

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.

2. With regard to ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measures, a Party shall have the right to initiate such a measure on a good within the transition period for that good. The transition period for a good shall begin from the date of entry into force of this Agreement and end seven (7) years from the date of completion of tariff reduction/elimination for that good.

3. Subject to the following paragraphs of this Article, a Party shall be free to take ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measures if as an effect of the obligations incurred by the Party under this Agreement, including tariff concessions, or, if as a result of unforeseen developments and of the effects of the obligations incurred by the Party, a good is being imported from the other Parties to which tariff concession was made for that good in such increased quantities, absolute or relative to domestic production, and under such conditions so as to substantially cause or threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic industry of the importing Party that produces like or directly competitive goods in its territory.

4. If an ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure is taken, a Party taking such a measure may:

- (a) suspend the further reduction of any rate of tariff provided for under this Agreement for the good; or
- (b) increase the tariff rate on the good concerned to a level not to exceed the lesser of:
 - (i) the applied MFN tariff rate on the good in effect at the time the action is taken; and
 - (ii) the applied MFN tariff rate on the good in effect on the day immediately preceding the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

5. Any ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure may be maintained for an initial period of up to three (3) years and may be extended for a period not exceeding one year if it is determined pursuant to the procedures referred to in paragraph 6 that the measure continues to be necessary to prevent or remedy serious injury and to facilitate adjustment and that there is evidence that the domestic industry is adjusting. Notwithstanding the duration of an ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure on the good, such a measure shall terminate at the end of the transition period for that good.

6. In applying ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measures, the Parties shall adopt the rules for the application of safeguard measures, including provisional measures, as provided under the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, with the exception of the quantitative restriction measures set out in Article 5,

and Articles 9, 13, and 14 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards. As such, all other provisions of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards shall, *mutatis mutandis*, be incorporated into and form an integral part of this Agreement.

7. An ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure shall not be applied against a good originating in the territory of a Party, so long as its share of imports of the good concerned in the importing Party does not exceed 3% of the total imports from the Parties.

8. In seeking compensation under Article 8 of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards for an ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure, the Parties concerned shall seek the good offices of the Implementing Committee to determine the substantially equivalent level of concessions to that existing under this Agreement between the Party taking the safeguard measure and the exporting Parties which would be affected by such a measure prior to any suspension of equivalent concessions. Any proceedings arising from such good offices shall be completed within ninety (90) days from the date on which the ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure was applied.

9. On a Party's termination of an ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure on a good, the tariff rate for that good shall be the rate that, according to that Party's tariff reduction and elimination programme as provided in Annexes 1 and 2, would have been in effect but for the measure.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, no Party may impose an ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure on a good to which actions are being applied pursuant to Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards. When a Party intends to apply, pursuant to Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, an action on a good to which ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure is being applied, it shall terminate the ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measure prior to the imposition of the action to be applied pursuant to Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards.

11. All official communications and documentations exchanged among the Parties and to the Implementing Committee relating to any ASEAN-Korea FTA safeguard measures shall be in writing and shall be in the English language.

Article 10

Measures to Safeguard the Balance of Payments

Where a Party is in serious balance of payments and external financial difficulties or threat thereof, it may, in accordance with GATT 1994, which includes the Understanding on Balance-of-Payments Provisions of GATT