



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SOUTH AFRICA**

AND

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SINGAPORE**

CONCERNING

BILATERAL COOPERATION

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as "South Africa") and the Government of the Republic of Singapore (hereinafter referred to as "Singapore") (hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties" and in the singular as a "Party").

INSPIRED by the desire to further strengthen the friendly bilateral relations and comprehensive co-operation between the two countries;

MINDFUL of the complementary strengths and comparative advantages of Singapore and South Africa;

DESIROUS to promote political, economic and technical co-operation with the view to facilitating growth in trade, investment and tourism;

CONVINCED of the necessity of lasting and effective co-operation in the interest of both countries;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1

OBJECTIVE

- (1) The Parties undertake to encourage and promote the development of political, economic and technical co-operation between Singapore and South Africa. This Memorandum of Understanding will serve as a framework within which detailed proposals for programmes of co-operation could be identified.
- (2) The Parties will endeavour, under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore and the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa, hold regular consultations on issues of mutual interest, as identified by them, comprising but not limited to, the areas identified in this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 2

SCOPE OF CO-OPERATION

- (1) The Parties will determine the various fields in which co-operation is desirable, taking into consideration the experience to be gained and the benefits to be derived from every field.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-Article (1), the fields for co-operation undertaken in this Memorandum of Understanding will include the following:

- (a) trade and investment;
 - (b) bilateral tourism;
 - (c) maritime affairs;
 - (d) academic co-operation;
 - (e) human resources development;
 - (f) co-operation on combating organised crime and terrorism; and
 - (g) any other fields that may be agreed upon by the Parties
- (3) In pursuance of closer co-operation in these fields, the Parties will endeavour to establish a practice of regular consultations and exchange of information on a scheduled basis, at a senior official's level.
- (4) The Parties will endeavour to consult each other on an ad hoc basis, for the purposes of co-ordinating activities of mutual interest in the international arena.

ARTICLE 3

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- (1) The Parties will take measures, as each Party deems appropriate, to facilitate and promote trade and economic relations between them and encourage interaction between their respective business communities. The Parties will endeavour to establish a practice of regular consultations on economic and trade matters.
- (2) The Parties will establish a Joint Trade Committee (JTC) to collaborate on trade and investment related issues, including exploring the possibility of a Free Trade Agreement and opportunities for bilateral investment.
- (3) The Parties will collaborate in identifying investment projects to be promoted. New investment clusters and zones will be identified to facilitate investment in infrastructure and enterprises including tourism sector development such as hotel and resort development.

ARTICLE 4

TOURISM

- (1) The Parties will jointly encourage their citizens to travel to each other's country and shall facilitate, in collaboration with their competent Authorities, frontier entry formalities and procedures in accordance with their respective laws and regulations and without prejudice to their international obligations. They shall also encourage co-operation and direct contacts between their travel agencies, other relevant enterprises and organisations operating in the field of tourism with a view to increasing tourist exchanges between the two countries.

- (2) The Parties, in accordance with their domestic legislation and their international obligations shall exchange information, statistics, publicity and promotional materials, and encourage the participation of the other Party in international exhibitions and fairs organised in their territory.
- (3) The Parties shall exchange information and documentation in the field of professional training of personnel employed in the tourist sector, and consider all possible forms of co-operation in that field including on-the-job training and exchange of students, instructors and experts of their respective schools of tourism professions and the organisation of seminars for tourist officials and professionals on a collaborative basis.

ARTICLE 5

MARITIME AFFAIRS

- (1) Singapore will explore opportunities for investing in South Africa's port operations and infrastructure, on a commercial basis.
- (2) Possible opportunities may include port infrastructure such as passenger terminals, warehouses and other value added logistics services.
- (3) The Parties could consider concluding appropriate shipping agreements in order to facilitate shipping movements and the flow of documentation.
- (4) The Parties may exchange information on maritime and port matters.

ARTICLE 6

AVIATION

- (1) The Parties agree to work towards a more liberal air services agreement in the interim with a view to concluding an Open Skies Agreement in the longer term so as to promote the flow of trade and services between them, and to capitalise on the strategic location of both Singapore and South Africa as gateways in their respective regions for traffic flows between Asia, the African continent and South America.
- (2) Singapore will consider exploring investment and management opportunities related to airport infrastructure, handling services and terminal management, on the basis of the commercial viability of such involvement.

ARTICLE 7

ACADEMIC CO-OPERATION

The Parties agree to encourage and facilitate –

- (a) co-operation between their respective research organisations; and/or
- (b) participation in seminars and conferences, mutual visits and exchange of information between their respective experts at standards or levels mutually acceptable to both Parties and relevant to the fields identified for co-operation.

ARTICLE 8

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

The Parties will endeavour to develop a Programme of Co-operation in Human Resources Development to ensure the best possible utilisation of funds and opportunities available under the Singapore Co-operation Programme, which may include training proposals for needs identified by the Parties.

ARTICLE 9

CRIME AND TERRORISM

The Parties will endeavour to support each other in the fight against organised crime and terrorism in line with International Law and commitments to the United Nations and other international bodies, and subject to the provisions of their respective domestic laws, may share relevant information, exchange ideas and mutually agree on other forms of co-operation.

ARTICLE 10

COMPLEMENTARY AGREEMENTS

- (1) The Parties may conclude specific agreements (hereinafter referred to as "complementary agreements") for the purpose of the implementation of programmes or projects to be undertaken pursuant to the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (2) The complementary agreements will, inter alia, define the relevant modalities regarding the programmes or projects concerned.

ARTICLE 11

CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties shall, subject to the provisions of its domestic laws, preserve the confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data received from the other Party during the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and complementary agreements.

ARTICLE 12

AMENDMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed periodically and may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.

ARTICLE 13

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute regarding the interpretation, application or implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved amicably through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 14

ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of signature thereof.
- (2) This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force until terminated in accordance with sub-Article (3).
- (3) This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party giving six (6) months written notice in advance through the diplomatic channel to the other Party of its intention to terminate it.
- (4) The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect any complementary agreement concluded or entered into during the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding, which shall be fulfilled in accordance with the provisions of such complementary agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE at Singapore on this 21
of APRIL in the year two thousand and five

Nkomo
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH
AFRICA

[Signature]
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF
SINGAPORE