



AGREEMENT
ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

PREAMBLE

The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting Parties”,

Recognizing that the EU membership of the Republic of Bulgaria and the obligations of the Republic of Bulgaria stemming there from require further improvement and elaboration of the contractual and legal basis of bilateral economic relations,

Confirming their will to develop the positive effect of their traditional economic relations,

Expressing their readiness to co-operate in finding the means and ways for strengthening and developing of the mutually beneficial cooperation,

Considering the rights and obligations deriving from the Accession Agreement signed on April 25, 2005 between the European Communities and their Member States, on the one part, and the Republic of Bulgaria, on the other part,

Convinced that this Agreement will contribute to the development of the economic relations between them in the new reality and in particular to the enhancement of the mutually beneficial trade, economic, technical and technological cooperation,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall contribute for developing and expanding their mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to develop their bilateral cooperation on a wide basis, in particular in the areas specified in Annex 1 to this Agreement.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall develop and expand their economic cooperation through implementation of the measures specified in Annex 2 to this Agreement.

Article 4

As from the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall set up a Bosnian and Herzegovian - Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation with tasks and rules of procedure as specified in Annex 3 to this Agreement.

Article 5

This Agreement shall not prejudice the rights and obligations of the Contracting Parties stemming from other international agreements/membership in the EU to which Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Bulgaria are parties and/or out of their membership in international organizations.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall settle by means of negotiations any disputes which may arise between them regarding the implementation and interpretation of this Agreement.

Article 7

Amendments to this Agreement shall be made by mutual agreement between the Contracting Parties executed in individual protocols for each amendment.

Article 8

The annexes and protocols to this Agreement shall be an integral part hereof.

Article 9

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receiving of the second of the notes with which Contracting Parties notify each other that the internal procedures required for the entry into force of the Agreement have been fulfilled.
2. This Agreement shall be concluded for an unlimited period.
3. Each Contracting Party to this Agreement may terminate this Agreement, by means of a written notification to the other Contracting Party. The termination shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month following the date on which the notification was received by the other Contracting Party.

Signed in Sofia on June 23rd, 2014, in two originals, each in the official languages of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian), Bulgarian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.

In the case of differences in interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

**For the Council of Ministers
of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**For the Government
of the Republic of Bulgaria**

M.Sc. BORIS TUČIĆ

**Minister of Foreign Trade
and Economic Relations**

DRAGOMIR STOYNEV

**Minister of Economy
and Energy**

The areas of economic cooperation shall include:

1. Industry:

- machine-building;
- metallurgy;
- processing industry;
- electronics and electric machine-building industry;
- chemical and oil-refining industry;
- pharmaceutical industry;
- automotive industry;

2. Agriculture:

- crop production and stock-breeding;
- food industry;

3. Forestry;

4. Military economic cooperation;

5. Energy sector;

6. Research and development;

7. Construction and building industry;

8. Telecommunications, computing and informatics;

9. Transport and logistics;

10. Environment protection;

11. Tourism;

12. Investment promotion;

13. SME cooperation;

14. Education;

15. Health care;

16. Science and technology;

17. Other areas of economic and industrial cooperation that may be mutually agreed on the basis of this Agreement.

Measures Expanding and Intensifying the Economic Cooperation

1. Strengthening the economic cooperation of the government institutions, professional organizations and business circles, chambers and associations, regional and local bodies, including exchange of economic information of mutual interest, as well as mutual visits of representatives of the institutions and the business of both Parties;
2. Providing incentives for establishing of new and enhancing existing business contacts, promoting mutual contacts and visits of private persons and entrepreneurs;
3. Business information exchange, participation in international fairs and exhibitions, providing assistance for the organization of events for business representatives, seminars, conferences, symposiums;
4. Contributing to an enhanced role of the small and medium-sized business in the bilateral economic relations;
5. Cooperation in the field of marketing, consulting and expert services in the areas of mutual interest;
6. Developing closer relations and cooperation of financial and banking institutions;
7. Providing assistance for the development of bilateral investment activity;
8. Providing assistance for the opening of representations and branches of companies of both Parties;
9. Promoting international cooperation;
10. Enhancing the cooperation on third countries' markets;
11. Information exchange on programs and projects, encouraging the involvement of entrepreneurs in their implementation.

Tasks, structure and rules of procedure of the Bosnian and Herzegovian - Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation

1. The tasks of the Bosnian and Herzegovian - Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation, hereinafter called "The Commission" include:

- discussing bilateral economic relations development issues;
- identifying new development opportunities for the bilateral economic relations;
- developing proposals for improving the environment for economic cooperation of the organizations of both Parties;
- submitting proposals on the implementation of this Agreement.

2. The Commission shall comprise representatives of the Bosnian and Herzegovian side and representatives of the Bulgarian side.

Each Contracting Party shall designate a chairperson on its part, referred to as "Co-chair".

Each Co-chair shall designate a secretary for the respective part of the Commission.

For the discussion of particular issues, the Commission may decide to set up working groups, specifying their tasks and the time limits for implementation of the tasks.

3. The Commission shall meet alternatively in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The Co-chairs shall agree on the calling and the agenda of the respective meeting of the Commission not later than 1 month in advance.

Matters which have not been explicitly placed on the preliminary agenda may be discussed at the meetings of the Commission by an agreement of the Co-chairs.

An extraordinary meeting of the Commission or of its Co-chairs may be convened on a proposal by any of the Co-chairs.

Advisors and experts may be invited at the meetings of the Commission.

The working languages of the Commission shall be English.

Minutes shall be taken of every meeting and of the discussions held thereat, which shall be drawn up in the English language.

In the period between meetings the Co-chairs of the Commission, or the secretaries on a direction by the Co-chairs, shall discuss on an operational basis issues concerning the work of the Commission.