

Agreement
between
the Government of the Czech Republic
and
the Government of the Republic of Macedonia
on Economic and Industrial Cooperation

The Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties");

Desiring to create an appropriate framework for lasting dialogue between the Parties, which will allow to analyze and adopt measures necessary to promote and develop bilateral economic relations to benefit both countries;

Having regard to the obligations ensuing from the Czech Republic membership in the European Union and the Republic of Macedonia candidacy to the membership in the European Union,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I
Objectives

The Parties shall, pursuant to this Agreement and in compliance with laws valid on the territories of states of the Parties, support the development of bilateral economic relations and promote economic and industrial cooperation.

Article II
Areas for cooperation

The Parties agree to promote economic cooperation in the following areas to be specified in detail by mutual agreement:

- a) Energy Sector;
- b) Agro-industry and forestry development;

- c) Automotive, aerospace and capital goods industry;
- d) Information technologies;
- e) Environmental protection technologies;
- f) Infrastructure;
- g) Transportation systems;
- h) Construction and joint projects in third markets;
- i) Technical standards, certification and metrology;
- j) Other areas of mutual interest.

Article III
Forms of cooperation

1. This Agreement may apply among other to the following activities:
 - a) Promoting the development of industrial, technical and technological cooperation, including exchange of information in these areas, as well as support of the drafting of studies for investment projects;
 - b) Elaboration of studies and implementation of joint projects aimed at development of industry, manufacture and processing of raw materials and energy resources, transport, telecommunications and all other spheres of common interest;
 - c) Cooperation enabling transfer of technologies, technical assistance, training of experts and drafting of joint documents, including those relating to third countries;
 - d) Organization of business missions, participation in international fairs and exhibitions, organization of fairs, symposiums, conferences and other events designed to contribute to the development of mutual commercial relations and new business opportunities;
 - e) Promoting and seeking favorable conditions for the financing of the cooperative projects agreed under this Agreement.
2. This list is not exclusive and does not exclude other forms of cooperation which the Parties may in their discretion determine as being of common interest.
3. The activities envisaged by this Agreement may be carried out on the basis of agreements between relevant subjects of both countries.

Article IV
Joint Committee on Bilateral Economic Cooperation

The Parties, with the aim to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement and in an effort to extend and develop mutual economic relations, hereby establish a Joint Committee on Bilateral Economic Cooperation, hereinafter the "Joint Committee".

Article V

The Joint Committee shall perform, in particular, the following activities:

- a) Serve as a consulting body to the Parties in the areas of economic, industrial, investment and trade promotion;
- b) Exchange information on economic development and on development programs in both countries and facilitate the search of opportunities for intensifying bipartite economic, commercial, investment and industrial cooperation;
- c) Propose, assess, evaluate and determine priority areas, in which it would be possible to implement specific projects of economic and business cooperation and define the preconditions for their implementation, and also cooperation projects and programs involving the setting of strategic goals and forms of activities;
- d) Pay special attention to the development of cooperation among small and medium - sized enterprises of both countries;
- e) Within the scope of competencies and in compliance with laws valid on the territories of states of the Parties, seek to achieve mutually satisfactory resolution of any controversy that may arise in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.

Article VI

1. The Joint Committee shall be jointly headed by representatives of the relevant ministries responsible for economic and industrial cooperation of both sides, at the level of State Secretary or Deputy Minister, or by proxies empowered by them for this particular purpose.
2. The Joint Committee shall be comprised of representatives of competent public bodies and institutions of both countries. To participate in its work, the Joint Committee may invite representatives of other public bodies and institutions of both countries as well as

representatives from the private sector, who will be interested in the development of mutual cooperation.

3. The Joint Committee may establish ad hoc or permanent expert groups and may delegate some of its responsibilities to such groups. Reports and recommendations of these groups and of other subjects referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be presented to the Joint Committee for consideration.
4. The Joint Committee shall meet at time as the Parties may deem appropriate, alternately in the Czech Republic and in the Republic of Macedonia on agreed dates, provided that such meetings may also take place in the form of video conferences.

Article VII Consultations

The Parties may, at the request of either of them made directly or via the Joint Committee, at any time engage in consultations regarding any issue which affects or could affect the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement.

Article VIII Special provisions

1. Cooperation between the Parties under this Agreement will proceed in accordance with the international obligations of the Parties, including obligations ensuing from international treaties concluded by the European Communities or between the European Communities and the member states of the European Union, on one side, and the Republic of Macedonia, on the other.
2. Cooperation between the Parties under this Agreement does not affect the obligations of either Party ensuing from other international agreements that it concluded or from the Czech Republic's membership in the European Union and the membership of the Republic of Macedonia in international groupings.

Article IX Final provisions

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last notification by which the Parties inform each other that all internal procedures necessary for its entry into force were fulfilled.

2. This Agreement shall remain in force until either Party terminates it. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by written notification to the other Party, through diplomatic channels. The Agreement shall cease to be in force six months after the date of such notification.
3. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, termination of this Agreement shall not affect the implementation of the activities which are in progress.
4. This Agreement may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.

Done at... **Prague** on... **10 February** 2010, in two originals, each in Czech, Macedonian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any differences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government
of the Czech Republic

Milan Hovorka
Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade

For the Government
of the Republic of Macedonia

Vladimir Pesevski
Deputy Prime Minister