

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HASHEMITE
KINGDOM OF JORDAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND
INVESTMENT RELATIONS.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Government of the United States of America (individually a “part” and collectively “Parties”):

- 1) Desiring to enhance the friendship and spirit of cooperation between the two countries;
- 2) Desiring to develop further both countries’ international trade and economic interrelationship;
- 3) Taking into account the respective status of the two countries with respect to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and nothing that this Agreement is prejudice to such rights and obligations as the Parties may have under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization and the agreements, understandings, and other instruments relating thereto or concluded under the auspices of the WTO;
- 4) Recognizing the importance of fostering an open and predictable environment for international trade and investment;
- 5) Recognizing the benefits to each Party resulting from increased international trade and investment, and the trade –distorting investment measures and protectionism would deprive the Parties of such benefits;
- 6) Recognizing the essential role of private investment, both domestic and foreign, in furthering growth, creating jobs, expanding trade, improving technology, and enhancing economic development;
- 7) Acknowledging the Framework Guarantee agreement between the Parties, signed September 7, 1996, to promote the utilization of Export-Import Bank instruments to facilitate trade between the Parties; The Air Transport Agreement, signed on November 10, 1996, to establish an “open skies” regime between the Parties; and the Bilateral Investment Treaty, signed on July 2, 1997 (“ Investment Treaty”); and nothing that this Agreement is without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the Parties under those agreements.
- 8) Recognizing the increased importance of services in their economies and in their bilateral relations;
- 9) Taking into account the need to eliminate non-tariff barriers in order to facilitate greater access to markets of both countries;
- 10) Recognizing the importance of providing adequate and effective protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights and of membership in and adherence to intellectual property rights conventions;

- 11) Recognizing the significance to both countries' economic welfare of working towards the observance and promotion of internationally recognized core labor standards;
- 12) Desiring to ensure that trade and environments polices are mutually supportive in furtherance of sustainable development; and
- 13) Considering that it would be in their mutual interest to establish a bilateral mechanism between the Parties for encouraging the liberalization of trade and investment between them.

To this end, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE ONE

The parties affirm their desire to expand trade in products and services consistent with the terms of this Agreement. They shall take appropriate measures to encourage and facilitate the exchange of goods and services and to secure favorable conditions for long-term development and diversification of trade between their respective nationals and companies.

ARTICLE TWO

The Parties shall establish a United States- Jordan Council on Trade and Investment (the " Council"), which shall be composed of representatives of both Parties. The Jordan side will be chaired by the Ministry of Industry and Trade; and the United States of America's side will be chaired by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). Each Chair will meet at such times as agreed by the two Parties.

ARTICLE THREE

The objectives of the Council are to hold consultations on specific Trade and investment matters of interest to the Parties, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the Parties under the Investment Treaty; to identify agreements appropriate for negotiation; and to identify and work toward the removal of impediments to trade and investment flows.

ARTICLE FOUR

Foe the purpose of further developing bilateral trade and providing for a steady increase in the exchange of products and services, the Parties shall consider whether further agreements relating to trade, taxation, intellectual property and investment issues would be desirable.

ARTICLE FIVE

1. Either Party may raise for consultation any trade or investment matter between the Parties. Requests for consultation shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the subject to be discussed and consultations shall be held within 30 days of the request, unless the requesting Party agrees to a later date.
2. This Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of either Party under its domestic law or under any other instrument to which either country is a Party.

ARTICLE SIX

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties.

ARTICLE SEVEN

This Agreement shall remain in force unless terminated by mutual consent of the Parties or by either Party upon six months written notice to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Washington this 15th day of March 1999, in duplicate in the Arabic and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM
OF JORDAN:**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA:**