AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Preamble

The Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the United Arab Emirates (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"):

Desiring to strengthen their friendly relations and develop economic and technical cooperation between both States on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit;

Confirming their interest to strengthen mutual cooperation;

Convinced that this Agreement will lay the foundations for the development of the economic and technical cooperation between both States;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

- 1. The Parties shall endeavour to develop and strengthen bilateral economic and technical cooperation, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations in both States.
- 2. The Parties agree to promote and facilitate cooperation particularly in the following areas:
 - a) Bilateral trade in goods and services;
 - b) Investment promotion;
 - c) Industry including construction and production of transport machines industry;
 - d) Agriculture and agri-food industry;
 - e) Environment;
 - f) Energy, including energy efficiency and renewable energy;
 - g) Science, technology and innovation;
 - h) Innovation and Small & Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs);
 - i) Education and human resources development;
 - j) Healthcare.

The Parties may decide to co-operate in other areas, taking into account the priorities of the economic policies of the two States.

ARTICLE 2 PARTICULARS OF COOPERATION

- 1. The Parties shall, within the scope of their competences, undertake to:
 - Take appropriate measures for the development of economic and technical cooperation in both States;
 - b) Facilitate the exchange of information on the economic situation as well as on laws and regulations, economic programs and projects, business activities and other information of mutual interest:
 - c) Identify problems and obstacles which hinder bilateral economic cooperation and propose adequate measures for addressing those problems and obstacles.
- In order to carry out the economic and technical cooperation under this Agreement, the Parties shall encourage relevant specialized entities and business communities to explore the possibilities of executing projects in various areas of economic and technical cooperation.
- 3. The Parties, acting in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and international obligations and commitments of their States, shall cooperate on investment promotion.

4. The Parties shall:

- a) Encourage the participation of their business communities in international fairs and exhibitions as well as provide assistance for the organization of events for business representatives in their States such as seminars, conferences and symposiums;
- b) Support and encourage the exchange of visits of business delegations;
- c) Promote and enhance contribution of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to their bilateral economic relations, through exploring and supporting the implementation of joint programs and projects involving SMEs from both States.
- The Parties shall, within the framework of the applicable laws and regulations in their States, provide all possible facilities for the trans-shipment, re-export and temporary storage of commodities.
- 6. The Parties shall endeavor to promote joint cooperation in third countries, inter-regional cooperation and cooperation at international level on economic issues of mutual interest.

ARTICLE 3 METHOD AND CURRENCY OF PAYMENTS

For the Method of payment and currency used for transactions concluded between natural and legal persons of the States of the Parties within the framework of this Agreement, the Parties shall, with respect to article XII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), encourage the utilization of any international method of payment and freely convertible currencies that are widely used to make payments for international transactions and widely exchanged in principal international exchange markets and agreed upon between the Parties concerned.

ARTICLE 4 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION

- 1. With a view to overseeing the implementation of this Agreement, a Joint Economic Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") composed of representatives of the Parties shall be established. Participation of representatives of relevant governmental institutions and business organizations of both States in the Commission meetings is possible based on the Commission invitation.
- The Commission shall be co-chaired by the Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and the Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates.
- 3. The Commission shall hold sessions alternately in the two States, when necessary, on dates agreed upon by the Parties. The agenda and any relevant details of the sessions of the Commission shall be exchanged at least a month before the date of the session.
- 4. The Commission may establish its own rules of working procedures.
- The Commission can establish standing or ad hoc committees or working groups, to address specific issues of mutual interest, and assign a clear mandate to each of them, if deemed necessary.
- 6. The duties of the Commission shall comprise, in particular, the following:
 - a) Following up on the implementation of this Agreement;
 - Evaluating and making proposals aimed at the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement and specific agreements, initiatives or projects resulting therefrom;

- c) Encouraging cooperation in the areas provided for in this Agreement or any other field agreed upon by the Parties to expand and strengthen their cooperation;
- d) Working out recommendations for the purposes of removing obstacles that may arise during the implementation of any agreement, initiative or project that may be established in accordance with this Agreement;
- e) Proposing conclusion of specific agreements to be based on this Agreement concerning the fields of cooperation referred above and other special projects that may be agreed upon between the Parties, if deemed necessary;
- f) Drawing up suggestions for the improvement of terms of economic cooperation between enterprises of both States.

ARTICLE 5 REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- 1. This Agreement shall apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations of both States arising from international agreements to which they are party, including from their membership of international organisations. In particular, this Agreement shall apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations arising from the membership of the Czech Republic in the European Union and the membership of the United Arab Emirates in the Cooperation Council for the Arab States in the Gulf (GCC).
- Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as obliging either Party to extend to the other Party,
 the present or future benefit of any treatment, preference or privilege resulting from any existing
 or future international agreement to which either of the States is or may become a party.

ARTICLE 6 DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or the implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultations within the Commission or, if those consultations fail to resolve the dispute, through diplomatic channels between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7 AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Parties. The amendments shall be made in the form of separate Protocols which shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of this Agreement and shall constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- 1. Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing through the diplomatic channels the completion of the internal procedures required for the entry into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the latter notification.
- 2. This Agreement shall be valid for a period of five (5) years and shall be automatically renewed for successive five (5) year periods. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time provided that it notifies the other Party in writing, through the diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate this Agreement at least six (6) months prior to the intended date of termination.
- 3. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or duration of any specific agreements, projects, commitments or activities made under this Agreement until the completion of such specific agreements, projects, commitments or activities unless otherwise agreed upon by the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments have signed this Agreement.

DONE at.....Dubai......., on this ...24....day of.....January..........2022, in two originals in the Czech, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Czech Republic

Jozef Síkela Minister of Industry and Trade For the Government of the United Arab Emirates

Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri Minister of Economy