No. 32501

BRAZIL and PORTUGAL

Basic Agreement on cooperation. Signed at Brasília on 7 May 1991

Authentic text: Portuguese.

Registered by Brazil on 1 February 1996.

BRÉSIL et PORTUGAL

Accord cadre de coopération. Signé à Brasília le 7 mai 1991

Texte authentique : portugais.

Enregistré par le Brésil le 1er février 1996.

[Translation — Traduction]

BASIC AGREEMENT¹ ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

The Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and

The Government of the Portuguese Republic,

Mindful that the historical and cultural ties that unite the peoples of the two fraternal countries give a special dimension to the bilateral relations between Brazil and Portugal,

Considering that the desire to strengthen their long-standing bonds of friendship remains alive and strong in all areas of their relationship,

Aware that democracy and respect for the dignity of the human person are the only legitimate means of responding to the needs and aspirations of peoples, with a view to achieving the full economic development and social peace which they are currently striving to attain,

Considering that economic growth in both countries contributes to political and social stability and helps to strengthen democratic institutions and improve the living standards of their peoples,

Considering that the active participation of Brazil and Portugal in the various regional forums, namely, Brazil in the process of Latin American integration, in particular within the framework of the Treaty of Asunción, which established the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR), and Portugal in the European Communities, helps to strengthen relations between Latin America and Europe and to bring them closer together,

Considering that both countries view economic development not only as an inalienable right but also as a prerequisite for progress and social justice, for the strengthening of freedoms and for the preservation of international peace,

Aware that modernization of the production, trade and service sectors of the two countries is a prerequisite for development in today's interdependent and multipolar world,

Desiring to promote the development and diversification of the economic relations between the two countries,

Aware of the relationship that exists between debt, trade and investment and that the external debt is one of the main obstacles to achieving stability and growth in Latin American economies,

Considering that both countries deem it essential to work at the international level to achieve the highest possible standard of living for their peoples, by eradicating poverty and promoting protection of the environment,

¹ Came into force on 7 July 1995, i.e., 30 days after the date of receipt of the last of the notifications by which the Parties had informed each other of its approval in conformnity with their constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 9.

Taking into consideration the provisions of the Agreement on Cooperation between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the European Community, which was signed on 18 September 1980,

Inspired by the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation signed on 16 November 1953 and desiring to put new life into and to strengthen the existing framework of relations between the two countries.

Have agreed as follows:

CHAPTER I

POLITICAL COOPERATION

Article 1

The two Parties agree to:

- (a) Increase the number of reciprocal visits between their respective Heads of Government and Ministers in order to strengthen and promote political dialogue between the two countries:
- (b) Hold annual summit meetings between the Heads of the two Governments, who may be accompanied by various members of their respective Executives, to discuss bilateral issues and international problems of interest to both countries;
- (c) Hold meetings between the officials responsible for the foreign policy of the two countries, either in Brazil and Portugal, or within the framework of the various regional and multilateral organizations, to review matters of bilateral or international interest as well as cooperation between the Rio Group and the European Economic Community and the processes of integration between the regions of Latin America and Europe.

CHAPTER II

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Article 2

The two Parties shall encourage and endeavour to promote the development and diversification of economic relations between the two countries through economic cooperation in various fields, and thereby contribute to the strengthening and modernization of their economies, without prejudice to the international commitments entered into by each of the Parties.

Article 3

The two Parties have agreed that, in order to promote and develop the economic and industrial relations between the two countries, it is necessary to:

- (a) Effectively and continually promote and publicize the opportunities and potential for bilateral economic and industrial cooperation;
- (b) Promote economic and industrial cooperation with a view to developing the productive sectors, together with their respective industrial structures, and the technology and service sectors, through more frequent signing of cooperation and association agreements between Brazilian and Portuguese companies;

(c) Promote the execution of investment, co-investment and technology transfer projects that permit both countries to pursue new activities designed to enhance the technological and international competitiveness of Brazilian and Portuguese industries.

Article 4

In order to achieve the objectives set out in the above articles, the two Parties have decided to promote:

- (a) Joint studies and projects in the areas of industrial development, natural resources exploitation and development and raw materials processing;
- (b) Cooperation between institutions and companies of the two countries, particularly in the fields of research and technological development, energy, metrology and quality control, and industrial property;
- (c) Coordination of the positions of international organizations on price stabilization and commodity markets;
- (d) Strengthening of cooperation between companies and business associations of the two countries, with a view to maximizing the potential of their respective economies;
- (e) Systematic dissemination of information and programmes to create greater awareness of the potential which the economic and financial situation of Brazil and Portugal offers to the economic agents of the two countries, so as to permit the elaboration of strategies for the development of entrepreneurial activities in the medium and long term;
- (f) Systematic and reciprocal exchange of information on national and international public tenders (public bidding) through the creation of a mechanism for facilitating rapid access to relevant information by Brazilian and Portuguese economic operators;
- (g) Activities to disseminate information about and to strengthen the capacity of each of the Parties to supply goods and services and to promote investment opportunities in the two countries;
- (h) Collaboration between companies of the two countries in the execution of joint investment projects, with a view to developing the production and service sectors, in Brazil, Portugal or in third-country markets, including through the establishment of joint ventures, with special emphasis on those sectors in which the two countries complement each other.

Article 5

With a view to the implementation of the above articles, the two Parties have undertaken to:

- (a) Make every effort to secure the revision of the sectoral agreements still in force so as to adapt them to the new situations in the two countries and, if necessary, to begin negotiations aimed at concluding new agreements for the promotion of economic cooperation, especially in the area of investment promotion;
- (b) Take action aimed at the development of communication links between the two countries, particularly in the transport and telecommunications sectors;