

ARTICLE 18

SPS MEASURES

1. The Contracting Parties shall ensure that any sanitary or phytosanitary measure is applied to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health and not prepared, adopted or applied so as to create unnecessary obstacles to mutual trade or to protect domestic production.
2. Sanitary and phytosanitary measures applied pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be based on internationally established scientific principles and supported by sufficient evidence, taking into account the availability of relevant scientific information and regional conditions.

ARTICLE 19

JOINT TRADE COMMITTEE

1. A Joint Trade Committee, consisting of Officials of the Contracting Parties, shall be established. The Committee shall meet initially within three months of the entry into force of the Agreement and thereafter at least once a year.
2. The Committee shall review the progress made in the implementation of this Agreement including the review of notified para-tariff and non tariff barriers, and undertake such function as is vested into it by this Agreement.

3. The Committee shall set out its rules of procedures during the its first meeting.

4. The Committee may set up any Sub-Committee(s) and /or Working Group(s) for such specific purposes as it may consider necessary.

ARTICLE 20

CONSULTATIONS

1. Each Contracting Party shall accord sympathetic consideration and shall afford adequate opportunity for consultations regarding such representations as may be made by the other Contracting Party with respect to any matter affecting the operation of this Agreement.

2. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party to consider any matter falling within the ambit of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 21

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

1. Any dispute that may arise between the Contracting Parties regarding the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement or any instrument adopted within its framework concerning the rights and obligation of the Contracting Parties shall be amicably settled through consultations.