

**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL,
INVESTMENT AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION**

BETWEEN

**THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR THE
ARAB STATES OF THE GULF**

AND

THE GOVERNMENT of MALAYSIA

The Governments of the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar and the State of Kuwait, that are parties to the Charter of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, hereinafter referred to as “GCC States”, and

The Government of Malaysia, hereinafter referred to as “Malaysia”,

and collectively hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting Parties,”

Recognising the importance of the friendly relations already existing between them, and

Desiring to develop and enhance the economic, commercial, investment and technical cooperation between them on the basis of equality and mutual benefits, and

Taking into consideration the laws and regulations in force in their countries,

Have concluded the following Framework Agreement:

Article One

The Contracting Parties shall promote all aspects of economic, commercial, investment and technical cooperation between them, and encourage the exchange of information and necessary technical expertise in those fields .

Article Two

The Contracting Parties shall consider and adopt, where appropriate, tangible means and tools for expanding and liberalizing their trade relations, including initiating discussions on the feasibility of a Free Trade Area between them, taking into account their international obligations and the provisions of the World Trade Organisation.

Article Three

The Contracting Parties shall seek to provide a climate favourable for expanding trade exchanges between them through:

- Enhancing the exchange of information on foreign trade.
- Reducing and eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers.
- Encouraging business communications particularly between the institutions and organisations concerned with foreign trade.
- Facilitating training and technology transfer

Article Four

The Contracting Parties shall take appropriate arrangements for encouraging capital flows between them, setting up joint investment projects and facilitating corporate investments in the various fields of economy, trade and industry.

Article Five

The Contracting Parties hereto shall encourage exchanging visits of representatives, delegations and economic, commercial and technical missions between them, and organising exhibitions and providing necessary facilities and assistance to achieve this goal.

Article Six

A Joint Committee for economic, commercial, investment and technical cooperation shall be established under this Agreement. The Committee shall convene alternatively in the countries of the two Contracting Parties on a regular basis or when necessary. The level of participation will be mutually agreed to between the two Contracting Parties.

Functions of the Joint Committee shall include the following:

- Following up implementation of the provisions of this Agreement and other bilateral agreements or protocols made between the Contracting Parties based on this Agreement.
- Addressing any difficulties or disputes that may arise from the different interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement,
- Adopting recommendations for enhancing economic , commercial, investment and technical cooperation between the Contracting Parties, and fostering

their economic relations and increasing the volume of trade between them.

The Joint Committee shall be authorised to set up any subcommittees or specialized working teams, at its discretion and when deemed necessary . The Joint Committee shall specify the duties and functions of such subcommittees and working teams, provided. The subcommittees and working teams shall submit their reports and recommendations to the Joint Committee.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article Seven

Without prejudice to the provisions of the GCC Charter and those of the GCC Economic Agreement, this Agreement and any measures taken hereunder, shall in no way affect the authority of GCC Member States to individually undertake bilateral activities with Malaysia in the fields covered by this Agreement or conclude bilateral agreements with Malaysia, and vice versa.

Article Eight

The provisions of this Agreement may be amended with mutual consent of the Contracting Parties .

Article Nine

The two Contracting Parties shall notify each other in writing of the finalization of the necessary internal legal procedures. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the delivery of the last written notification.

This Agreement shall remain valid unless either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party in writing, at least six months prior to the termination date, of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

When this Agreement is so terminated, the termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or duration of any agreements or projects or activities made under the present Agreement until the completion of such agreements or projects, or activities.

This Agreement was done in the Arabic and English languages, the two texts being equally authentic. Where discrepancy occurs, the English text shall prevail.

Signed in the city of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 26 Safar 1432H, corresponding to 30 January 2011.

**For and on Behalf of
the Governments of the Member
States of the Cooperation Council
for the Arab States of the Gulf**

**For and on Behalf of
the Government of
Malaysia**

Abdullah bin Zayed Alnahyan
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of United Arab Emirates

Mustapa Mohamed
Minister of International Trade
and Industry

President-in-Office of
the Ministerial Council of
the Co-operation Council for the Arab States
of the Gulf

Abdulruhman Bin Hamad Al-Attiah
Secretary General of the Co-Operation
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