

CHAPTER 1 INITIAL PROVISIONS AND GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Article 1.1: Establishment of a Free Trade Area

The Parties, consistent with Article XXIV of the GATT 1994 and Article V of the GATS, hereby establish a free trade area.

Article 1.2: Objectives

The objectives of this Agreement are to liberalise and facilitate trade and investment, promote opportunities for market access, and deepen economic cooperation between the Parties in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Article 1.3: General Definitions

For the purposes of this Agreement:

Agreement on Agriculture means the Agreement on Agriculture in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

Anti-Dumping Agreement means the Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

Customs Valuation Agreement means the Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

Days means calendar days, including weekends and holidays;

DSU means the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes in Annex 2 to the WTO Agreement;

GATS means the General Agreement on Trade in Services in Annex 1B to the WTO Agreement;

GATT 1994 means the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

GPA means the Agreement on Government Procurement in Annex 4 to the WTO Agreement;

Harmonized System or **HS** means the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, including its General Rules for the Interpretation, Section Notes, Chapter Notes

and Subheading Notes;

Import Licensing Agreement means the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

Joint Committee means the Joint Committee established pursuant to Article 15.1 (Joint Committee);

Measure means any measure, whether in form of a law, regulation, rule, procedure, decision, administrative action, or any other form;

Safeguards Agreement means the Agreement on Safeguards in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

SCM Agreement means the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

SPS Agreement means the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

TBT Agreement means the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement;

Territory¹ means:

- (a) For the UAE, its land territories, internal waters, territorial sea, including, the seabed, and subsoil thereof, and airspace over such territories and waters, as well as the contiguous zone, the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone, over which UAE has sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction as defined in its laws, and in accordance with international law.
- (b) For Viet Nam, its land territory, islands, internal waters, territorial sea and the airspace over them, the maritime zones beyond its territorial sea, including the seabed and subsoil thereof, over which the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam exercises sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with national legislation and international law.

TRIPS Agreement means the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights in Annex 1C to the WTO Agreement;

WTO means the World Trade Organization; and

WTO Agreement means the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, done at Marrakesh, 15 April 1994.

¹ For greater certainty, this Agreement also applies to free zones and export processing zones established under the laws of each Party, within its territory as defined herein.

Article 1.4: Relation to Other Agreements

1. The Parties affirm their existing rights and obligations with respect to each other under the WTO Agreement and other agreements to which both Parties are party.
2. Unless otherwise provided for in this Agreement, in the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement and other agreements to which both Parties are party, the Parties shall immediately consult with each other with a view to finding a mutually satisfactory solution.

Article 1.5: Extent of Obligations

Each Party shall take such reasonable measures as may be available to it to ensure observance of the provisions of this Agreement by the regional and local governments and authorities within its territories.

Article 1.6: Transparency

1. Each Party shall, in accordance with its laws and regulations, publish or otherwise make publicly available their laws, regulations, as well as their respective international agreements which may affect the operation of this Agreement.
2. Without prejudice to Article 1.7 (Disclosure of Information), a Party shall respond within a reasonable period of time to specific questions and provide, upon request, information to the other Party on matters referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 1.7: Disclosure of Information

1. Each Party shall, in accordance with its domestic laws and regulations, maintain the confidentiality of information designated as confidential by the other Party, provided in confidence by the other Party pursuant to this Agreement.
2. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require a Party to furnish or allow access to confidential information, the disclosure of which would impede law enforcement, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest, or which would prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private.