- 3. Taking into account the role of agriculture in their respective economies, the development of trade in agricultural products, the high sensitivity of agricultural products, the rules of their respective agricultural policy and the development of the liberalization of trade in agricultural products under the WTO, the Parties shall examine in the Joint Committee meetings the possibilities of granting further concessions to each other in trade in agricultural products.
- 4. The Parties shall communicate each other of the changes in their respective agricultural policies pursued or measures applied, which may affect the conditions of agricultural trade between the Parties as provided for in this Agreement. On the request of a Party prompt consultations within the Joint Committee shall be held to examine the situation.

ARTICLE 10 Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

The Parties shall not apply their regulations in sanitary and phytosanitary matters as an arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade between them. The Parties shall apply their sanitary and phytosanitary measures within the rules and procedures of the GATT 1994 and the other relevant WTO agreements.

CHAPTER III

COMMON PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 11 Internal Taxation

- 1. The Parties commit themselves to apply any internal taxes and other charges and regulations in accordance with Article III of the GATT 1994 and other relevant WTO Agreements.
- 2. Exporters shall not benefit from refunds of internal indirect taxation, which exceeds the amount of indirect taxation that has been directly or indirectly imposed on products exported to the territory of one of the Parties.

ARTICLE 12 Trade Relations Governed by Other Agreements

1. This Agreement shall not prevent the maintenance or establishment of customs unions, free trade areas or arrangements for cross-border trade of the Parties with third countries to the extent that these do not negatively affect the trade regime and in particular the provisions concerning rules of origin provided for in this Agreement.

2. Exchange of information between the Parties shall take place within the Joint Committee concerning agreements establishing customs unions or free trade areas and, where appropriate, on other major issues related to their respective trade policies with third countries. Such an exchange of information shall take place so as to ensure that account is taken of the mutual interests of the Parties stated in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 13 Dumping

If a Party finds that dumping, within the meaning of Article VI of GATT 1994 is taking place in trade relations governed by this Agreement, it may take appropriate measures against that practice in accordance with Article VI of the GATT 1994 and the rules established by agreements related to that Article.

ARTICLE 14 Safeguard Measures

- 1. Where any product is being imported into either of the Parties in such increased quantities, each Party retains its rights and obligations under Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguard Measures. This Agreement does not confer any additional rights or obligations on the Parties with regard to safeguard measures.
- 2. The provisions of Article XIX of GATT 1994 and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards shall apply between the Parties.

ARTICLE 15 Re-export and Serious Shortage

- 1. Where compliance with the provisions of Article 6 and 7 leads to:
 - a) re-export towards a third country against which the exporting Party maintains, for the product concerned, quantitative export restrictions, export duties or measures or charges having equivalent effect; or
 - b) a serious shortage, or threat thereof, of a product essential to the exporting Party; and where the situations referred to above give rise or are likely to give rise to major difficulties for the exporting Party, that Party may take appropriate measures according to the procedures laid down in paragraph 2.
- 2. The difficulties arising from the situations referred to in paragraph 1 shall be submitted for examination to the Joint Committee. The Committee may take any

decision needed to put an end to the difficulties. If it has not taken such a decision within thirty days of the matter being referred to it, the exporting Party may apply appropriate measures on the exportation of the product concerned. The measures shall be nondiscriminatory and be eliminated when conditions no longer justify their maintenance.

ARTICLE 16 General Exceptions

This Agreement shall not preclude prohibitions or restrictions on imports, exports or goods in transit justified on grounds of public morality, public policy or public security; the protection of health and life of humans, animals or plants and environment; the protection of national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value; the protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property. Such prohibitions or restrictions must not, however, constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade between the Parties.

ARTICLE 17 Balance of Payments Difficulties

Where either Party is in a serious balance of payments difficulties or under threat thereof, the Party concerned may in accordance with the conditions laid down within the framework of WTO Agreement, adopt restrictive measures, which shall be of limited duration and may not go beyond what is necessary to remedy the balance of payments situation. The Party concerned shall inform the other Party forthwith of their introduction and present to the other Party, as soon as possible, a time schedule of their removal.

ARTICLE 18 Rules of Origin and Cooperation between the Customs Administrations

- 1. The Parties agreed to apply the preferential rules of origin in trade between them.
- 2. Protocol II to this Agreement lays down the preferential rules of origin and related methods of administrative co-operation.
- 3. In case these rules of origin are amended, the Joint Committee shall initiate procedure of amending rules of origin.

CHAPTER IV