

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND
THE MINISTRY OF TRADE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

The Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China and The Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Turkey, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties";

Considering that the strategic cooperative partnership has already been built between the Parties through:

-the Mid-Long Term Development Plan for the Economic and Trade Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the People's Republic of China, and;
- the Action Plan to Enhance Bilateral Trade and Investment Cooperation Between the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Commerce of the Republic of China,

agree on the following Articles:

**Article I
Objectives and Principles**

1. The Parties agree to establish an effective (channel)/(mechanism) of communication for the facilitation of cooperation in e-commerce.
2. The purpose of this cooperation is to promote sustainable and stable development of electronic commerce in goods and services within the territories of the Parties and between the Parties.
3. The Parties shall cooperate on the basis of equality, openness, mutual respect and mutual benefit.

**Article II
Methods of Cooperation**

1. The Parties will explore possible ways of cooperation in electronic commerce such as;
 - (i) conducting joint studies,
 - (ii) preparing joint reports,
 - (iii) sharing experiences in policy making and government management,
 - (iv) organizing informative meetings, workshops and seminars,
 - (v) organize training and capacity building activities,

- (vi) exchange of views through e-mails and videoconferences, and;
- (vii) establishing public-private dialogues.

2. The Parties will encourage cooperation between enterprises operating in electronic commerce in Turkey and China, including by supporting the integration of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) into the cross-border e-commerce ecosystem.

Article III Content of Cooperation

1. Parties will explore opportunities to establish methods of cooperation as referred to in Article II in the following areas:

- (i) legislation and its implementation in e-commerce including subsidies and ,
- (ii) construction of e-commerce standards and credit evaluation systems,
- (iii) establishment of cross-border e-commerce pilot zones,
- (iv) new marketing models including social media and short-video marketing,
- (v) cross-border payment services including developments in new technologies such as blockchain and electronic wallet,
- (vi) mutual recognition of electronic signatures,
- (vii) logistics of e-commerce including transportation, freight delivery services, cargo-handling systems, warehouses and fulfillment centers,
- (viii) e-commerce business models,
- (ix) control of risks through customs cooperation,
- (x) regulation of sharing economy and peer-to-peer business such as car-hailing, bike-sharing and accommodation services,
- (xi) on-line e-commerce dispute settlement mechanisms including online courts, online arbitration and mediation,
- (xii) alleviation of poverty through development of rural e-commerce,
- (xiii) data privacy, protection of personal data and cyber security,
- (xiv) e-commerce negotiations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) and also bilateral and regional cooperation initiatives,
- (xv) paperless trade,
- (xvi) protection of consumer rights and health particularly on counterfeit products,
- (xvii) other e-commerce related issues that Parties are interested in.

2. Each Party shall endeavour to facilitate investment flows and also cooperate to resolve the problems faced by direct investments and investors of the other Party in their territories in e-commerce.

Article IV Resolution of Disputes

In the case of disagreements or disputes regarding interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), the Parties should actively negotiate for a friendly settlement.

Article V Non-Binding Effect

This MOU is not legally binding and does not give rise to any legal rights or obligations under international law.

Article VI Entry into Force and Duration

1. This MOU takes effect on the date of signing by the Parties and will be valid for a period of 3 years from that date.
2. This MOU will be automatically renewed unless either Party manifests its desire not to proceed with the renewal with, at least, six months' notice, through diplomatic channels. This rule is retroactive and applies to the agreement upon every renewal.
3. This MOU may be amended by the mutual written consent of the Parties at any time.

Signed in Beijing on 20 February 2020, in Turkish, Chinese, and English, each in two (2) copies with three (3) copies for each Party, three texts being equally authentic.

For the Ministry of Commerce
of The People's Republic of China

For the Ministry of Trade of the
Republic of Turkey