

Chapter 8  
Economic Cooperation

Article 52  
Basic Principles

1. The Parties shall, subject to the availability of resources as well as their respective applicable laws and regulations, promote cooperation under this Agreement for their mutual benefits in order to liberalise and facilitate trade and investment among the Parties and to promote the well-being of the peoples of the Parties, taking into account the different levels of economic development among ASEAN Member States.

2. The Parties shall promote regional and sub-regional development through economic cooperation activities including capacity building, technical assistance, and other such activities as may be mutually agreed upon among the Parties.

Article 53  
Fields of Economic Cooperation

The Parties, on the basis of mutual benefit, shall explore and undertake economic cooperation activities in the following fields:

- (a) Trade-Related Procedures;
- (b) Business Environment;
- (c) Intellectual Property;
- (d) Energy;
- (e) Information and Communications Technology;
- (f) Human Resource Development;
- (g) Small and Medium Enterprises;
- (h) Tourism and Hospitality;
- (i) Transportation and Logistics;
- (j) Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
- (k) Environment;
- (l) Competition Policy; and

- (m) Other fields as may be mutually agreed upon among the Parties.

Article 54  
Sub-Committee on Economic Cooperation

1. For the purposes of the effective implementation and operation of this Chapter, a Sub-Committee on Economic Cooperation (hereinafter referred to in this Article as "the Sub-Committee") shall be established in accordance with Article 11 on the date of entry into force of this Agreement pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 79.
2. The functions of the Sub-Committee shall be to:
  - (a) modify and formulate relevant Work Programmes setting out areas and forms of each field of economic cooperation;
  - (b) make recommendations on existing and new economic cooperation activities under this Chapter in accordance with the priorities of the Parties;
  - (c) review and monitor the implementation and operation of this Chapter and the application and fulfilment of its basic principles; and
  - (d) report the findings and the outcome of its discussions to the Joint Committee.
3. The Sub-Committee shall be:
  - (a) composed of representatives of the Governments of Japan and all ASEAN Member States; and
  - (b) co-chaired by an official of the Government of Japan and an official of one of the Governments of ASEAN Member States.

Article 55  
Work Programmes for Economic Cooperation

1. Work Programmes setting out areas and forms of each field of cooperation activities shall be set forth in Annex 5.
2. Any modification of existing Work Programmes or formulation of new Work Programmes shall be made in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 54 and through amending Annex 5 pursuant to the procedures set out in Article 77.

Article 56  
Resources for Economic Cooperation

Taking into account the different levels of economic development and capacity among the Parties, resources for economic cooperation under this Chapter shall be provided in such a manner as may be mutually agreed upon among the Parties.

Article 57  
Implementation of Economic Cooperation Activities

1. Economic cooperation activities shall involve Japan and at least two (2) ASEAN Member States.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, economic cooperation activities may also involve Japan and one (1) ASEAN Member State, provided that those activities are regional in nature and of benefit to other ASEAN Member States. Such activities shall aim at narrowing the gaps of economic development among ASEAN Member States or at promoting the well-being of the people of ASEAN Member States towards further integration of ASEAN.

3. The Parties shall undertake economic cooperation activities at mutually agreed time.

Article 58  
Non-application of Chapter 9

The dispute settlement procedures provided for in Chapter 9 shall not apply to this Chapter.

Chapter 9  
Settlement of Disputes

Article 59  
Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the term:

- (a) "complaining party" means any Party or Parties that request consultations under paragraph 1 of Article 62;
- (b) "party to a dispute" means any Party which is a complaining party or a party complained against;
- (c) "party complained against" means any Party or Parties to which the request for consultations is made under paragraph 1 of Article 62; and