

**JOINT DECLARATION ON  
CO-OPERATION**

**between**

**THE EFTA STATES**

**and**

**THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

## JOINT DECLARATION ON CO-OPERATION

**The Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation** (hereinafter referred to as “the EFTA States”), on the one hand,

and

**the Republic of Mauritius** (hereinafter referred to as “Mauritius”), on the other:

DESIRING to enhance the bonds of friendship and co-operation between the EFTA States and Mauritius,

INSPIRED by the principles of human rights and the common objective of fostering human and economic contacts across borders,

RECOGNIZING the EFTA States' and Mauritius' desire to strengthen their economic co-operation and trade relations,

BUILDING on their mutual commitment to the World Trade Organization (WTO),

DECLARING their intention to establish a framework for the expansion and diversification of trade and investment flows between the EFTA States and Mauritius,

WISHING to explore opportunities to strengthen co-operation in other areas and activities,

HEREBY DECLARE the following:

## I OBJECTIVES

1. The EFTA States and Mauritius agree to:
  - (a) enhance economic relations between them, in particular concerning trade in goods and services, as well as investment;
  - (b) facilitate the increased involvement of the private sector, in particular of the smaller and medium-sized enterprises, in trade and commercial co-operation between them;
  - (c) examine, in the light of any relevant factor, the possibility of further developing their trade and economic co-operation.

## II TRADE

2. The EFTA States and Mauritius shall seek concrete ways and means of expanding their trade relations, taking into account their international obligations, in particular the provisions of the WTO agreements, *inter alia*, by:

- (a) removing technical barriers to trade;
- (b) developing customs co-operation;
- (c) exchanging information on foreign trade in goods and services;
- (d) examining all available trade policy instruments with a view to realizing the objectives of this Declaration.

3. The EFTA States and Mauritius agree to broaden co-operation in areas particularly important to expanding their trade relations, *inter alia*, by:

- (a) exchanging views on free and undistorted competition;
- (b) exchanging information on their public procurement markets;
- (c) encouraging co-operation in the area of intellectual property rights.

4. The EFTA States and Mauritius shall encourage and stimulate business contacts, notably between enterprises and organisations concerned with foreign trade, with the aim of developing their mutual trade.

### III PRIVATE SECTOR CO-OPERATION AND INVESTMENT

5. The EFTA States and Mauritius agree to improve conditions for the implementation of private sector industrial co-operation projects, *inter alia*, by creating favourable conditions conducive to capital flows and investment in all economic sectors of mutual concern, as well as securing the interests of the partners involved.

### IV JOINT COMMITTEE

6. The EFTA States and Mauritius hereby establish a Joint Committee.

7. The Joint Committee shall review the co-operation in areas referred to in the present Declaration and shall discuss any other issue of mutual interest. The Joint Committee shall formulate appropriate recommendations on any co-operation between the EFTA States and Mauritius.

8. The Joint Committee shall meet as and when necessary upon agreement between the Parties. Video-conferences may be held when the Parties so agree.

9. The secretariat services for the Joint Committee shall be performed jointly by the EFTA Secretariat and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius.

DONE at Geneva, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2009, in two original copies in the English language.

For the Republic of Iceland

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For the Republic of Mauritius

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For the Principality of Liechtenstein

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For the Kingdom of Norway

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For the Swiss Confederation

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