

**No. 45201\***

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**Turkey  
and  
Israel**

**Agreement establishing a free trade area between the Republic of Turkey and the State of Israel (with annexes and protocols). Jerusalem, 14 March 1996**

**Entry into force:** *1 March 1997 by the exchange of instruments of ratification, in accordance with article 38*

**Authentic texts:** *English*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Turkey, 21 August 2008*

**Note:** *See also annex A, No. 45201.*

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**Turquie  
et  
Israël**

**Accord portant création d'une zone de libre échange entre la République turque et l'État d'Israël (avec annexes et protocoles). Jérusalem, 14 mars 1996**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *1er mars 1997 par échange des instruments de ratification, conformément à l'article 38*

**Textes authentiques :** *anglais*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies :** *Turquie, 21 août 2008*

**Note :** *Voir aussi annexe A, No. 45201.*

\* *The text reproduced below is the original text of the agreement as submitted. For ease of reference, it was sequentially paginated. The relevant Treaty Series volume will be published in due course.*

*Le texte reproduit ci-dessous est le texte authentique de l'accord tel que soumis pour l'enregistrement. Pour référence, il a été présenté sous forme de la pagination consécutive. Le volume correspondant du Recueil des Traités sera disponible en temps utile.*

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**AGREEMENT  
ESTABLISHING A FREE TRADE AREA  
BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
AND  
THE STATE OF ISRAEL**

PREAMBLE

THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

(hereinafter referred to as "Turkey") on the one part, and

THE STATE OF ISRAEL

(hereinafter referred to as "Israel") on the other part,

RECALLING their intention to participate actively in the process of economic integration in Europe and expressing their preparedness to cooperate in seeking ways and means to strengthen this process;

HAVING regard to the Agreement Establishing an Association between Turkey and the European Economic Community and the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and the State of Israel, as well as to Turkey's and Israel's Free Trade Agreements with EFTA States;

HAVING regard to the experience gained from the co-operation developed between the Parties as well as between them and their main trading partners;

DECLARING their willingness to take action with a view to promoting harmonious development of their trade as well as to expanding and diversifying their mutual co-operation in the fields of common interest, including fields not covered by this Agreement, thus creating a framework and supportive environment based on equality, non-discrimination, and a balance of rights and obligations,

RECALLING the mutual interest of Turkey and Israel in the continual reinforcement of the multilateral trading system and considering their capacity as Contracting Parties to GATT/WTO, the provisions and instruments of which constitute a basis for their foreign trade policy;

RESOLVED to lay down for this purpose provisions aimed at the progressive abolition of the obstacles to trade between Turkey and Israel in accordance with the provisions of these instruments, in particular those concerning the establishment of free trade areas;

CONSIDERING the respective commitments of the Parties to this Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties") to free trade and in particular to compliance with the rights and obligations arising out of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) as it results from the negotiations of the Uruguay Round;

HAVE DECIDED, in pursuance of these objectives, to conclude the following Agreement.

## ARTICLE 1

### Objectives

1. Turkey and Israel shall gradually establish, during a transitional period ending at the latest January 1, 2000, a free trade area in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and in conformity with those of the GATT 1994 and of other multilateral agreements on trade in goods annexed to the Agreement establishing the WTO, hereinafter referred to as the "GATT".
2. The objectives of this Agreement are:
  - a) to promote, through the expansion of reciprocal trade in goods and services, the harmonious development of the economic relations between Turkey and Israel;
  - b) to provide fair conditions of competition for trade between Turkey and Israel;
  - c) to contribute in this way, by removal of barriers to trade, to the harmonious development and expansion of world trade;
  - d) to enhance co-operation between Turkey and Israel.

## ARTICLE 2

### Basic Duties

1. For commercial exchanges covered by this Agreement, the Israel Customs Tariffs shall be applied to the classification of goods for imports to Israel. The Turkish Customs Tariffs shall be applied to the classification of goods for imports into Turkey.
2. For each product listed in Chapter I of this Agreement the basic duty to which the successive reductions set out in this Agreement are to be applied shall be the MFN duties that are applied *erga omnes* on the date of the entry into force of the Agreement.
3. If after entry into force of this Agreement, any tariff reduction is applied on an *erga omnes* basis, in particular reductions resulting from the tariff agreement concluded as a result of the GATT Uruguay Round and Turkey-EC Customs Union, such reduced duties shall replace the basic duties referred to in paragraph 2 as from that date when such reductions are applied, unless otherwise agreed in this Agreement, its Protocols and Annexes.
4. Turkey and Israel shall communicate each other their respective basic duties.

CHAPTER 1  
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

ARTICLE 3

Scope

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to products originating in Turkey and Israel listed in Chapters 25 to 97 of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System with the exception of the products listed in **Annex I**.

ARTICLE 4

**Customs Duties on Imports and Charges Having Equivalent Effect**

1. No new customs duties on imports or charges having equivalent effect shall be introduced, nor shall those already applied be increased, in trade between Turkey and Israel from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
2. Customs duties on imports applicable in Israel to products originating in Turkey which are not listed in **Annex II**, **Annex III** and **Annex VIII** shall be abolished on the entry into force of the Agreement.
3. Customs duties on imports applicable in Israel to products originating in Turkey which are listed in **Annex II** shall be gradually abolished in accordance with the timetable provided in that Annex and abolished on January 1, 2000 at the latest.
4. Customs duties on imports applicable in Israel to products originating in Turkey which are listed in **Annex III** shall be gradually abolished in accordance with the following timetable:
  - upon the entry into force of the Agreement each duty shall be reduced to 2/3 of the basic duty,
  - on January 1, 1998 to 1/3 of the basic duty,
  - on January 1, 1999 the remaining duties shall be eliminated.
5. Customs duties on imports applicable in Turkey to products originating in Israel other than those products listed in **Annex IV**, **Annex V**, **Annex VIa**, **Annex VIb**, **Annex VII** and **Annex VIII** shall be abolished on the entry into force of this Agreement.