RECOGNISING that their economies are endowed with conditions to complement each other and that this complementarity should contribute to further promoting the development of trade and investment between the Parties by making use of their respective economic strengths through bilateral trade and investment activities;

BELIEVING that creating a clearly established and secured trade and investment framework through mutually advantageous rules to govern trade and investment between the Parties would enhance the competitiveness of their economies, make their markets more efficient and vibrant and ensure predictable commercial environment for further expansion of trade and investment between them;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and having regard to the principles articulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

RECOGNISING the importance of transparency in international trade and investment to the benefit of all stakeholders;

SEEKING to establish clear and mutually advantageous rules governing trade and investment between the Parties and to reduce or eliminate barriers thereto;

RESOLVED to contribute to the harmonious development and expansion of international trade and investment by removing obstacles thereto through this Agreement and to avoid creating new barriers to trade or investment between the Parties that could reduce the benefits of this Agreement;

BUILDING on their respective rights and obligations under the WTO Agreement and other multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements to which both Parties are party; and

DETERMINED to establish a legal framework for strengthening their economic partnership,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS: