

**No. 54932\***

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**Switzerland  
and  
Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

**Trade Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the Islamic Republic of Iran (with annex). Bern, 24 May 2005**

**Entry into force:** *17 March 2017 by notification, in accordance with article 18*

**Authentic texts:** *English, French and Persian*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Switzerland, 26 January 2018*

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**Suisse  
et  
Iran (République islamique d')**

**Accord de commerce entre la Confédération suisse et la République islamique d'Iran (avec annexe). Berne, 24 mai 2005**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *17 mars 2017 par notification, conformément à l'article 18*

**Textes authentiques :** *anglais, français et persan*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *Suisse, 26 janvier 2018*

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**TRADE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE SWISS CONFEDERATION  
AND  
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

The Swiss Confederation

and

the Islamic Republic of Iran

hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties"

Aware of the particular importance of foreign trade and of different forms of economic cooperation for the economic development of both countries;

Confirming that the respect for democratic principles and fundamental human rights as set out in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights inspires the internal and external policies of the two parties and constitutes an essential element with the objectives of the present Agreement;

Desirous of creating favourable conditions for a substantial and harmonious development and diversification of trade between them and for the promotion of commercial and economic cooperation in areas of mutual interest;

Declaring their readiness to examine the possibilities of developing and deepening their relations and to extend them to fields not covered by this Agreement;

Resolved to develop their trade relations based on equality of rights and obligations, non-discrimination and mutual interests;

Noting the status of the Swiss Confederation as a member of the WTO and the intent of the Islamic Republic of Iran to join the WTO as soon as possible;

Have decided, in pursuit of the above, to conclude this Agreement:

## **Article 1**

### **Objective**

The objective of this Agreement is to establish a legal framework and disciplines for the conduct of mutual trade and economic relations between the Contracting Parties. The Contracting Parties undertake, within the framework of their internal legislation and international obligations, to harmoniously develop mutual trade as well as various forms of commercial and economic cooperation.

## **Article 2**

### **Scope of the Agreement**

Commercial exchanges between the Contracting Parties and contracts concluded between natural and legal persons of the two countries shall be carried out within the framework of the present Agreement and in conformity with the governing laws and regulations as well as the international obligations of each Contracting Party.

## **Article 3**

### **MFN-treatment**

1. The Contracting Parties shall accord each other most-favoured-nation treatment with respect to customs duties and charges of any kind imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation of goods or imposed on the international transfer of payments for importation or exportation as well as taxes and other charges levied directly or indirectly on imported goods, and with respect to the methods of levying such duties, taxes and charges, and with respect to all rules and formalities in connection with trade.
2. Paragraph 1 shall not be construed so as to oblige one Contracting Party to extend to the other Contracting Party advantages it accords
  - in order to facilitate frontier trade;
  - with the aim of creating a customs union or a free trade area or pursuant to the creation of such an union or area in accordance with Article XXIV of the GATT 1994, corresponding to 1373, Solar Hijri;
  - to developing countries in accordance with GATT/WTO or other international arrangements.

#### **Article 4**

##### **Non-discrimination**

No prohibitions or quantitative restrictions, including licensing, on imports from or exports to the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be applied, unless the importation of the like product from third countries or the exportation of the like product to third countries is similarly prohibited or restricted. The Contracting Party which introduces such measures shall implement them in a manner which causes minimum harm to the other Contracting Party.

#### **Article 5**

##### **National treatment**

The goods of the territory of one Contracting Party imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party – according to the laws and regulations of the importing country – shall be accorded treatment no less favourable than that accorded to like goods of national origin in respect of internal taxes and other internal charges and all laws, regulations and requirements affecting their internal sale, offering for sale, purchase, transportation, distribution or use.

#### **Article 6**

##### **Payments**

Payments in connection with the trade in goods and in services between the countries of the Contracting Parties shall be made in freely convertible currency and according to the international banking rules and practices, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Central Banks of the Contracting Parties.

#### **Article 7**

##### **Other business conditions**

1. Goods shall be traded between the parties to individual transactions at market-related prices. In particular state agencies and state enterprises shall make any purchases of imports or sales of exports solely in accordance with commercial considerations including competitive prices, international quality standards and availability; they shall, in accordance with customary business practice, invite enterprises of the other Contracting Party to compete for participation in such transactions.
2. Neither Contracting Party will require parties to individual transactions to engage in barter or counter trade transactions, nor will they encourage them to do so.