

Article 8
Quantitative Restrictions and Non-Tariff Barriers and
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

1. Each Party undertakes not to adopt or maintain any prohibition or quantitative restriction on the importation of any goods of the other Parties or on the exportation of any goods destined for the territory of the other Parties, except in accordance with its WTO rights and obligations or other provisions in this Agreement.

2. Each Party shall ensure the transparency of its non-tariff measures that they are not prepared, adopted or applied with a view to or with the effect of creating unnecessary obstacles to trade among the Parties. The Parties shall identify non-tariff barriers other than quantitative restrictions for elimination as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Agreement. The timeframe for elimination of these non-tariff barriers shall be mutually agreed upon by all the Parties.

3. The Parties recognises the importance of transparency of TBT and SPS regulations as in the WTO Agreements on TBT and SPS, including notification procedures on preparation for regulations and standards on TBT and on any occurrences of SPS incident to reduce their negative effect on trade as well as to protect human, animal or plant life or health. Each Party shall designate its contact point for the purpose of responding queries related to this Article.

4. A working group on TBT and SPS (hereinafter referred to as the “WG on TBT and SPS”) under the Implementing Committee shall be established to deal with issues relating to the implementation of this Article and to facilitate trade and protect human, animal or plant life or health through mutual cooperation and bilateral consultations. The WG on TBT and SPS shall comprise of government officials from agriculture, fisheries, livestock and industry agencies and other related agencies. The WG on TBT and SPS shall develop its scope of work and meet at least once a year or as mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 9
Safeguard Measures

1. Each Party which is a WTO member retains its rights and obligations under Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards. Actions taken pursuant to Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards shall not be subject to the Agreement on Dispute Settlement Mechanism under the Framework Agreement.