

2. CARICOM also undertakes to consult with Venezuela in the Joint Council when any changes in the rate structure of the Customs Tariff are contemplated.

3. CARICOM further undertakes that Member States of CARICOM will not, without prior consultation with Venezuela, apply any quantitative restrictions, beyond those currently in place or those authorised under the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community, with respect to imports from Venezuela.

Article 7: TECHNICAL NORMS

The Joint Council shall study the technical, industrial, commercial norms and those governing public health of the Parties and shall recommend the actions which it considers necessary to ensure that these norms do not constitute an obstacle to trade between the Parties.

Article 8: GENERAL EXCEPTIONS

This Agreement allows the adoption or enforcement by Venezuela or any Member State of CARICOM of measures such as the following, provided that they are not used as obstacles to trade:

- (a) necessary to protect public morals;
- (b) necessary for the prevention of disorder or crime;
- (c) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations relating to customs enforcement, or to the classification, grading or marketing of goods, or to the operation of monopolies by means of state enterprises or enterprises given exclusive or special privileges;
- (d) necessary to protect industrial property, trademarks, or copyrights or to prevent deceptive practices;
- (e) relating to gold or silver;
- (f) relating to the products of prison labour;
- (g) imposed for the protection of national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value;
- (h) necessary to prevent or relieve critical shortages of foodstuffs in any exporting Party, or
- (i) relating to the conservation of exhaustible natural resources.

Article 9: TREATMENT OF INVESTMENTS