance from the provisions of the present Agreement and the documents concluded on its basis.

Article 15

For achieving the purposes of the present Agreement and in order to work out recommendations for the improvement of trade and economic cooperation between the two states, the Contracting Parties have agreed to establish a joint Russian-Ukrainian Commission.

Article 16

The Protocol on the Exclusion from the Regime of Free Trade shall be an inseparable part of the present Agreement.

Article 17

The present Agreement shall come into force after the exchange of notifications about the Contracting Parties' performance of the inter-state procedures, and remain in force until the expiry of twelve months from the date when one of the Contracting Parties forwards a written notification to the other Contracting Party about the intention to terminate the effect of the Agreement.

Made at the city of Kyiv on June 24, 1993 in two valid copies, each in the Ukrainian and Russian languages, both texts being of equal force.

On behalf of the Government of Ukraine

Leonid Kuchma

(signature)

On behalf of the Government of the Russian Federation

Victor Chernomyrdin

(signature)