

CHAPTER 12 COOPERATION

Article 12.1 Objectives

1. The Parties affirm the importance of all forms of cooperation, with particular attention to economic, trade and technical cooperation, as a means to contribute to the implementation of this Agreement, to promote, liberalise and facilitate trade and investment between the Parties and to enhance the ability of the Parties to take advantage of the economic opportunities created by the Agreement.
2. Cooperation between the Parties under this Chapter shall complement the cooperation and cooperative activities between the Parties set out in this Agreement and in other cooperation agreements or arrangements between them with the objective of maximizing its benefits, supporting pathways to trade and investment facilitation, and further improving market access and openness to contribute to the sustainable inclusive economic growth and prosperity of the Parties.

Article 12.2 Scope

1. Cooperation and capacity building activities may include the following areas:
 - (a) trade and investment promotion;
 - (b) human resource and skill development;
 - (c) tourism and cross-cultural cooperation;
 - (d) digital transformation, and information and communications technology;
 - (e) agricultural products, food security, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture;
 - (f) mining and minerals;
 - (g) pharmaceutical industry and health care;
 - (h) energy, including renewable energy;
 - (i) logistics and physical infrastructure;

- (j) digital trade and e-commerce;
 - (k) space technology;
 - (l) defence manufacturing; and
 - (m) innovation.
2. The Parties shall endeavour to include, *inter alia*, the following activities for cooperation and capacity building:
- (a) dialogue on policies and regular exchanges of information and views on ways to promote and expand trade and investment between the Parties;
 - (b) joint collaboration for studies and technical projects of economic interest according to the economic development needs identified by the Parties;
 - (c) providing assistance and facilities to business persons and trade missions of a Party that visit the other Party with the knowledge and support of its relevant agencies;
 - (d) supporting dialogue and exchange of best practices among the respective stakeholders of the Parties; and
 - (e) establishing and developing mechanisms for providing information and identifying opportunities for business cooperation, trade and investment.
3. The Parties shall regularly review cooperation and capacity building areas and activities set forth in this Article and, where appropriate, recommend new areas and activities for further cooperation.

Article 12.3

Agricultural Products, Food Security, Livestock, Fisheries and Aquaculture

1. The Parties acknowledge that agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and marine products play a considerable role in both economies. Cooperation and capacity building activities in these sectors may include:
- (a) sharing best practice principles and exploring collaborative opportunities in agricultural research, fisheries and aquaculture, animal breeding and trade in agricultural commodities including new plant varieties and food security, including various types of

millets and other ancient grains, aquaculture inputs and marine products between the Parties; and

- (b) developing training programmes for leading producers including agriculture and aquaculture farmers, fishermen, technicians, and professionals in order to improve the productivity and competitiveness in fisheries, aquaculture, agricultural products including various types of millets and other ancient grains, livestock and agricultural value-added products; and
- (c) building an ecosystem with the requisite supply chain linkages, technological repository, awareness creation, policy changes, and developing knowledge and understanding of each other's markets, consumer preferences, emerging segments, standards, regulations, and trade policies.

Article 12.4 **Mining and Minerals**

1. The Parties shall promote cooperation in the sectors of mining and minerals, as a way to promote investment and technology transfer in these sectors.
2. The Parties shall endeavour to cooperate, *inter alia*, in the following activities:
 - (a) promoting and facilitating trade and investment in the sectors relating to mining and minerals;
 - (b) facilitating access to mining and minerals projects, mining equipment, services, etc., wherever possible for public and private entities in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Parties;
 - (c) promoting cooperation, on a mutual basis, in geological mapping and research, prospecting, exploration and mining development, beneficiation of ores and minerals within their territories and of non-Parties;
 - (d) collaborating on action to support transparent, open, predictable, secure, and resilient supply chains for mining and minerals, including through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms;
 - (e) fostering exchange of publicly available information and experience sharing regarding best practices in mineral regulatory policy to encourage commercially viable and responsible activities in the mining and minerals sectors;

- (f) fostering research, development and innovation in mining and minerals sectors, including exploration, extraction, processing, recycling, as well as the development of technical capacities in unconventional sources of critical minerals, on a mutually agreed basis;
 - (g) promoting innovation and collaborative research to develop emerging technologies in downstream sectors; and
 - (h) encouraging training, technical assistance and capacity building activities, and foster opportunities for the development of skilled workforce.
- 3. The Parties shall endeavour to undertake cooperative activities to promote the development, transfer and diffusion of technology in the area of mining and minerals. The Parties shall, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, endeavour to:
 - (a) encourage, support and incentivise voluntary initiatives for the transfer of technology between privately-owned enterprises in each Party; and
 - (b) undertake activities that facilitate the development, transfer and diffusion of technology between state enterprises, on a mutually agreed basis.

Article 12.5

Pharmaceutical Industry and Healthcare

- 1. The Parties recognise that pharmaceuticals and healthcare play a considerable role in the territories of both Parties.
- 2. Cooperation and capacity building activities in this sector shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) exchange of information on regulatory requirements regarding issues such as clinical trials on the most common and contagious diseases, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Clinical Practices (GCP) certifications, reference pricing and regulatory control for pharmaceuticals, vaccines, blood products, biotechnology products and traditional and complementary medicine including teaching, practice, registration of traditional and complementary medicine, qualified practitioners, drug and drugless therapies;
 - (b) cooperation in technology transfer and innovation; and
 - (c) seeking and providing expertise of qualified medical practitioners.

