

COOPERATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Article 1

Objectives and scope

1. The Parties affirm the importance of co-operation and capacity building in contributing to the efficient implementation of this Agreement, which will support the continued expansion of trade and investment activities between Viet Nam and the EU and create new opportunities for trade and investment.
2. The Parties commit to deepen co-operation activities in areas of mutual interest, taking into consideration the different levels of development between the EU and Viet Nam.

Article 2

Modalities, fields and means of cooperation

1. The Parties acknowledge that cooperation shall be carried out within the existing legal and institutional framework and according to the rules and procedures governing relations between the Parties, a main objective of which is to boost sustainable development in all its dimensions, including sustainable growth and the reduction of poverty.
2. To achieve the objectives referred to in Article 1, the Parties attach particular importance to cooperating in the following areas:
 - (a) Regional cooperation and integration;
 - (b) Trade facilitation;
 - (c) Trade policy and regulations;
 - (d) Trade-related aspects of agriculture, fishery and forestry;
 - (e) Sustainable development, notably in its environmental and labour dimensions;
 - (f) Small and medium-sized enterprises;
 - (g) Other areas identified under specific chapters of the present Agreement;
 - (h) Other areas of mutual interest related to the present Agreement;
3. Cooperation activities between the Parties shall primarily be carried out by means of exchanges of information, experience and best practices, as well as policy cooperation. Where relevant, seminars, workshops, training, studies, technical assistance and capacity building could also be considered.
4. The Parties acknowledge the important potential role of the private sector in cooperation activities and support its involvement therein in order to contribute to maximising the Agreement's benefit in terms of mutual economic growth and development.

Article 3

Animal welfare

The Parties agree to cooperate on animal welfare as necessary, including technical assistance and capacity building for the development of animal welfare standards. The SPS Committee referred to in Article [X] of the Chapter on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures shall be consulted for the necessary arrangements for the implementation of the present Article.

Article 4

Relations with other chapters

The provisions of the present chapter apply to all provisions on cooperation which are included in other specific chapters of the present FTA.

Article 5

Institutional mechanism

1. Issues related to cooperation are discussed in the relevant specialised sub-committees established by the present Agreement. For areas of cooperation where there is no specialized sub-committee, these issues are discussed within the Trade Committee.
2. Each Party shall designate a contact point within its administration to liaise with the other Party on matters related to the implementation of the present Chapter.