

AGREEMENT

between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on transit of goods

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Acknowledging their mutual interest for further development of cooperation in the field of transport and transit,

Conforming their intention to provide free movement of goods and vehicles through the territories of the States of the Parties,

Wishing to develop regional communications, including regular flow of road and railway communications through the territories of the States of the Parties by simplification and harmonization of procedures,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement the terms listed below shall have the following meaning:

Dangerous goods mean substances, materials, products, industrial wastes and wastes from other activities which, because of their inherent properties and peculiarities, can cause damage to the environment or endanger the life and health of people, animals and plants;

Bulky cargo means goods exceeding the maximum permissible external dimensions (length, width and height) of the vehicles and railway rolling stock in the host country;

Heavy cargo means goods exceeding maximum permissible weight (gross and axle load) of vehicles in the host country;

Host country means the country where transportation of goods is performed;

Perishable goods mean goods which require protection from high and low temperature and from humidity of external air during transportation and storage;

Prohibited goods mean goods, the cross-border movement of which is prohibited;

Restricted goods mean goods, the cross-border movement of which is limited or requires special permission;

Third country means any other country that is not Party to this Agreement;

Transit means transportation of goods through the territory of the State of one Party, where the departure and destination points are located outside the territory of the State of that Party.

Article 2. Scope of this Agreement

- 1. This Agreement shall apply to all modes of transport, including multimodal transport schemes, and movement of goods through the territory of the State of the Parties on mutually agreed routes.
- 2. The Parties shall admit vehicles that meet the technical requirements applied in the State of the other Party where the vehicles are registered and which possess a Certificate of Conformity or corresponding document, issued by the competent certifying body in the country of registry.
- 3. Within the framework of this Agreement, transit of military contingent, arms, ammunition, military equipment and munitions through territories of the States of the Parties is not allowed.

Article 3. Transit of goods

- 1. The Parties shall mutually grant each other the right to transit goods through the territories of their states in accordance with the provisions of this agreement and international agreements to which they are parties.
- 2. The Parties shall carry out a preliminary coordination of volumes of goods in transit by railways.
- 3. Individuals and legal entities of the States of the Parties shall have the right to choose and use, for traffic coming from or going to the territory of the State of the other Party, the mode of transportation that they consider the most appropriate.

- 4. The goods of one Party transported in transit through the territory of the State of the other Party shall not be subject to undue delays and shall be exempted from customs duties and charges, except charges for transportation or charges commensurate with administrative expenses related to transit or with the cost of provided services.
- 5. All charges imposed for the import and export of goods shall be accrued in accordance with existing legislation of the States of the Party.
- 6. Modes of transportation used for traffic crossing the border between the territories of the States of the Parties can also be used when returning to the point of departure or the third country.

Article 4. Perishable goods and livestock

Border-crossing formalities of perishable goods and livestock shall be carried out in priority basis in presence of relevant permits and pre-agreed routes.

Article 5. Bulky and heavy cargo

Transit of bulky (oversized) and heavy cargo shall be carried out under conditions agreed between both Parties. The Parties agree to prepare an additional agreement for such cargo.

Article 6. Dangerous and prohibited goods

- 1. Transit of dangerous and prohibited goods shall be carried out under conditions agreed between both Parties. For this purpose, the Parties shall exchange lists of such goods.
- 2. Transit of goods referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, through the territories of the States of the Parties shall be carried out in accordance with the legislation of the State of the Party, in whose territory is carried out transportation.
- 3. The competent authorities of one Party shall inform in advance the competent authorities of the other Party on transit of goods, mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article, on the territories of their States in order to take appropriate precautionary measures.

Article 7. Simplification of formalities

The Parties shall limit and/or, reduce and/or eliminate the number of procedures and documents required for border-crossing formalities as far as possible in accordance with the legislation of their States.

Article 8. Exchange of information

- 1. The Parties shall in advance exchange data on transit cargoes of the States of the Parties entering into the territory of the State of the other Party, as well as data on vehicles, carriers, accompanying persons and other necessary information.
- 2. The competent authorities of the States of the Parties shall determine lists of documents required for issuing permission to cross the border, as well as possible means of communication for exchange of information.

Article 9. Other international agreements

- 1. In applying the provisions of this Agreement, the Parties shall be governed by other international transit agreements to which they are parties.
- 2. International agreements do not apply to the transit of goods under this Agreement, provided that only one of the Parties is a party to them.

Article 10. Dispute settlement

Disputes and disagreements that may arise from the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled by the Parties through consultations and negotiations.

Article 11. Amendments and Protocols

This Agreement by mutual consent of the Parties may be amended and supplemented by separate protocols that are its integral part and enters into force

in the manner provided for in Article 12 of this Agreement.

Article 12. Entry into Force

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force from the date of receipt of the last written notification on the fulfillment by the Parties of the internal procedures necessary for its entry into force.
- 2. This Agreement shall be valid for five (5) years and shall automatically be extended for subsequent five-year periods.
- 3. This Agreement shall be terminated upon the expiration of six (6) months from the date of receipt by either Party of the written notification of the other Party on its intention to terminate it.

Done at Tashkent, on 5 December, 2017, equivalent to 14/9/1396, in two originals, in Uzbek, Dari, Pashto and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of discrepancies in the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

For the Government of

the Republic of Uzbekistan

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