

CHAPTER 14

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 14.1

The Joint Committee

1. The Parties hereby establish the Joint China-Switzerland Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Joint Committee”) comprising representatives of both Parties. The Parties shall be represented by senior officials delegated by them for this purpose.
2. The Joint Committee shall:
 - (a) supervise and review the implementation of this Agreement;
 - (b) keep under review the possibility of further removal of barriers to trade and other restrictive measures concerning trade between China and Switzerland;
 - (c) oversee the further elaboration of this Agreement;
 - (d) supervise the work of all sub-committees and working groups established under this Agreement;
 - (e) endeavour to resolve disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement; and
 - (f) consider any other matter that may affect the operation of this Agreement.
3. The Joint Committee may decide to set up such sub-committees and working groups as it considers necessary to assist it in accomplishing its tasks. Except where specifically provided for in this Agreement, the sub-committees and working groups shall work under a mandate established by the Joint Committee.
4. The Joint Committee shall take decisions as provided for in this Agreement, or make recommendations.
5. The Joint Committee shall meet within one year of the entry into force of this Agreement. Thereafter, it shall meet whenever necessary but normally once every two years. The meetings shall be chaired jointly. The Joint Committee shall establish its rules of procedure.
6. Each Party may request at any time, through a notice in writing to the other Party, that a special meeting of the Joint Committee be held. Such a meeting shall take place within 30 days of receipt of the request, unless the Parties agree otherwise.
7. The Joint Committee shall, in accordance with Article 16.3 consider proposals for any amendments to this Agreement submitted by a Party and recommend to the Parties amendments for adoption.

ARTICLE 14.2

Contact Points

For the purpose of facilitating communication between the Parties on any matter covered by this Agreement, the following contact points are designated:

- (a) for China: the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM); and
- (b) for Switzerland: the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).