No. 45738

Turkey and Georgia

Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and Georgia (with protocols and annexes). Tbilisi, 21 November 2007

Entry into force: *1 November 2008 by notification, in accordance with article 37* **Authentic texts:** *English, Georgian and Turkish* **Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Turkey, 23 February 2009*

Turquie et

Géorgie

Accord de libre-échange entre la République turque et la Géorgie (avec protocoles et annexes). Tbilissi, 21 novembre 2007

Entrée en vigueur : 1er novembre 2008 par notification, conformément à l'article 37

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

Free Trade Agreement Between the Republic of Turkey and Georgia

PREAMBLE

The Republic of Turkey and Georgia (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties" or "Turkey" and "Georgia" where appropriate.)

DESIROUS to develop and strengthen the existing friendly relations, especially in the fields of economic co-operation and trade, with an aim to contribute to the progress of economic co-operation between the two countries and to increase the scope of mutual trade exchanges,

CONSCIOUS of the need to associate their efforts to strengthen political stability and economic development in the region through the encouragement of regional co-operation,

REFERRING to the mutual interest of the Parties in the continual reinforcement of the multilateral trading system and considering that the provisions and instruments of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (hereinafter referred to as "GATT 1994") and the World Trade Organization (hereinafter referred to as "WTO") constitute a basis for their foreign trade policy,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the Agreement Establishing an Association between Turkey and the European Economic Community and the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Georgia,

DECLARING their readiness to undertake measures 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 joint 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,

CONSIDERING the rights and obligations of the Parties stemming from the GATT 1994 and the WTO,

RESOLVED to lay down for this purpose provisions aimed at abolition of the obstacles to trade between the Parties in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, in particular those concerning the establishment of free trade area,

BELIEVING that development of trade and cooperation in the economic and technical fields is one of the main elements of rapid development strategies of both countries,

HAVE DECIDED, in pursuance of these objectives, to conclude the following Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "this Agreement").

ARTICLE 1 Objectives

- 1. The Parties shall gradually establish a free trade area between them starting from the entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and in conformity with Article XXIV of the GATT 1994 and the other multilateral agreements on trade in goods annexed to the Agreement establishing the WTO.
- 2. The objectives of this Agreement are:
 - a) to increase and enhance the economic co-operation between the Parties to raise the living standards of the population of the two countries;
 - b) to eliminate difficulties and restrictions on trade in goods;
 - c) to promote, through the expansion of reciprocal trade, the harmonious development of the economic relations between the Parties;
 - d) to provide fair conditions of competition in trade between the Parties;
 - e) to create conditions for further encouragement of investments particularly for the development of joint investments in both countries;
 - f) to promote trade and co-operation between the Parties in third country markets;
 - g) to contribute by the removal of barriers to trade to the harmonious development and expansion of world trade.

ARTICLE 2

Basic Duties and Classification of Goods

- 1. In trade between the Parties covered by this Agreement, the Parties shall apply their respective customs tariff nomenclature on the classification of goods for imports into them.
- 2. For each product the basic duty to which successive reductions set out in this Agreement are to be applied shall be the Most Favored Nation (MFN) duty that is in force in the Parties on 1 January 2007.
- 3. If after 1 January 2007, any tariff reduction is applied on an erga omnes basis, in particular, reductions resulting from the tariff negotiations in the WTO, such reduced duties shall replace the basic duties referred to in paragraph 2 as from that date when such reductions are applied.

4. The Parties shall communicate to each other their respective basic duties.

CHAPTER I

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

ARTICLE 3 Scope

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to products originating in the territory of each Party falling within Chapters 25 to 97 of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System with the exception of the products listed in Annex I of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

Customs Duties on Imports and Charges Having Equivalent Effect

- 1. The Parties shall abolish on the date of entry into force of this Agreement all customs duties on imports and any charges having equivalent effect on products originating in the Republic of Turkey or Georgia.
- 2. From the date of entry into force of this Agreement no new customs duties on imports or charges having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between the Parties.

ARTICLE 5

Customs Duties of a Fiscal Nature

The provisions concerning the abolition of customs duties on imports shall also apply to customs duties of a fiscal nature.

ARTICLE 6

Customs Duties on Exports and Charges Having Equivalent Effect

- 1. All customs duties on exports and any charges having equivalent effect shall be abolished between the Parties upon entry into force of this Agreement.
- 2. No new customs duties on exports or charges having equivalent effect shall be introduced in trade between the Parties from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7

Quantitative Restrictions on Exports and Imports and Measures Having Equivalent Effect

- 1. From the date of the entry into force of this Agreement no new quantitative restrictions on exports and imports or measures having equivalent effect shall be introduced.
- 2. All quantitative restrictions on exports and imports in the Parties and measures having equivalent effect shall be abolished on the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

CHAPTER II

BASIC AGRICULTURAL, PROCESSED AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY PRODUCTS

ARTICLE 8 Scope

- 1. The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to basic agricultural, processed agricultural and fishery products originating in the territory of each Party.
- 2. The term "basic agricultural, processed agricultural and fishery products" (hereinafter referred to as agricultural products) means, for the purpose of this Agreement, the products falling within Chapters 01 to 24 of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System and the products listed in Annex I of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 9 Exchange of Concessions

- 1. The Parties to this Agreement declare their readiness to foster, in so far as their agricultural policies allow, the harmonious development of trade in agricultural products and to discuss this issue periodically in the Joint Committee.
- 2. In pursuance of this objective Protocol I providing the reciprocal concessions granted under this Agreement to facilitate trade in agricultural products has been concluded between the Parties.