

Recognising the different stages of economic development among ASEAN Member States and the need for flexibility, including the need to facilitate the increasing participation of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (the New ASEAN Member States) in the India-ASEAN economic co-operation and the expansion of their exports, inter alia, through the strengthening of their domestic capacity, efficiency and competitiveness;

Reaffirming the rights, obligations and undertakings of the respective parties under the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and other multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements and arrangements; and

Recognising that regional trade arrangements can contribute towards accelerating regional and global liberalisation and as building blocks in the framework of the multilateral trading system,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Objectives

The objectives of this Agreement are to:

strengthen and enhance economic, trade and investment co-operation between the Parties;

progressively liberalise and promote trade in goods and services as well as create a transparent, liberal and facilitative investment regime;

explore new areas and develop appropriate measures for closer economic co-operation between the Parties; and

facilitate the more effective economic integration of the new ASEAN Member States and bridge the development gap among the Parties.

ARTICLE 2

Measures For Economic Cooperation

The Parties agree to enter into negotiations in order to establish an India-ASEAN Regional Trade and Investment Area (RTIA), which includes a Free Trade Area (FTA) in goods, services and investment, and to strengthen and enhance economic cooperation through the following:

progressive elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers in substantially all trade in goods;

(b) progressive liberalisation of trade in services with substantial sectoral coverage;

(c) establishment of a liberal and competitive investment regime that facilitates and promotes investment within the India-ASEAN RTIA;

(d) provision of special and differential treatment to the New ASEAN Member States;

provision of flexibility to the Parties in the India-ASEAN RTIA negotiations to address their sensitive areas in the goods, services and investment sectors with such flexibilities to be negotiated and mutually agreed based on the principle of reciprocity and mutual benefits;

establishment of effective trade and investment facilitation measures, including, but not limited to, simplification of customs procedures and development of mutual recognition arrangements;

expansion of economic cooperation in areas as may be mutually agreed between the Parties that will complement the deepening of trade and investment links between the Parties and formulation of action plans and programmes in order to implement the agreed sectors/areas of co-operation; and

认识到东盟成员国经济发展阶段不同以及灵活性的需要, 包括促进柬埔寨、老挝人民民主共和国、缅甸和越南（新东盟成员国）日益增加地参与印度-东盟经济合作以及扩大其出口的需要, 其中, 通过加强其国内能力、效率和竞争力等措施;

重申各当事方在世界贸易组织（WTO）以及其他多边、区域和双边协定和安排下的权利、义务和承诺; 和

认识到区域贸易安排可以有助于加速区域和全球自由化, 并且是多边贸易体制框架中的基石,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Objectives

本协议的目标是:

加强和促进缔约方之间的经济、贸易和投资合作;

逐步自由化并促进货物和服务贸易, 以及创建透明、自由和便利的投资制度;

探索新的领域并制定适当的措施, 以加强缔约方之间的更紧密的经济合作; 和

促进新东盟成员国更有效的经济一体化, 并缩小缔约方之间的发展差距。

ARTICLE 2

经济合作措施

各方同意进行谈判, 以建立印度-东盟区域贸易和投资区（RTIA）, 该区域包括商品、服务和投资的自贸区（FTA）, 并通过以下方式加强和促进经济合作:

在几乎所有商品贸易中逐步消除关税和非关税壁垒; (b) 服务业的逐步自由化, 涵盖主要部门;

(c) 建立自由和竞争的投资制度, 以促进和推动印度-东盟RTIA内的投资;

(d) 向新东盟成员国提供特殊和差别待遇; 在印度-东盟RTIA谈判中, 给予各方灵活性, 以解决商品、服务和投资部门中的敏感领域, 此类灵活性应根据互惠互利原则进行谈判和相互同意;

建立有效的贸易和投资便利化措施, 包括但不限于海关程序简化和发展相互承认安排;

在双方可能相互同意的领域扩大经济合作, 以补充双方贸易和投资联系的深化, 并制定行动计划和方案, 以实施约定的合作部门/领域; 以及