

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP
TO PROMOTE TRADE AND INVESTMENTS
BETWEEN
MERCOSUR AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

The Argentine Republic, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Paraguay, the Republic Oriental of Uruguay, Member States of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), as one "Party", and the Republic of Korea, as the other "Party" (hereinafter referred to as "MERCOSUR" and "Korea" respectively, and as "the Parties" collectively);

Desiring to promote trade and investments between MERCOSUR and the Republic of Korea;

Reaffirming their commitment to further strengthen the rules of international trade in accordance with the rules of the World Trade Organization;

Recognizing that trade agreements contribute to the expansion of world trade and in particular to the development of closer relations among the Parties;

Acknowledging the completion of the MERCOSUR - Korea Joint Study on the Feasibility of a Trade Agreement in October 2007;

Have reached the following understanding:

1. Objectives

The Parties shall:

Explore the possibility and the appropriate means to strengthen trade and economic relations, including the possibility of launching trade negotiations, in conformity with the rules and disciplines of the World Trade Organization, and taking into account the need for coverage flexibility for sensitive sectors.

2. Joint Consultative Group

a. The Parties shall establish a Joint Consultative Group, hereinafter referred to as “the Group”, to explore means to promote trade and investment, including the possibility of launching trade negotiations. The Group will be chaired by senior government officials responsible for international trade in each of the Parties. In the case of Korea, the designated representative is Director General for Free Trade Agreement Policy from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. For MERCOSUR, the National Coordinators in the Common Market Group or their representatives.

b. The Group shall meet as appropriate. The meetings of the Group will take place on a rotation basis in Korea and any of the Member States of MERCOSUR, or, at the request of either Party, in any other mutually agreed venue.

c. The Group shall:

- 1) Exchange information on trade and investments;
- 2) Identify areas of mutual interest and conduct further research and analysis as a follow up to the Joint Study on MERCOSUR - Korea Trade Agreement;
- 3) Explore possible conditions and mechanisms for further expanding trade and investment between the two Parties; and
- 4) Prepare policy recommendations on future steps.

3. Final Clauses

a. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall affect the rights and obligations of either Party under any other agreements to which one or both Parties are parties.

b. Amendments to this Memorandum of Understanding shall be agreed by both Parties in writing.

c. Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved by consultations between the Parties.

d. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of signature and shall remain in force for a period of 2 years and thereafter shall be deemed to have been automatically extended unless one of the Parties decides by written notification and through diplomatic channels, not to renew it. The termination shall take effect 180 days after the date of receipt of the written notification by that other Party.

Done in Asunción on the 23rd day of July of 2009, in two originals each in the Spanish, Portuguese, Korean and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of difficulties in the interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding, the English text shall prevail.



FOR THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC



FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA



FOR THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF
BRAZIL



FOR THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY



FOR THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF
URUGUAY