

CHAPTER III: TRADE-RELATED PROVISIONS

Article 23

Payments And Transfers

1. Payments relating to trade between the Parties and the transfer of such payments to the territory of the Party where the creditor resides shall be free from any restrictions.
2. The Parties shall refrain from any currency exchange or administrative restrictions on the grant, repayment or acceptance of short and medium-term credits covering commercial transactions in which a resident participates.
3. No restrictive measures shall apply to transfers related to investments and in particular to the repatriation of amounts invested or reinvested and of any kind of revenues stemming there from.
4. It is understood that the provisions in this Article are without prejudice to the equitable, non-discriminatory application of their respective legislation in connection with criminal offences and orders or judgments in administrative and ad judicatory proceedings.

Article 24

Rules Of Competition Concerning Undertakings, State Aid

1. The following are incompatible with the proper implementation of this Agreement, in so far as they affect trade between the Parties:
 - (a) all agreements between undertakings, decisions by associations of undertakings and concerted practices between undertakings which have as their object or effect the prevention, restriction or distortion of competition;
 - (b) abuse by one or more undertakings of dominant position in the territories of the Parties as a whole or in a substantial part thereof;
 - (c) any state aid which distorts or threatens to distort competition by favoring certain undertakings or the production of certain goods.
2. Each Party shall ensure transparency in the area of state aid. Upon request by one Party, the other Party shall provide information on particular individual cases of state aid.
3. For the purpose of applying the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, the Parties will take the measures in conformity with the procedures and under the conditions laid down in their respective Agreements with the European Communities. In case of any change in those procedures and/or conditions these changes will be applicable between the Parties.
4. If the Parties consider that a particular practice is incompatible with the terms of the first paragraph of this Article, and:
 - (a) is not adequately dealt with under the implementing rules referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article, or

- (b) in the absence of such rules, and if such practice causes or threatens to cause serious prejudice to the interest of the other Party or material injury to its domestic industry, including its services industry

it may take appropriate measures after consultation within the Joint Committee or after thirty working days following referral for such consultation.

5. In the case of practices incompatible with paragraph 1.c) of this Article, such appropriate measures may, where the WTO/GATT 1994 applies thereto, only be adopted in conformity with the procedures and under the conditions laid down by the WTO/GATT 1994 and any other relevant instrument negotiated under its auspices which are applicable between the Parties.

6. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary adopted in conformity with this Article, the Parties shall exchange information taking into account the limitations imposed by the requirements of professional and business secrecy.

Article 25

Intellectual, Industrial And Commercial Property

1. The Parties shall grant and ensure adequate effective protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property rights in line with the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) and other international Agreements. This shall encompass effective means of enforcing such rights.

2. The Parties shall regularly review the implementation of this Article. If difficulties, which affect trade, arise in connection with intellectual, industrial and commercial property rights, either Party may request urgent consultations to find mutually satisfactory solutions within the framework of the Joint Committee.

Article 26

State Monopolies

1. The Parties shall progressively adjust any state monopoly of a commercial character so as to ensure that by the end of the fourth year following the entry into force of this Agreement, no discrimination regarding the conditions under which goods are procured and marketed will exist between nationals of the Parties.

2. The Joint Committee shall be informed about the measures adopted to implement this objective.

Article 27

Public Procurement

1. The Parties consider the opening up of the award of public contracts on the basis of non-discrimination and reciprocity, to be a desirable objective.

2. As of the entry into force of this Agreement, both Parties shall grant each other's companies' access to contract award procedures a treatment no less favourable than that accorded to companies of any other country.

Article 28

Technical Regulations

1. The parties shall cooperate in the field of technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment; and shall take appropriate measures to promote international solutions and mutual recognition arrangements as appropriate to ensure that this agreement will be applied effectively and harmoniously to the mutual interests of all Parties.
2. The parties agree to hold immediate consultations in the framework of the joint committee in case a Party considers that another Party has taken measures which are likely to create, or have created, a technical obstacle to trade, in order to find an appropriate solution in conformity with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.
3. The extent of the Parties' obligations to notify draft technical regulations shall be applied in accordance with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. Turkey will make its notifications of draft technical regulations to the WTO available to Palestine. Palestine shall notify draft technical regulations to Turkey.

CHAPTER IV: ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Article 29

Objectives

1. Having recognised that the Turkish economy is far more advanced than the infant Palestinian economy, the Parties agreed upon the need for cooperation between them to assist the Palestinian side on the road to economic development in order to better be able to benefit from this Agreement.
2. The aim of cooperation shall be to support the Palestinian Authority's own efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development.
3. Turkey shall give priority for providing technical assistance in the primary fields of economic cooperation referred in Article 32.
4. Parties will encourage operations designed to develop cooperation among the countries of the region and particularly the ones taking part within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

Article 30

Scope

1. Cooperation and technical assistance shall:
 - (a) focus primarily on infant industries, sectors suffering from internal difficulties, undergoing restructuring or affected by the overall process of liberalization of the economy of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.
 - (b) focus on areas likely to bring the economies of the Parties closer together.