

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**ON**  
**COOPERATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**  
**BETWEEN THE EFTA STATES AND MALAYSIA**

Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway, and the Swiss Confederation (the EFTA States),

and

Malaysia,

individually referred to as (a Party) or collectively as (the Parties),

**RECOGNISING** the common wish to strengthen the relationship between the EFTA States and Malaysia in accordance with the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EFTA States and Malaysia (the Agreement);

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of cooperation to expand and enhance the economic benefits of the Agreement;

**DESIRING** to further develop a lasting and effective cooperation;

**REAFFIRMING** their commitment to encourage overall enhancement of trade and investment opportunities and sustainable development in their countries;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

***Objectives***

1. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) referenced in Article 13.3 (Memorandum of Understanding) of the Agreement, signed in parallel with the Agreement, shall serve as the framework for the implementation of Chapter 13 (Cooperation and Capacity Building) of the Agreement.

2. The Parties agree to facilitate and promote cooperation activities in fields jointly identified by the Parties, including in areas specified in Article 13.2 (Scope) of the Agreement and through activities, as listed in Article 13.4 (Forms of Cooperation) of the Agreement and being agreed by the Sub-Committee on Cooperation and Capacity Building.

3. This MoU shall be implemented in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of the Parties.

## ARTICLE 2

### ***Trade and Investment Promotion Activities***

1. The Parties recognise that trade and investment promotion activities can be an effective way of promoting the application of trade agreements by economic operators, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
2. Trade and investment promotion activities may entail seminars and business matchmaking sessions, seeking to promote and inform economic operators, particularly SMEs on the functioning and utilisation of the Agreement.

## ARTICLE 3

### ***Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises***

The Parties shall encourage cooperation through joint activities, technical assistance and capacity building as well as facilitation for their SMEs in the area of SMEs development. The aim is to improve SMEs participation in global markets, to support the integration into global supply chains, to improve skills-related human resources and to nurture innovation, for instance, by:

- (a) assisting business support organisations (BSOs) in identifying appropriate export markets and improving export promotion through development of programmes, encouraging the promotion of value-added SMEs products and providing market intelligence on how to enter targeted markets, including respective knowledge transfer; setting-up with selected BSOs suitable performance measurement systems to guarantee in the long-term high-quality consultancy services required by SMEs;
- (b) providing support for the “train-the-trainers” approach in order to facilitate the wider dissemination among SMEs of respective instruments and tools;
- (c) supporting SMEs in using available quality services and infrastructure to produce goods and services in line with market requirements and global trends; and
- (d) ensuring transparency and ease of access for SMEs to relevant information regarding applicable regulations and standards.

## ARTICLE 4

### ***Initial Phase of Cooperation and Capacity Building***

1. The Parties recognise the need to address climate change and environmental degradation and acknowledge the pivotal role of a clean energy economy in fostering sustainable development.

2. For the initial phase of cooperation, the Parties aim to cooperate in areas such as renewable energy, hydrogen, carbon capture and storage, and sustainable mining which may encompass the following areas:

- (a) next generation mobility;
- (b) environmental, social and governance (ESG);
- (c) low carbon solutions (hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation and storage);
- (d) carbon market; and
- (e) cost effective renewable energy technology and innovation.

## ARTICLE 5

### ***Other Areas of Cooperation***

1. To ensure a continuous enhancement of the benefits of the Agreement, the Parties may mutually agree on other areas of cooperation as outlined in Article 13.2 (Scope) of the Agreement.

2. The Parties shall facilitate efforts to start consultations within one year after the date of the entry into force of the Agreement to determine possible cooperation projects, programmes, and activities in preparation for the Sub-Committee on Cooperation and Capacity Building.

## ARTICLE 6

### ***Reporting***

1. In order to pursue and advance the objectives of this MoU, all cooperation programmes and activities shall be periodically reported, as appropriate, to the Sub-Committee on Cooperation and Capacity Building established under the Agreement.

2. The Parties may pursue cooperation and capacity building programmes based on a mutually agreed work plan.

## ARTICLE 7

### ***Confidentiality Measures***

Any confidential information provided by a Party, including information provided by a third party, for the implementation of this MoU shall be treated as confidential by the other Parties receiving the information.

## ARTICLE 8

### ***Contact Points and Participating Organisations***

1. With a view to facilitating the implementation of this MoU and communication between the Parties, the following contact points shall be established:

- (a) for EFTA: the EFTA Secretariat; and
- (b) for Malaysia: the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry.

2. The Parties may, as appropriate, through the contact points, invite relevant government agencies, private sector entities, non-governmental organisations and other relevant institutions to participate in activities and facilitate cooperation between them.

## ARTICLE 9

### ***Amendments***

The Parties may agree, in writing, to amend this MoU. Any amendment of this MoU shall not affect the implementation of any ongoing cooperation projects, programmes, or activities under the MoU, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

## ARTICLE 10

### ***Settlement of Disputes***

Any dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall be settled amicably through consultations between the Parties.

## ARTICLE 11

### ***Entry Into Force, Duration and Termination***

1. This MoU enters into force for EFTA States and Malaysia on the same date as the Agreement enters into force for all Parties. The MoU shall remain in force as long as the Agreement remains in force between them.

2. Termination of this MoU shall not affect the completion of any ongoing programmes or activities under this MoU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done at Tromsø, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025, in one original in English, which shall be deposited with the Depositary, who shall transmit certified copies to all the Parties.

For Iceland

For Malaysia

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For the Principality of Liechtenstein

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For the Kingdom of Norway

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For the Swiss Confederation

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