Article 12.6
Digital Trade Cooperation and E-Commerce

Recognising the global nature of digital trade, the Parties shall endeavour to exchange information and share experiences and best practices on regulations, policies, enforcement and compliance relating to digital trade and e-commerce including the protection of personal information, security in electronic communications, and online consumer protection.

Article 12.7
Space Technology

1. The Parties recognise that as space technology continues to evolve, collaboration in this sector holds immense potential for mutual growth and advancement. The key areas of cooperation in the field of space technology include:
 - (a) sharing satellite data for agriculture, disaster management, and environmental monitoring with a view to benefitting both the Parties, leading to more efficient resource management and sustainable development;
 - (b) collaborative efforts in space research, exploration, downstream applications and the development of technologies; and
 - (c) capacity building programmes, training exchanges, educational partnerships, and skill development initiatives in the field of space.

Article 12.8
Tourism

1. The Parties recognise that tourism contributes to the improvement of bilateral trade and investment, and that it is an important industry for their economies.
2. Cooperation and capacity building activities in areas related to tourism and hospitality may include establishing exchange programmes for cooperation in human resources development.
3. The Parties may encourage the tourism stakeholders such as hoteliers, travel agents and tour operators to promote tourist attractions of both Parties. The Parties shall endeavour to promote niche segments such as heritage tourism, medical value travel, ecotourism, sports tourism, film tourism and meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions tourism.

Article 12.9
Logistics and Physical Infrastructure

The Parties, acknowledging the importance of the logistics sector, in their respective economies, agree to cooperate in this sector to develop logistics infrastructure and related services for greater resilience of the global value chains.

Article 12.10
Defence Manufacturing

The Parties shall endeavour to cooperate in the transfer of mutually agreed advanced military technologies and to engage in activities for fostering joint ventures in defence manufacturing, co-development and co-production of cutting edge military equipment, maintenance repair and overhaul, sustenance of defence platforms, and strengthening the self-sufficiency and technological capacity of both the Parties. Furthermore, the cooperation would also include promotion of defence trade to foster seamless exchange of military products between the Parties.

Article 12.11
Innovation

1. Subject to mutual agreement, the Parties shall endeavour to cooperate under this Article:
 - (a) to provide the necessary financial and human resources for cooperation to encourage research, development and innovation, including:
 - (i) supporting joint projects;
 - (ii) making available experts in the relevant fields of science and technology;
 - (iii) organizing exhibitions and scientific events in the field of innovation; and
 - (iv) providing financial and administrative support to start-ups;
 - (b) in identifying common areas of interest, such as:
 - (i) innovative technologies;
 - (ii) artificial intelligence; and
 - (iii) renewable energy and green economy;

- (c) by encouraging dissemination of the results of joint projects, including:
 - (i) presenting scientific papers at scientific conferences and symposia;
 - (ii) publishing scientific articles in scientific journals; and
 - (iii) filing patents.
- 2. Cooperating institutions of the Parties may conclude implementing agreements, in specific areas covered by this Agreement, in accordance with their applicable laws and regulations. These implementing agreements shall cover, as appropriate, areas of cooperation, procedures applicable to personnel exchanges or participants, procedures for transfer and use of materials, equipment and funds, and other relevant issues including the intellectual property rights.

Article 12.12 Resources

- 1. Resources for economic cooperation under this Chapter shall be provided in a manner as agreed by the Parties and in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Parties.
- 2. The Parties, where it is of mutual benefit, may consider cooperation with, and contributions from, non-Parties to support the implementation of the agreed areas of cooperation.

Article 12.13 Committee on Cooperation

- 1. For the purposes of the effective implementation and operation of this Chapter, the Parties shall establish a Committee on Cooperation (CoC).
- 2. The CoC shall:
 - (a) review, through regular reporting from the Parties, the operation of this Chapter and the application and fulfilment of its objectives;
 - (b) monitor and assess the progress in implementing the cooperation projects agreed by the Parties;
 - (c) make recommendations on the cooperative activities under this Chapter, in accordance with the strategic priorities of the Parties;

- (d) discuss and consider issues or proposals for future cooperation and capacity building activities;
 - (e) coordinate with other committees, working groups and any other subsidiary body established under this Agreement as appropriate, in support of the development and implementation of cooperation and capacity building activities; and
 - (f) engage in other activities, as the Parties may decide.
- 3. The Committee shall produce an agreed record of its meetings, including decisions and next steps and, as appropriate, report to the Joint Committee.
- 4. The Parties shall designate a contact point to facilitate communication on possible cooperative activities. The contact points shall endeavour to work with government agencies, business sector representatives, educational and research institutions, and any other relevant agency for the operation of this Chapter.

Article 12.14

Non-Application of Dispute Settlement

Neither Party shall have recourse to dispute settlement under Chapter 13 (Dispute Settlement) for any matter arising under this Chapter.