

CHAPTER 11

Labour

Article 11-1: Affirmations

The Parties reaffirm their obligations as members of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and their commitments to the *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* and its follow-up (1998), as well as their continuing respect for each other's Constitution and laws.

Article 11-2: Objectives

The Parties wish to build on their respective international commitments and to strengthen their cooperation on labour and in particular to:

- (a) improve working conditions and living standards in each Party's territory;
- (b) promote their commitment to the internationally recognized labour principles and rights;
- (c) promote compliance with and effective enforcement by each Party of its labour laws;
- (d) promote social dialogue on labour matters among workers and employers, and their respective organizations, and governments;
- (e) pursue cooperative labour-related activities on the basis of mutual benefit;

- (f) strengthen the capacity of the ministries responsible for labour affairs and other institutions responsible for administering and enforcing labour laws in their territories; and
- (g) foster full and open exchange of information between these ministries and institutions with regard to labour laws and its application in each Party's territory.

Article 11-3: Obligations

In order to further these objectives, the Parties' mutual obligations are set out in the *Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Canada and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan* (LCA) that addresses, *inter alia*:

- (a) general commitments, concerning the internationally recognized labour principles and rights that are to be embodied in each Party's labour laws;
- (b) a commitment not to derogate from domestic labour laws in order to encourage trade or investment;
- (c) effective enforcement of labour laws through appropriate government action, private rights of action, procedural guarantees, public information and awareness;
- (d) institutional mechanisms to oversee the implementation of the LCA through such means as a Ministerial Council, national advisory committees, national offices to receive and review public communications on specified labour law matters and to enable cooperative activities to further the objectives of the LCA;
- (e) general and ministerial consultations regarding implementation of the LCA and its obligations; and
- (f) independent review panels to hold hearings and make determinations regarding alleged non-compliance with the terms of the LCA and, if requested, monetary assessments.

Article 11-4: Cooperative Activities

The Parties recognize that labour cooperation plays an important role in advancing the level of compliance with labour principles and rights, and as such the LCA provides for the development of a framework for cooperative labour activities for the promotion of the objectives of the LCA. An indicative list of areas of possible cooperation between the Parties is set out in the LCA.