Article 26
Procedure for Applying Safeguards

1. First before initiating the procedure for applying safeguards stipulated in this Articles, the Parties shall attempt the regulate through direct consultations any contradictions that arose between them.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Item 6 of the present Article, in case any of the Parties believes that the other Party does not perform its obligations, causes or threatens to cause damage to the economic interests of the first Party, it may request the other Party for consultations that have to be held within two months from the date of the written request in order to seek a decision acceptable to both Parties. To the written request shall be attached all the information relating the essence of the problem.

3. a) As regards articles 16 and 17 of the present Agreement, the Working Group shall have to consider the case or situation and may make a necessary decision to resolve the disputes presented by one of the Parties. In case of lack of such decision within 30 days from the date of submission of the Working Group's application, the Party concern may take necessary measures to resolve the situation.
b) As regards articles 16 and 17 of the present Agreement, the Party concerned shall have to render the Working Group all-out assistance for the consideration of the case or situation and as far as possible dispose of the existing problem.

4. The opposite Party shall notify without delay the application of safeguards. The latter shall be restricted in space and time that is necessary for rectifying the situation that ensued, and shall not be more than the damages caused by the said situation. In the choice of such safeguards preference should be given to those that in the least degree affect the validity of the present Agreement. The application of such safeguards has to be terminated immediately after the other Party annuls the decisions, as a result of which the safeguards were introduced.

5. The application of safeguards shall be the subject of periodical consultations within the Working Group, since they should be substituted or annulled as quickly as possible in cases when the conditions of their continued application are no longer justified.

6. In cases when emergencies calling for immediate actions make their consideration impossible, the Party concerned may, on the basis of the provisions of articles 20, 21 and 22 of the present Agreement, immediately apply temporary measures that are required for resolving the situation. The opposite Party shall without delay notify about the applied measures, and the Parties begin consultations within the Working Group.

Section IV
Final Provisions

Article 27
Working Group

1. By the present Agreement a Working Group shall be established to include representatives of the Parties.

2. The Working Group shall exercise control over the application of the present Agreement.

3. For the application of the present Agreement, the Parties shall exchange corresponding information, and, by request of each of the Parties, hold consultations within the Working Group.

Article 28
Procedures of the Working Group

1. For the execution of the provisions of the present Agreement, The Working Group shall be convened when necessary alternately in Kyiv or Chisinau, but not less than once a year. Each of the Parties may request to convene the Working Group not later than 3 months from the moment of submission of a petition.

2. In order to perform the present Agreement, the Working Group shall adopt its procedural rules.

Article 29
The Agreement as Compared to Other International Agreements

1. None of the provisions of the present Agreement shall be interpreted and/or applied contrary to rules and principles of the WTO, and in no manner violate the rights and obligations of the Parties, which derive from the status of members of this organization. The present Agreement shall not hinder the Parties for establishing other free trade areas, or their participation in other forms of economic integration (in particular, with the participation of the European Union) of special agreements on border trade, provided they do not negatively affect the existing trade regime between the Parties and, specifically, the provisions related to the rules of the commodities' origin, as provided for by the present Agreement.

2. If there are inconsistencies and differences in the interpretation of the provisions of the present Agreement and norms of WTO agreements, the norms of WTO agreements shall be of priority importance.

Article 30
Settlement of Disputes

1. All disputes that arise from the interpretation or application of the provisions of the present Agreement shall be settled by mutual agreement, giving preference to the consultations within the Working Group.

2. If the settlement of a dispute specified in Item 1 of this Article was not possible within the Working Group or three months elapsed since the first notification by the opposite Party about the substance of the dispute, the derogated Party shall be entitled to take measures derived from its WTO member status and, in particular, from the agreement on the rules and procedures governing the settlement of disputes in WTO.

Article 31
Amendments and Additions

1. The provisions of the present Agreement may be amended and supplemented. Such amendments and additions shall be formalized in annexes (protocols).

2. Such annexes (protocols) shall be an inseparable part of the present Agreement.

Article 32
Effectiveness

The present Agreement shall come into force from the moment of receipt of the last notification about the performance by each of the Parties of the inter-state procedures required for this purpose.

Article 33
Validity Period

1. The present Agreement has been concluded for an indefinite period.

2. Each of the Parties may terminate the effect of the Agreement by forwarding a corresponding written notification to the other Party. The effect of the Agreement shall terminate six months after the receipt of a corresponding notification by the other Party.

In witness whereof, the Parties hereto, acting through their duly authorized representatives, have caused this Agreement to be signed.

Made at the city of Chisinau on November 13, 2003 in two valid copies, each in the Ukrainian, Uzbek and Russian languages, each text being of equal force.

In case of differences in interpreting the provisions of the present Agreement, preference shall be given to the text in the Russian language.

Law of Ukraine
On the Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement
between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine
and the Government of the Republic of Moldova

The Ukrainian Parliament **has resolved**:

To ratify the *Free Trade Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Moldova* (attached) made at the city of Chisinau on November 13, 2003 with the following reservation:

“The Agreement shall come into force from the moment of Ukraine’s accession to the World Trade Organization.”