

Draft
Subject to Legal Review for Accuracy, Clarity, and Consistency
June 18, 2004

**Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the
Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area**

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain (the “Parties”),

Recognizing the strong bonds of friendship between them and wishing to strengthen their economic relations;

Recognizing that open and competitive markets are key drivers of economic efficiency, innovation, and growth;

Desiring to create new employment opportunities and raise the standard of living for their citizens by liberalizing and expanding trade between them;

Desiring to enhance the competitiveness of their enterprises in global markets;

Desiring to establish clear and mutually advantageous rules governing their trade, complementing the high standards for protection of investment established by the *Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the State of Bahrain Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment*;

Building on their rights and obligations under the WTO Agreement and other agreements to which they are both parties;

Affirming their commitment to transparency and their desire to eliminate bribery and corruption in international trade and investment;

Desiring to foster creativity and innovation, improve technology, and enhance the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights;

Desiring to protect, enhance, and enforce basic workers’ rights and to strengthen the development and enforcement of labor laws and policies;

Desiring to strengthen the development and enforcement of environmental laws and policies, promote sustainable development, and implement this Agreement in a manner consistent with the objectives of environmental protection and conservation;

Affirming their desire to establish an expanded free trade area in the Middle East and thereby contribute to economic liberalization and development in the region;

Have agreed as follows: