

# **Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Romania on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments**

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA ("the Contracting Parties")

RECOGNISING the importance of promoting the flow of capital for economic activity and development and aware of its role in expanding economic relations and technical co-operation between them, particularly with respect to investment by investors of one Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party;

CONSIDERING that investment relations should be promoted and economic co-operation strengthened in accordance with the internationally accepted principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, equality, mutual benefit, non-discrimination and mutual confidence;

ACKNOWLEDGING that investments of investors of one Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party would be made within the framework of laws of that other Contracting Party; and

RECOGNISING that pursuit of these objectives would be facilitated by a clear statement of principles relating to the protection of investments, combined with rules designed to render more effective the application of these principles within the territories of the Contracting Parties,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

## **Article 1. Definitions**

(1) For the purposes of this Agreement:

(a) "investment" means every kind of asset, owned or controlled by investors of one Contracting Party and admitted by the other Contracting Party subject to its laws and investment policies and includes:

(i) Movable and immovable property, including rights such as mortgages, liens and other pledges;

(ii) Shares, stocks, bonds and debentures and any other form of participation in a company;

(iii) Claims to money or claims to performance having economic value;

(iv) Intellectual and industrial property rights, including rights with respect to copyright, patents, trademarks, trade names, industrial designs, trade secrets, know-how and goodwill;

(v) Business concessions and any other rights required to conduct economic activity and having economic value conferred by law or under a contract, including rights to engage in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and animal husbandry, to search for, extract or exploit natural resources and to manufacture, use and sell products, as well as activities associated with investments, such as the organisation and operation of business facilities, the acquisition, exercise and disposition of property rights including intellectual property rights, the raising of funds and the purchase and sale of foreign exchange;

(vi) Returns which are reinvested;

(b) "return" means an amount yielded by or derived from an investment, including profits, dividends, interest, capital gains, royalty payments, management or technical assistance fees, payments in connection with intellectual property rights, and all other lawful income;

(c) "investor" means a national or a company of either Contracting Party;

(d) "national" means:

- (i) In relation to Australia, a natural person who is an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia under its law,
- (ii) In relation to Romania, a natural person who is a Romanian citizen under its law;
- (e) "company" means any corporation, association, partnership, trust or other legally recognised entity that is duly incorporated, constituted, set up, or otherwise duly organised:
- (i) Under the law of a Contracting Party, or
- (ii) Under the law of a third country and is owned or controlled by an entity described in paragraph (1)(e)(i) of this Article or by a natural person who is a national of a Contracting Party under its law, paragraph (1)(e)(i) of this Article or by a natural person who is a national of a Contracting Party under its law,

Regardless of whether or not the entity is organised for pecuniary gain, privately or otherwise owned, or organised with limited or unlimited liability;

(f) "freely convertible currency" means a convertible currency as classified by the International Monetary Fund;

(g) "territory" in relation to a Contracting Party includes the territorial sea, maritime zone or continental shelf where that Contracting Party exercises its sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction in accordance with international law.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a) of this Article, any alteration of the form in which assets are invested or reinvested shall not affect their character as investments. paragraph (1)(a) of this Article, any alteration of the form in which assets are invested or reinvested shall not affect their character as investments.

(3) For the purposes of this Agreement, a natural person or company shall be regarded as controlling a company or an investment if the person or company has a substantial interest in the company or the investment. The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to resolve by consultations to their mutual satisfaction any question arising out of this Agreement concerning the control of a company or an investment.

## **Article 2. Application of Agreement**

(1) This Agreement shall apply to investments whenever made, but shall not apply to disputes which have formally arisen prior to the entry into force of this Agreement.

(2) Where a company of a Contracting Party is owned or controlled by a citizen or a company of any third country, the Contracting Parties may decide jointly in consultation not to extend the rights and benefits of this Agreement to such company.

(3) This Agreement shall not apply to a company organised under the laws of a third country within the meaning of paragraph (1)(e)(ii) of Article 1 where the provisions of an investment protection agreement with that country have already been invoked in respect of the same matter. paragraph (1)(e)(ii) of Article 1 where the provisions of an investment protection agreement with that country have already been invoked in respect of the same matter.

(4) This Agreement shall not apply to a natural person who is a permanent resident but not a citizen of a Contracting Party where:

(a) The provisions of an investment protection agreement between the other Contracting Party and the country of which the person is a citizen have already been invoked in respect of the same matter; or

(b) The person is a citizen of the other Contracting Party, unless the laws of that same Contracting Party provide otherwise in respect of its own citizens.

## **Article 3. Promotion and Protection of Investments**

(1) Each Contracting Party shall encourage and promote investments in its territory by investors of the other Contracting Party and shall, in accordance with its laws and investment policies, admit investments.

(2) Each Contracting Party shall ensure fair and equitable treatment in its own territory to investments.

(3) Each Contracting Party shall, subject to its laws, accord within its territory protection and security to investments and shall not impair the management, maintenance, use, enjoyment or disposal of investments.

(4) This Agreement shall not prevent investors of one Contracting Party from taking advantage of the provisions of any laws

or policies of the other Contracting Party which are more favourable than the provisions of this Agreement.

(5) Each Contracting Party shall, subject to its laws relating to the entry and sojourn of non-citizens, permit natural persons who are nationals of the other Contracting Party and personnel employed by companies of that other Contracting Party to enter and remain in its territory for the purpose of engaging in activities connected with investments.

(6) Each Contracting Party shall, subject to its laws, permit investors of the other Contracting Party who have made investments in the territory of the first Contracting Party to employ within its territory key technical and managerial personnel of their choice regardless of citizenship.

(7) Each Contracting Party shall, with a view to promoting the understanding of its laws that pertain to or affect investments in its territory by investors of the other Contracting Party, make such laws public and readily accessible.

(8) Each Contracting Party shall in accordance with its law:

(a) Provide investors of the other Contracting Party who have made investments within its territory and personnel employed by them for activities associated with investments full access to its competent judicial or administrative bodies in order to afford means of asserting claims and enforcing rights in respect of disputes with its own nationals and companies;

(b) Permit its nationals and companies to select means of their choice to settle disputes relating to investments with the investors of the other Contracting Party, including arbitration conducted in a third country, in accordance with any contract or arrangement between them.

## **Article 4. Most Favoured Nation Provisions**

Each Contracting Party shall at all times treat investors and investments in its own territory on a basis no less favourable than that accorded to investors of any third country and their investments, provided that a Contracting Party shall not be obliged to extend any treatment, preference or privilege resulting from:

(a) Any customs union, economic union, free trade area or regional economic integration agreement to which the Contracting Party belongs; or

(b) The provisions of a double taxation agreement with a third country.

## **Article 5. Expropriation and Compensation**

(1) Neither Contracting Party shall nationalise, expropriate or subject to measures having effect equivalent to nationalisation or expropriation (hereinafter referred to as "expropriation") the investments of investors of the other Contracting Party unless the following conditions are complied with:

(a) The expropriation is for a public purpose related to the internal needs of that Contracting Party and under due process of law;

(b) The expropriation is non-discriminatory; and

(c) The expropriation is accompanied by the payment of prompt, adequate and effective compensation.

(2) The compensation referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be computed on the basis of the market value of the investment immediately before the expropriation or impending expropriation became public knowledge. Where that value cannot be readily ascertained, the compensation shall be determined in accordance with generally recognised principles of valuation and equitable principles taking into account the capital invested, depreciation, capital already repatriated, replacement value, currency exchange rate movements and other relevant factors. paragraph (1) of this Article shall be computed on the basis of the market value of the investment immediately before the expropriation or impending expropriation became public knowledge. Where that value cannot be readily ascertained, the compensation shall be determined in accordance with generally recognised principles of valuation and equitable principles taking into account the capital invested, depreciation, capital already repatriated, replacement value, currency exchange rate movements and other relevant factors.

(3) Upon the request of an investor, the amount of compensation may be reassessed by a tribunal or other competent body of the Contracting Party in the territory of which the investment was made.

(4) The compensation shall be paid without undue delay, shall include interest at a commercially reasonable rate and shall be freely transferable between the territories of the Contracting Parties. The compensation shall be payable either in the

currency in which the investment was originally made or, if requested by the investor, in any other freely convertible currency.

## **Article 6. Compensation for Losses**

When a Contracting Party adopts any measures relating to losses in respect of investments in its territory by citizens or companies of any other country owing to war or other armed conflict, revolution, a state of national emergency, civil disturbance or other similar events, the treatment accorded to investors of the other Contracting Party as regards restitution, indemnification, compensation or other settlement shall be no less favourable than that which the first Contracting Party accords to citizens or companies of any third country.

