AGREEMENT

between

the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing

the Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Kazakhstan about cooperation in the field of standardization, metrology and certification

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing and the Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Kazakhstan, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

aiming at the elimination of technical barriers to trade and the facilitation of economic relations between the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan,

expressing their desire to develop cooperation in the field of standardization, metrology, certification and testing from the principles and norms adopted by the international organization for standardization,

being guided by the economic interest of the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan,

hereby agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties within the framework of the present Agreement will be guided by the acting laws of the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan, not damaging interests of the both States.

Article 2

The Parties agree to develop the cooperation in the field of standardization, metrology and certification by:

harmonization of international standards with national standards and requirements, elimination of technical barriers to trade and promotion of technical and scientific cooperation;

development of direct relationship between the bodies for standardization, certification, and legal metrology of both Parties.

Article 3

The Parties agree to exchange:

normative documentation, information and periodicals published by the national bodies for standardization;

catalogues of national standards, separate national standards, norms and regulation; general information and publications on certification, accreditation of testing laboratories, certification bodies, lists of products subject to the mandatory certification;

information and materials regarding the training programmes and improvement of specialist's qualifications in the field standardization, metrology, certification and testing.

Article 4

The Parties will cooperate in preparation and improvement of professional skill of the staff, exchange of specialists and consultations in the field of standardization, metrology, certification and testing.

Article 5

The Parties will ensure confidentiality concerning documents and information received within the framework of present Agreement. This information may be transferred to the third State only with the prior consent of the Parties, which provided these documents and information.

Article 6

The disputes connected with the interpretation and fulfilment of the present Agreement will be settled by mutual consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 7

The present Agreement does not infringe upon right and responsibilities that the Parties have undertaken under other international agreements, in which they are.

Article 8

The present Agreement comes into force from the day of receipt of last written notice about performance of internal state procedures by the Parties indispensable for its coming into force.

The present Agreement is concluded for indeterminate term and will be into force before the expiration of 6 month with the date when one of the Parties sends written notification to another Parties about its intention to stop action of the present Agreement.

Termination of the present Agreement will not influence programmes and projects already in process in the framework of the present Agreement.

Done in Astana on 14 november 2001, in two originals, each in the Slovak, Kazakh, Russian and English languages, all texts are identical valid.

In case of different interpretation of the present Agreement, the Parties will appeal to English text.

For the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing For the Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Kazakhstan