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South Africa and Italy

Memorandum of Understanding on development co-operation between the Republic of South Africa and Italy. Rome, 16 November 1996

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND ITALY

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as "South Africa") and the Government of the Republic of Italy (hereinafter referred to as "Italy"), hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties";

Considering the links of friendship between the Parties;

<u>Considering</u> also the willingness of the Parties to strengthen and enhance, on the basis of mutual respect, non discrimination and equality, co-operation in all fields which are within the bounds of their respective powers;

<u>Desirous</u> to contribute to the harmonious and sustainable economic and social development of the Republic of South Africa and in particular the poorest part of its population;

<u>Cognisant</u> of the desire within their two countries to build co-operation over a wide range of sectors;

<u>Taking into account</u> South Africa's commitment to the Reconstruction and Development Programme;

<u>Recognising</u> the need of furthering the process of regional co-operation and integration between the Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC);

<u>Mindful</u> that it is important to create a general framework for future cooperation based on partnership and shared responsibilities;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Relations between SOUTH AFRICA on the one part, and ITALY on the other part, as well as the future agreements between the Parties, shall be based on the respect of human rights and democratic principles which guide their respective internal and international policies and constitute an essential part of this Memorandum and any future agreement arising from it.

ARTICLE 2

The Parties agree to co-operate with a view to promoting harmonious, balanced and sustainable social and economic development in conformity with the priority development objectives of SOUTH AFRICA.

ARTICLE 3

Co-operation will primarily focus on:

- (a) health;
- (b) education:
- (c) small business promotion; and
- (d) other social sectors

ARTICLE 4

The co-operation contemplated in Article 3 can be implemented through:

- (a) grants;
- (b) technical assistance; and
- (c) other possible forms of financial support

ARTICLE 5

The detailed contents of the co-operation projects will be agreed upon through negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 6

The conditions, terms and modalities of each co-operation project to be implemented in the framework of this Memorandum will be laid down in project agreements to be concluded between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7

- (1) ITALY will, within the limits of its available financial means and within the framework of its procedures and instruments, make funds available to facilitate the co-operation as contemplated in this Memorandum, subject to the annual budgetary allocations, as approved by the Italian Co-operation Steering Committee.
- (2) The planning figures for the 1996/1997 bilateral co-operation between the Parties shall be 25 billion Italian Lire in the form of a grant. The figures for the co-operation activities relating to the following year shall be defined by means of an exchange of <u>Notes Verbale</u>.

ARTICLE 8

- (1) The Parties shall take all general or specific steps that are required to accomplish their commitments under this Memorandum. They shall see to it that the objectives set out in these are attained.
- (2) The responsible institutions of the Parties shall meet on an annual basis to proceed to a multisectorial evaluation of the implementation of the cooperation programme and the agreed upon projects and contemplated recommendations for future co-operation objectives.

ARTICLE 9

To facilitate development co-operation, the Parties undertake to remain in close consultation and, without delay, make every reasonable effort to resolve obstacles threatening the smooth and efficient implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, including legal and administrative issues relating to the participation of Italian expertise, enterprises and non-governmental organisations in development co-operation. To this end a Framework Agreement on technical assistance shall be negotiated.

ARTICLE 10

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force as soon as the Parties shall have notified each other of the fulfilment of their respective internal proceedings duly envisaged and it shall thereafter be renewed for successive periods of 1 (one) year, unless terminated by either party giving a 6 (six) months written notice prior to its expiration.