## **Article 7. Transfers**

(1) Each Contracting Party shall, when requested by an investor of the other Contracting Party, and subject to its right to exercise equitably and in good faith powers conferred by its law, permit all funds of that investor related to an investment in its territory to be transferred freely and without delay. Such funds include the following:

- (a) Returns;
- (b) Proceeds from the sale or partial sale or liquidation of the investment;
- (c) Repayments made under a credit arrangement for investments including interest due;
- (d) Payments for losses referred to in Article 6 of this Agreement; and Article 6 of this Agreement; and
- (e) Unspent earnings and other remuneration of personnel from abroad engaged in connection with that investment.

(2) The transfers abroad of such funds and the earnings of personnel shall be permitted in freely convertible currency. Unless otherwise agreed by the investor and the Contracting Party concerned, transfers shall be made at the exchange rate applying on the date of transfer in accordance with the laws of the Contracting Party which has admitted the investment.

(3) For the purposes of this Article, "without delay" means within a period normally required to prepare the formalities of transfer. Such period shall run from the date of request done and submitted in proper form by an investor and shall not in any case exceed two months.

## **Article 8. Settlement of Disputes between Contracting Parties**

(1) The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to resolve any dispute between them connected with this Agreement by prompt and friendly consultations and negotiations.

(2) If a dispute is not resolved by such means within six months of one Contracting Party seeking in writing such negotiations or consultations, it shall be submitted at the request of either Contracting Party to an Arbitral Tribunal established in accordance with the provisions of Annex A of this Agreement or, by arrangement between the Contracting Parties, to any other international tribunal. Annex A of this Agreement or, by arrangement between the Contracting Parties, to any other international tribunal.

(3) Any award of the tribunal shall be final and binding on the Contracting Parties.

## **Article 9. Settlement of Disputes between a Contracting Party and an Investor of the other Contracting Party**

(1) In the event of a dispute between a Contracting Party and an investor of the other Contracting Party relating to an investment, the parties to the dispute shall initially seek to resolve the dispute amicably by consultations and negotiations.

(2) If the dispute in question cannot be resolved amicably through consultations and negotiations, either party to the dispute may:

(a) In accordance with the laws of the Contracting Party which has admitted the investment, initiate proceedings before that Contracting Party's competent judicial or administrative bodies;

(b) If both Contracting Parties are at that time party to the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States ("the Convention"), done at Washington on 18 March 1965, refer the dispute to the

International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes ("the Centre") for conciliation or arbitration; Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States ("the Convention"), done at Washington on 18 March 1965, refer the dispute to the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes ("the Centre") for conciliation or arbitration;

(c) If both Contracting Parties are not at that time party to the Convention, refer the dispute to an Arbitral Tribunal constituted in accordance with Annex B of this Agreement, or by arrangement, to any other arbitral authority. Annex B of this Agreement, or by arrangement, to any other arbitral authority.

(3) Where a dispute is referred to the Centre pursuant to sub-paragraph (2)(b) of this Article: sub-paragraph (2)(b) of this Article:

(a) Where that action is taken by an investor of one Contracting Party, the other Contracting Party shall consent in writing to the submission of the dispute to the Centre within thirty days of receiving such a request from the investor;

(b) If the parties to the dispute cannot agree whether conciliation or arbitration is the more appropriate procedure, the investor affected shall have the right to choose between conciliation and arbitration;

(c) A company which is constituted or incorporated under the laws in force in the territory of one Contracting Party and which is a company of the type referred to in Article 25(2)(b) of the Convention shall, in accordance with that Article of the Convention, be treated for the purposes of the Convention as a company of the other Contracting Party. Article 25(2)(b) of the Convention shall, in accordance with that Article of the Convention, be treated for the purposes of the Convention as a company of the other Contracting Party.

(4) Once an action referred to in paragraph (2) of this Article has been taken, neither Contracting Party shall pursue the dispute through diplomatic channels unless: paragraph (2) of this Article has been taken, neither Contracting Party shall pursue the dispute through diplomatic channels unless:

(a) The relevant judicial or administrative body, the Secretary-General of the Centre, the arbitral authority or tribunal or the conciliation commission, as the case may be, has decided that it has no jurisdiction in relation to the dispute in question; or

(b) The other Contracting Party has failed to abide by or comply with any judgment, award, order or other determination made by the body in question.

