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Multilateral

Economic Cooperation Organization Trade Agreement. Islamabad, 17 July 2003

Entry into force: *24 March 2008, in accordance with article 39*

Authentic texts: *English and Russian*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *Economic Cooperation Organization, 13 January 2009*

Multilatéral

Accord commercial de l'Organisation de coopération économique. Islamabad, 17 juillet 2003

Entrée en vigueur : *24 mars 2008, conformément à l'article 39*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et russe*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *Organisation de coopération économique, 13 janvier 2009*

Participant	Ratification	
Afghanistan	9 Jul	2007
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	24 Feb	2008
Pakistan	29 Apr	2007
Tajikistan	26 Sep	2004
Turkey	19 Jul	2007

Note: The texts of the declarations and reservations are published after the list of Parties
-- Les textes des déclarations et réserves sont reproduits après la liste des Parties.

Participant	Ratification	
Afghanistan	9 juil	2007
Iran (République islamique d')	24 févr	2008
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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION TRADE AGREEMENT

PREAMBLE

1. The members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (hereinafter referred to as ECO); the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties);
2. Motivated by the commitment to promote regional cooperation for the prosperity and stability of the region, in a spirit of mutual accommodation, with full respect for the principles of sovereign equality, independence and territorial integrity of all States;
3. Recalling their intention to participate actively in the process of liberalizing trade through the progressive reduction of tariffs and elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade, and expressing their readiness to cooperate in seeking ways and means to strengthen this process;
4. Bearing in mind the aims and objectives of ECO as laid down in its Charter, the Treaty of Izmir; and provisions of the Economic Cooperation Strategy for the ECO region, in particular the Articles of the Framework Agreement on ECO Trade Cooperation and recognizing the importance of the principles of a market economy and striving to coordinate economic policy to the extent necessary to achieve the objectives of these agreements;
5. Recalling the importance of maintaining consistency with internationally recognized rules as well as the importance of liberal trade regimes in order to foster economic development;
6. Confident that Contracting Parties that are not members of the WTO will continue to pursue the WTO accession process, and those Contracting signatory Parties that are WTO members shall facilitate their accession through appropriate support;
7. Bearing in mind the urgent need to promote the intra-regional trade which presently constitutes a negligible share in the total volume of trade of the ECO member states;
8. Considering that the rights and obligations arising from other agreements between one or more member states on the one hand and one or more third countries on the other, shall not be affected by the provisions of this Agreement;

9. Convinced that this Agreement will create a new climate for economic relations among the Contracting Parties and in particular for the development of trade and investment, which are essential to economic development;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Definitions

For the purposes of the ECO Trade Agreement, hereinafter referred to as the Agreement:

1. "Contracting Parties" means the Member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) who accede to the agreement.
2. "Critical situation: means the occurrence of an exceptional situation in which increased imports of concessional goods and products cause or threaten serious injury and warrant prompt counteraction.
3. "Goods" constitute commodities and products classified under the Harmonized Commodity Description & Coding System, inclusive of primary and raw materials, semi-manufactured or finished goods, produced by the industrial, agricultural and mineral sectors of the Contracting Parties.
4. "Non-tariff barrier" means any measure, regulation, or practice, other than "tariffs" and "para-tariffs", the effect of which is to restrict imports, or to significantly distort trade.
5. "Para-tariffs" means border charges and fees, other than "tariffs", on foreign trade transactions of a tariff-like effect which are levied solely on imports, but not those indirect taxes and charges, which are levied in the same manner on like domestic products. Import charges corresponding to specific services rendered are not considered as para-tariff measures.
6. "Sectoral basis" refers to arrangements amongst Contracting Parties regarding the removal or reduction of tariff, non-tariff and para-tariff barriers as well as other trade promotion or cooperative measures for specified products or groups of products closely related in end-use or in production.
7. "Sensitive goods" are goods notified as such by a Contracting Party.
8. "Serious injury" means significant overall impairment in the position of a domestic industry, of like or similar products, resulting from a substantial increase of preferential imports in situations which cause