# PARTNERSHIP, TRADE AND COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ("the United Kingdom") and THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA ("Albania") (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

RECOGNISING that the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Albania, of the other part, done at Luxembourg on 12 June 2006 ("the EU-Albania Agreement") will cease to apply to the United Kingdom at the end of the transitional arrangement during which that Agreement continues to apply to the United Kingdom;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the principles set out in the preamble to the EU-Albania Agreement, and desiring that the rights and obligations between the Parties as provided for by the EU-Albania Agreement should continue as modified by this Agreement;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

#### ARTICLE 1

### **Objectives**

- 1. The overriding objective of this Agreement is to preserve the links between the Parties established by the association created in Article 1 of the EU-Albania Agreement.
- 2. In particular, the Parties agree to preserve the preferential conditions relating to trade between the Parties which resulted from the EU-Albania Agreement and to provide a platform for further trade liberalisation between the Parties.
- 3. For the avoidance of doubt, it is confirmed that the Parties establish an association as well as a free trade area in goods and associated rules in accordance with this Agreement and affirm the objectives in Article 1 of the EU-Albania Agreement (as modified by this instrument).

#### ARTICLE 2

## **Definitions and interpretation**

1. This 'instrument' means these Articles 1 to 12 and Annexes I to III below, together with the preamble above and the signatures below.