

international obligations shall take appropriate measures to ensure that this Agreement will be applied effectively and harmoniously to the mutual interests of both Parties.

2. The Parties agree to hold immediate consultations in the framework of the Association Committee in case a Party considers that the other 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 Syria. Syria shall notify draft technical regulations to Turkey.

CHAPTER IV ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Article 29 Objective

1. Both Parties will exert all necessary efforts to develop Economic, Scientific, Technical and Commercial Cooperation between the two sides.
2. Both Parties will promote and facilitate continuously the enhancement and diversification of trade exchanges and economic and technical cooperation between their economic establishments, enterprises, organisations and institutions within the framework of their respective rules and regulations as well as their international obligations.
3. Turkey shall give priority for providing Syria with technical assistance in the primary fields of economic co-operation referred in Article 32.
4. Parties will encourage operations designed to develop co-operation among the countries of the region and particularly the ones taking part within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

Article 30 Scope

1. Co-operation and technical assistance shall;
 - a) focus primarily on infant industries, sectors suffering from internal difficulties or affected by the overall process of liberalization of the Syrian economy and in particular by the liberalisation of trade between Turkey and Syria.
 - b) focus on areas likely to bring the economies of the Parties closer together.

- c) focus on capacity building and training programs, which would assist in creating the necessary institutions and human resources for implementation of this Agreement with Syria.
 - d) encourage the implementation of measures designed to develop intra-regional co-operation.
 - e) support joint-ventures, twinning initiatives and joint investments amongst the private sector institutions.
2. The Parties agree to extend economic co-operation to other areas not covered by the provisions of this Chapter such as and not inclusive to irrigation, transportation, communication, higher education, tourism, development and planning.

Article 31

Methods and Modalities

1. The Agreements concluded between the Parties in the fields of the economic, commercial, technical and scientific co-operation shall be implemented without prejudicing the provisions of this Agreement.
2. The Parties shall further determine the methods and modalities for economic co-operation and technical assistance; in particular within the work of the Association Council referred in Article 39. In this regard, the Association Council may decide to establish sub-committees.
3. Economic co-operation and technical assistance shall be implemented in particular by:
 - a) regular exchange of information and ideas in every sector of co-operation including meetings of officials and experts;
 - b) encouragement of reciprocal participation in fairs and exhibitions;
 - c) transfer of advice, expertise and training;
 - d) implementation of joint actions such as seminars and workshops;
 - e) technical, administrative and regulatory assistance;
 - f) encouragement of joint ventures;
 - g) dissemination of information on co-operation.

Article 32

Primary Fields of Economic Co-operation

The co-operation under the scope of this Agreement shall primarily involve the following fields referred in detail between Articles 33 to 36 of the Agreement:

- a) Industry;
- b) Agriculture;
- c) Services;
- d) Small and medium-sized enterprises.

Article 33 **Industrial Co-operation**

The main aim of industrial co-operation will be to support Syria, in its efforts to modernize and diversify industry and, in particular, to create an environment favourable to private sector and industrial development by enhancing co-operation between the two Parties' economic operators.

Article 34 **Co-operation in the Agriculture and Fisheries**

Taking into account the importance of co-operation in agriculture and fisheries towards the enhancement of bilateral relations, the Parties determined the following as the desired fields of co-operation:

- a) exchange of scientific and technical information and expertise relating to agriculture, forestry, water resources and rural development;
- b) reciprocal exchange of experts;
- c) organization of training, seminars, conferences and meetings, in either of the Parties;
- d) establishment of direct joint activities between the respective institutions;
- e) encouragement of investment and trade on agricultural production, processing and marketing in both countries and in other markets.

Article 35 **Co-operation in Services**

1. The Parties to this Agreement recognize the growing importance of trade in services. In their efforts to gradually develop and broaden their co-operation, in particular in the context of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, they will cooperate with the aim of achieving a progressive liberalization and mutual opening of their markets for trade in services, taking into account relevant provisions of the WTO-General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and multilateral trade negotiations with that respect.

2. The Parties will discuss the means of co-operation in the area of services at the Association Council.

Article 36

Co-operation between Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

1. With the view to further enhance trade and economic activities, the Parties shall give priority to promoting business and investment opportunities as well as joint ventures between small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) of the two countries. Within this context, the Parties will;
 - a) exchange expertise on entrepreneurship, management, research and management centres, quality and production standards;
 - b) provide market information to create investment opportunities;
 - c) furnish published documents concerning SMEs.
2. Turkey shall support Syria's efforts towards capacity building for the related private sector institutions.

CHAPTER V

INSTITUTIONAL, GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 37

Establishment of the Turkey-Syria Association Council

An Association Council is hereby established which as a rule shall be headed by Ministers in charge of foreign trade and meet at least once a year in accordance with the conditions laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 38

Duties of the Association Council

The Association Council shall review the progress made in the implementation of this Agreement and in the cooperation to support Syrian economic reform and development efforts. It shall also examine any major issues arising within the framework of this Agreement including its economic and social impact and any other bilateral or international issues of mutual interest.

Article 39

Procedures of the Association Council

1. The Association Council shall consist of officials, public and private sector representatives of both Parties.