

2. Nothing in this Chapter shall prevent the Parties from seeking or providing assistance to one another pursuant to other bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements.

3. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prejudice the policy or legal position of either Party regarding any issues related to jurisdiction.

4. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to affect the rights and obligations of either Party under other international agreements or arrangements or under its laws.

Chapter 11 Improvement of the Business Environment

Article 105 Basic Principles

Each Party shall, in accordance with its laws and regulations, take appropriate measures to further improve the business environment for the persons of the other Party conducting their business activities in the former Party.

Article 106 Government Procurement

Recognizing the importance of enhancing efficiency of its government procurement in improving the business environment in the Party, each Party, subject to its laws and regulations, policies, and practices on government procurement shall endeavor to:

- (a) enhance transparency of the measures regarding government procurement; and
- (b) implement in a fair and effective manner the measures regarding government procurement.

Article 107 Sub-Committee on Improvement of the Business Environment

1. For the purposes of the effective implementation and operation of this Chapter, the Sub-Committee on Improvement of the Business Environment (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as "the Sub-Committee") shall be established pursuant to Article 11.

2. The functions of the Sub-Committee shall be:

- (a) reviewing findings reported by a Liaison Office on Improvement of the Business Environment (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as the "Liaison Office") to be designated by each Party under Article 109;

- (b) addressing and seeking ways to resolve issues related to the business environment on its own initiative or based on the findings reported by the Liaison Office;
- (c) reporting its findings and making recommendations, including those on measures that should be taken by the Parties, to the Parties;
- (d) reviewing, where appropriate, the measures taken by the Parties in relation to such recommendations referred to in subparagraph (c);
- (e) making available to the public, in an appropriate manner, the recommendations referred to in subparagraph (c) and the results of the review referred to in subparagraph (d);
- (f) reporting promptly the recommendations referred to in subparagraph (c) and other findings in relation to the implementation and operation of this Chapter to the Joint Committee;
- (g) cooperating, in an appropriate manner, with other Sub-Committees established under this Agreement, with a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of works. The forms of such cooperation may include:
 - (i) informing the results of consideration to such other Sub-Committees;
 - (ii) seeking opinions from such other Sub-Committees;
 - (iii) inviting to the Sub-Committee the members of such other Sub-Committees; and
 - (iv) where appropriate, transferring the relevant issues to such other Sub-Committees.

3. The Sub-Committee shall be composed of representatives of the Governments of the Parties. The Sub-Committee may invite representatives of relevant entities other than the Governments of the Parties with the necessary expertise relevant to the issues to be addressed.

4. The Sub-Committee shall meet at such time and venue as may be agreed by the Parties.

Article 108 Consulting Fora

Where appropriate, the Parties may make use of existing consulting fora between the Parties for improvement of the business environment in the Parties in connection with the matters covered by this Chapter.

Article 109
Liaison Office

1. Each Party shall designate and maintain the Liaison Office in the Party. The designation of the Liaison Office by each Party shall be notified to the other Party.
2. The functions of the Liaison Office in each Party shall be:
 - (a) receiving complaints, inquiries, and/or requests for consultations from the persons of the other Party with regard to the laws, regulations, and other measures of the former Party which may adversely affect the business activities of such persons of the other Party;
 - (b) transmitting the complaints, inquiries, and/or requests for consultations referred to in subparagraph (a) to relevant authorities of the former Party;
 - (c) transmitting responses from the relevant authorities of the former Party to the persons that filed the complaints, made inquiries, and/or made request for consultations;
 - (d) providing the persons referred to in subparagraph (a) with necessary information and advice in collaboration with relevant authorities of the former Party; and
 - (e) reporting its findings, with regard to the exercise of its functions referred to in subparagraphs (a) through (d), to the Joint Committee, relevant Sub-Committees, and/or the existing consulting fora referred to in Article 108.
3. The Liaison Office in each Party shall endeavor to respond within a reasonable period of time to the persons that filed complaints, made inquiries, and/or made requests for consultations.
4. Communications between the Liaison Office in a Party and the persons of the other Party referred to in paragraph 2 may be conducted through an authority or an organization designated by the Government of the latter Party.
5. Paragraphs 2 through 4 shall not be construed as to prevent or restrict any contacts made by the persons of a Party directly to relevant authorities of the other Party.

Article 110
Non-application of Chapter 13

Chapter 13 shall not apply to this Chapter.

Chapter 12
Cooperation

Article 111
Basic Principles

The Parties shall, in accordance with their respective applicable laws and regulations, promote cooperation under this Agreement for their mutual benefits in order to liberalize and facilitate trade and investment between the Parties and to promote the well-being of the peoples of the Parties. For this purpose, the Parties shall cooperate between the Governments of the Parties and, where necessary and appropriate, encourage and facilitate cooperation between the parties, one or both of whom are entities other than the Governments of the Parties, in the following fields:

- (a) agriculture, forestry, and fisheries;
- (b) trade and investment promotion;
- (c) small and medium enterprises;
- (d) human resource management and development;
- (e) tourism;
- (f) information and communications technology;
- (g) environment;
- (h) transportation; and
- (i) other fields to be mutually agreed by the Parties.

Article 112
Areas and Forms of Cooperation

Areas and forms of cooperation under this Chapter shall be set forth in the Implementing Agreement.

Article 113
Implementation

1. The implementation of cooperation under this Chapter shall be subject to the availability of appropriated funds and other resources, and the applicable laws and regulations of each Party.