

Trade and Economic Co-operation AGREEMENT

Between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
and the Government of the Russian Federation

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter jointly referred to as "the parties".

Where as the parties recognize that commerce and economic co-operation are essentially important consolidation factors of bilateral relations, and whereas both parties are interested in developing trade and economic co-operation between the two States, based on mutual benefits and equality.

Hereby agree as follows:

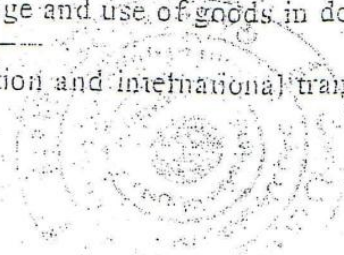
Article 1

The parties commit themselves to take steps, as may be required for encouraging and developing trade and economic relations between the two States in the long term and sustainable basis, in accordance with the laws of the two States.

Article 2

1. Each party will provide to goods destined for / or originating in the territory of another party treatment no less favorable than similar goods intended for or originating in any third country, specially regarding:

- a) Customs charges and duties, including ways of collecting thereof.
- b) Regulations and procedures connected with imports and exports, including those related to customs clearance, transits, storage and load transfer.
- c) Inland Revenue and internal duties applicable to exports and import goods.
- d) Purchase, sale, shipment, distribution, storage and use of goods in domestic markets.
- e) Payments under export and import transaction and international transfer of such payments.



2. The provisions contained in item 1 of this article shall not apply to any preference and/or benefit which:

- a) Has been, or may be provided by one of the parties to neighboring countries by way of cross-border trade facilitation.
- b) Has been, or may be provided by one of the parties to member states of a customs union or a free trade zone or to participants of any regional economic integration agreements already joined or likely to be joined by one of the parties.
- c) Has been or may be provided by the Russian Federation to Member Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.
- d) Has been or may be provided by one of the Parties to user states of any national preferences scheme.

Article 3

The treatment of goods originating from the territory of the State of any party and imported to the territory of the State of another party shall be at least as favored as the one extended to similar goods of domestic origin as regards any laws, regulations and requirements relating to sales thereof and also to any offers for sale or purchase and/or transportation and/or distribution and/or use of such goods in the domestic market. Such goods shall be exempted from any direct and/or indirect inland revenue and/or other duties applicable to similar goods of domestic origin.

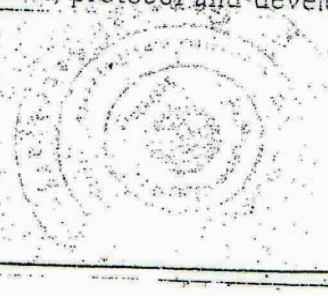
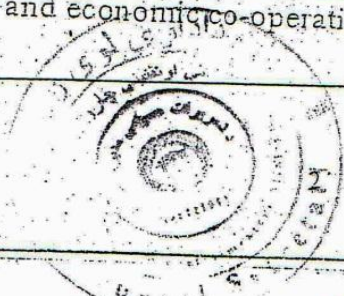
Article 4

The activities pertaining to such goods exports and imports and the economic co-operation shall be carried out in accordance with the laws of the Russian Federation and those of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and also in accordance with international practice based on agreements and contracts concluded between Russian and Afghan legal entities and/or individuals.

The parties shall not be liable for any obligations assumed by such legal entities and/or individuals under these contracts.

Article 5

In furtherance of this Agreement with a view of expanding trade and economic co-operation, the parties may conclude other agreement, protocol and develop joint programs in trade and economic co-operation.



Article 6

The parties will encourage participation of individuals and/or legal entities in trade promotion events such as international exhibitions Fairs, trips of delegations and holding of seminars, subjects to applicable laws of the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Article 7

To ensure development of their commerce and economic co-operation, the parties hereby undertake to:

- a) Facilitate exchange of economic and legal information.
- b) Encourage initiatives in the area of trade and economic activity at the regional level in both countries.
- c) Encourage participation of business entities in trade and economic co-operation.

Article 8

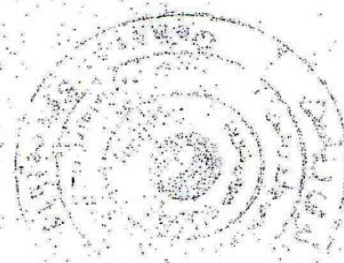
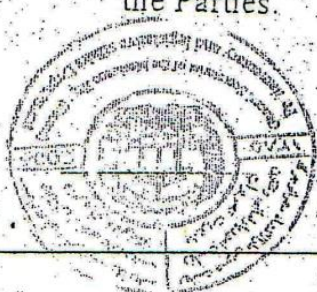
The parties will conclude separate agreement between them to stipulate specific terms and procedures of shipments, traffic flows, and passenger and cargo operations.

Article 9

The parties will, from time to time hold bilateral consultation on various matters pertaining of expansion and strengthening of trade and economic ties between their states, as well as consider other issues connected with implementation of this agreement. Such consultations shall be held in the course of meetings between representatives of the parties. The parties may invite respective representatives of the two countries business communities to participate in these meetings.

Article 10

The party will establish the Russian - Afghan Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Co-operation. The Status and procedures of such Commission shall be regulated by separate agreement to be signed between the Parties.



Article 11

Any disputes and conflict as may arise in relation to interpretation and / or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through negotiations between the parties.

Any disputes arising from contracts concluded under this Agreement shall be resolved provided for in respective contracts.

Article 12

Termination of this Agreement shall not affect implementation of any outstanding contracts concluded in accordance with this Agreement during the effective term of this Agreement, and its implementation has been complete to the date of termination of the Agreement unless agreed otherwise.

Article 13

This Agreement enter into force at the time of the latest if the notices confirming completion of all intrastate procedures required for putting this Agreement in force.

This Agreement remain valid during five (5) years, with automatic prolongations upon expiry of such period, each time for (5) subsequent years, until terminated by either of the parties by giving six (6) months writhen notice to another.

Done on 2011 ... which date corresponds to 1389 In two original copies, each made in Russian, Dari and English languages, both copies being fully authentic, in case of any discrepancy, if any, the English version shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC
OF AFGHANISTAN

FOR THE GOVERNEMENT
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

