AGREEMENT
ON
ECONOMIC, TRADE AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF BAHRAIN
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

The Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

Being desirous to strengthen friendly ties and to promote and encourage Economic, Trade and Technical Co-operation between the two countries on the basis of mutual advantage and reciprocal benefits and securing an appropriate environment for the promotion of investments between the two countries,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1. The Contracting Parties shall encourage the export and import of agricultural, industrial, animal and natural resources, products of local origin from and to the other Contracting Party, provided that such products are not banned from import and export in accordance with the local laws of the Contracting Parties.

2. The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to provide all possible facilities to promote import and export between their two countries.

3. The Contracting Parties shall encourage and promote individual and joint venture projects, particularly in the services' sector.

ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall whenever possible encourage the transport of goods between them by means of transport that belongs to each of them.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and encourage the participation of their respective enterprises and organisations in international exhibitions and fairs to be held on the territory of either country, each country providing the other with all assistance necessary for holding and managing the exhibitions.

ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party shall grant freedom of transit on its territory for the goods of the other Contracting Party in accordance with the local laws of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 5

The Contracting Parties shall use their best endeavours to promote co-operation in the economic, trade in goods and services and technical fields and shall identify the areas of the co-operation which will be of mutual interest.

Co-operation under this Agreement shall include, among other things, study and implementation of projects of common interest and exchange of technical personnel, information and experience.

ARTICLE 6

The provisions of this Agreement shall not restrict the right of either Contracting Party to impose prohibitions or restrictions on imports, exports and transit of goods aimed at :

a. Protection of national security and public order;

b. Protection of life and health of people and prevention of diseases to animals and plants; and

c. Protection of items and places of national, artistic, historical and archaeological value.

These said prohibitions and restrictions shall not, however, be a means of imposing indirect limitations on trade between the two countries.

ARTICLE 7

1. The Contracting Parties shall assign respective Co-ordinating Agencies to co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of this Agreement:

a. In the case of Bahrain, the Co-ordinating Agency shall be the Ministry of Finance and National Economy; and

b. In the case of Thailand, the Co-ordinating Agency shall be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. An ad-hoc Committee to be called the Bahrain-Thai Joint Committee shall be established to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement and with the approval of the Contracting Parties to also explore other mutually beneficial areas of co-operation. This Joint Committee will meet in Bahrain or Thailand whenever the need arises and at times to be agreed upon by both Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8

The Contracting Parties agree that any disagreements regarding the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be solved through bilateral consultations.

ARTICLE 9

This Agreement may be amended by the written consent of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 10

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last notification through which the Contracting Parties mutually inform each other of the fulfillment of the domestic procedures regarding the approval of this Agreement and shall be valid for a period of five years. This Agreement shall be automatically renewed for a successive period of one year if neither of the Contracting Parties notifies the other in writing of its intentions to terminate it not later than six month prior to the expiry date of this Agreement.

2. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity and duration of any arrangements and/or contracts made under this Agreement until the completion of such arrangements and/or contracts.

Done in duplicate, at **Bangkok** on this **3rd day of November, 2001**, in the Arabic, Thai and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any conflict of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

For the Government of the State of Bahrain

Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa
Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand

Surakiart Sathirathai
Minister of Foreign Affairs