

of the foreign exchange systems of the Member Countries and any studies which the Monetary and Foreign Exchange Council carries out on the matter.

Until the system of economic indicators has been adopted by the Commission, the General Secretariat shall proceed according to its own criteria.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if, during the period between the presentation in question and the General Secretariat's pronouncement, in the opinion of the applicant Member Country, there are background factors which give reasonable grounds to fear that, as a result of the devaluation, there shall be immediate harmful effects which may have serious implications for its economy and thus call for the adoption of protective measures on an emergency basis, it may bring the situation before the General Secretariat; the latter, if it finds the request to be well grounded may authorize the implementation of suitable measures, for which purpose it shall be given a period of seven continuous days. The General Secretariat's final pronouncement on the alteration of the normal conditions of competition shall, in any case, determine whether the authorized emergency measures shall be maintained, modified, or suspended.

The measures that are adopted in keeping with this Article may not involve a decrease in the levels of trade which existed prior to the devaluation.

The second and third subsections of this Article shall be fully applicable to these measures.

Article 111

No safeguard clauses of any kind shall be applied to the importation of products originating in the Subregion and included in the Programs and Projects of Industrial Integration.

CHAPTER X: ORIGIN

Article 112

The Commission shall, at the General Secretariat's proposal, adopt any special rules necessary for determining the origin of goods. Such rules shall constitute a dynamic instrument for the development of the Subregion and shall appropriately contribute to the attainment the Agreement's objectives.

Article 113

It shall be the General Secretariat's responsibility to establish the specific requirements of origin for the products requiring so. When an Industrial Integration Program calls for setting specific requirements, the General Secretariat shall decide on them as the corresponding program is being approved.

Within the year following the establishment of a specific requirement, the Member Countries may request its review by the General Secretariat, which must give its opinion summarily

If a Member Country so requests it, the Commission shall examine those requirements and make a final decision within six to twelve months after having been set by the General Secretariat.

The General Secretariat may, at any time, either on its own initiative or at the request of a party, set or modify said requirements in order to adjust them to the economic and technological progress of the Subregion.

Article 114

In adopting and deciding on the special rules or specific requirements of origin, as the case may be, the Commission and the General Secretariat shall seek to ensure that they do not hinder Bolivia and Ecuador from taking advantage of the benefits of implementing the Agreement.

Article 115

The General Secretariat shall ensure compliance with the rules and requirements of origin in subregional trade. It shall, moreover, propose any measures necessary for resolving problems of origin that hinder the attainment of the Agreement's objectives.

CHAPTER XI: PHYSICAL INTEGRATION

Article 116

The Member Countries shall develop joint actions in order to improve the use of physical spaces, to strengthen the infrastructure and services that are necessary to promote the process of economic integration of the Subregion. This action shall be taken primarily in the fields of energy, transportation, and communications and shall cover the necessary measures for facilitating border traffic among the Member Countries.

To this end, the Member Countries shall seek to establish multinational entities or businesses when possible and desirable for assisting in the execution and administration of those projects.

Article 117

The Commission shall, at the General Secretariat's proposal, adopt programs in the fields referred to in the preceding Article in order to promote a continuous process aimed at expanding and modernizing the physical infrastructure and the transportation and communications services of the Subregion. These programs shall include insofar as possible, the following:

- a. The identification of specific projects for incorporation in the national development plans and an indication of the order of priority for their execution;
- b. The essential steps for financing the necessary preinvestment studies;
- c. The technical and financial assistance needs to ensure the execution of the projects; and