(5) In any proceeding involving a dispute relating to an investment, a Contracting Party shall not assert, as a defence, counter-claim, right of set-off or otherwise, that the investor concerned has received or will receive, pursuant to an insurance or guarantee contract, indemnification or other compensation for all or part of any alleged loss.

## **Article 10. Subrogation**

(1) If a Contracting Party or an agency of that Contracting Party makes a payment to its own national or company under a guarantee, a contract of insurance or other form of indemnity it has granted in respect of an investment, the other Contracting Party shall recognise the transfer of any right or title in respect of such investment. The subrogated right or claim shall not be greater than the original right or claim.

(2) Where a Contracting Party has made a payment to its own national or company and has accordingly taken over rights and claims, that national or company shall not, unless authorised to act on behalf of the Contracting Party which has made the payment, pursue those rights and claims against the other Contracting Party.

## **Article 11. Entry Into Force, Duration and Termination**

(1) This Agreement shall enter into force thirty days after the date on which the Contracting Parties shall have notified each other that their legal requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement have been fulfilled.

(2) This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of fifteen years and thereafter shall remain in force indefinitely, unless terminated in accordance with this paragraph. Either Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement at any time after it has been in force for fifteen years by giving one year's written notice to the other Contracting Party.

(3) Notwithstanding termination of this Agreement pursuant to paragraph (2) of this Article, the Agreement shall continue to be effective for a further period of fifteen years from the date of its termination in respect of investments made or acquired before that date. paragraph (2) of this Article, the Agreement shall continue to be effective for a further period of fifteen years from the date of its termination in respect of investments made or acquired before that date.

(4) The Contracting Parties shall consult at the request of either of them on matters concerning the interpretation or application this Agreement.

(5) Annexes A and B of this Agreement form an integral part of the Agreement. Annexes A and B of this Agreement form an integral part of the Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Bucharest on the 21st day of June, 1993 in the English and Romanian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA:

[Signed:]

GARETH EVANS OF ROMANIA:

[Signed:]

TEODOR MELESCANU

Regarding the Arbitral Tribunal established for settling disputes between the Contracting Parties, according to Article 8 of the Agreement

(1) The Arbitral Tribunal referred to in Article 8 shall consist of three persons appointed as follows: Article 8 shall consist of three persons appointed as follows:

(a) Each Contracting Party shall appoint one arbitrator;

(b) The arbitrators appointed by the Contracting Parties shall, within thirty days of the appointment of the second of them, by agreement, select a third arbitrator who shall be a national of a third country which has diplomatic relations with both Contracting Parties;

(c) The Contracting Parties shall, within thirty days of the selection of the third arbitrator, approve the selection of that arbitrator who shall act as Chairman of the Tribunal.

(2) Arbitration proceedings shall be instituted upon notice being given through the diplomatic channel by the Contracting Party instituting such proceedings to the other Contracting Party. Such notice shall contain a statement setting forth in summary form the grounds of the claim, the nature of the relief sought, and the name of the arbitrator appointed by the Contracting Party instituting such proceedings. Within sixty days after the giving of such notice the respondent Contracting Party shall notify the Contracting Party instituting proceedings of the name of the arbitrator appointed by the respondent Contracting Party.

(3) If, within the time limits provided for in paragraph (1)(c) and paragraph (2) of this Annex, the required appointment has not been made or the required approval has not been given, either Contracting Party may request the President of the International Court of Justice to make the necessary appointment. If the President is a national of either Contracting Party or is otherwise unable to act, the Vice-President shall be invited to make the appointment. If the Vice-President is a national of either Contracting Party or is unable to act, the Member of the International Court of Justice next in seniority who is not a national of either Contracting Party shall be invited to make the appointment. paragraph (1)(c) and paragraph (2) of this Annex, the required appointment has not been made or the required approval has not been given, either Contracting Party may request the President of the International Court of Justice to make the necessary appointment. If the President is a national of either Contracting Party or is otherwise unable to act, the Vice-President shall be invited to make the appointment. If the Vice-President is a national of either Contracting Party or is unable to act, the Member of the International Court of Justice next in seniority who is not a national of either Contracting Party shall be invited to make the appointment.

(4) In case any arbitrator appointed as provided for in this Annex shall resign or become unable to act, a successor arbitrator shall be appointed in the same manner as prescribed for the appointment of the original arbitrator and the successor shall have all the powers and duties of the original arbitrator. Annex shall resign or become unable to act, a successor arbitrator shall be appointed in the same manner as prescribed for the appointment of the original arbitrator and the successor shall have all the powers and duties of the original arbitrator.

(5) The Arbitral Tribunal shall convene at such time and place as shall be fixed by the Chairman of the Tribunal. Thereafter, the Arbitral Tribunal shall determine where and when it shall sit.

(6) The Arbitral Tribunal shall decide all questions relating to its competence and shall determine its own procedure unless the Contracting Parties, by arrangement, establish the procedure.

(7) Before the Arbitral Tribunal makes a decision, it may at any stage of the proceedings propose to the Contracting Parties that the dispute be settled amicably. The Arbitral Tribunal shall reach its award by majority vote taking into account the provisions of this Agreement, the international agreements both Contracting Parties have concluded and the generally recognised principles of international law.

(8) Each Contracting Party shall bear the costs of its appointed arbitrator. The cost of the Chairman of the Tribunal and other expenses associated with the conduct of the arbitration shall be borne in equal parts by both Contracting Parties. The Arbitral Tribunal may decide, however, that a higher proportion of costs shall be borne by one of the Contracting Parties.

(9) The Arbitral Tribunal may render an award on the default of a Contracting Party. Any award shall be rendered in writing, shall state its legal basis and shall be transmitted to each Contracting Party.

Regarding the Arbitral Tribunal established for settling disputes between a Contracting Party and an investor of the other Contracting Party, according to Article 9 of the Agreement

(1) The Arbitral Tribunal referred to in paragraph (2)(c) of Article 9 shall consist of 3 persons appointed as follows: paragraph (2)(c) of Article 9 shall consist of 3 persons appointed as follows:

(a) Each party to the dispute shall appoint one arbitrator;

(b) The arbitrators appointed by the parties to the dispute shall, within thirty days of the appointment of the second of them, by agreement, select an arbitrator as Chairman of the Tribunal who shall be a national of a third country which has diplomatic relations with both Contracting Parties.

(2) Arbitration proceedings shall be instituted by written notice setting forth the grounds of the claim, the nature of the relief sought and the name of the arbitrator appointed by the party instituting such proceedings.

(3) If a party to the dispute, receiving notice in writing from the other party of the institution of arbitration proceedings and the appointment of an arbitrator, shall fail to appoint its arbitrator within thirty days of receiving notice from the other party, or if, within sixty days after a party has given notice in writing instituting the arbitration proceedings, agreement has not been reached on a Chairman of the Tribunal, either party to the dispute may request the Secretary-General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes to make the necessary appointment.

(4) In case any arbitrator appointed as provided in this Annex shall resign or become unable to perform or act, a successor arbitrator shall be appointed in the same manner as prescribed for the appointment of the original arbitrator and the successor shall have all the powers and duties of the original arbitrator. Annex shall resign or become unable to perform or act, a successor arbitrator shall be appointed in the same manner as prescribed for the appointment of the original arbitrator and the successor shall have all the powers and duties of the original arbitrator.

(5) The Arbitral Tribunal shall, subject to the provisions of any agreement between the parties to the dispute, determine its procedure by reference to the rules of procedure contained in the 1965 Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of other States. 1965 Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of other States.

(6) The Arbitral Tribunal shall decide all questions relating to its competence.

(7) Before the Arbitral Tribunal makes a decision it may at any stage of the proceedings propose to the parties that the dispute be settled amicably. The Arbitral Tribunal shall reach its award by majority vote taking into account the provisions of this Agreement, any agreement between the parties to the dispute and the relevant domestic law of the Contracting Party which has admitted the investment.

(8) An award shall be final and binding and shall be enforced in the territory of each Contracting Party in accordance with its law.

(9) Each party to the dispute shall bear the costs of its appointed arbitrator. The cost of the Chairman of the Tribunal and other expenses associated with the conduct of the arbitration shall be borne equally by the parties. The Arbitral Tribunal

may, however, decide that a higher proportion of the costs shall be borne by one of the parties.