

(c) to prevent any Party from taking action in pursuance of its obligations under the United Nations Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

3. Except as set out in this paragraph, nothing in this Agreement shall apply to taxation measures.

(a) Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the rights and obligations of either Party under any tax convention. In the event of any inconsistency between this Agreement and any such convention, that convention shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

(b) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a), Article 2.3 and such other provisions of this Agreement as are necessary to give effect to Article 2.3 shall apply to taxation measures to the same extent as does Article III of the GATT 1994.

(c) Notwithstanding subparagraph (a), the national treatment commitment under Article 3.2 shall apply to taxation measures to the same extent as under the GATS, and the national treatment commitment under Article 3.2(b) shall apply to taxation measures to the same extent as if the Party had made an identical national treatment commitment under Article XVII of the GATS.

ARTICLE 13: ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

To realize the objectives of this Agreement and to contribute to the implementation of its provisions:

(a) the Parties declare their readiness to foster economic cooperation; and

(b) in view of Jordan's developing status, and the size of its economy and resources, the United States shall strive to furnish Jordan with economic technical assistance, as appropriate.

ARTICLE 14: RULES OF ORIGIN AND COOPERATION IN CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

1. The Parties recognize that the rules regarding eligibility for the preferential tariff treatment afforded by this Agreement, as set out in Article 2 and Annex 2.2, are crucial to the functioning of this Agreement, and each Party shall strive to administer such rules effectively, uniformly, and consistently with the object and purpose of this Agreement and the WTO Agreement.

2. The Parties shall consult as appropriate, through the Joint Committee or through the consultative mechanism established in Article 16:

(a) to agree upon the means to cooperate and provide administrative assistance to achieve the commitments in paragraph 1; and

(b) to address situations pertaining to claims of preferential treatment under this Agreement for imported goods that do not satisfy the requirements in Annex 2.2.

3. The Parties, within 180 days after the entry into force of this Agreement, shall enter into discussions with a view to developing interpretative and explanatory materials on the implementation of Annex 2.2.

ARTICLE 15: JOINT COMMITTEE

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established to supervise the proper implementation of this Agreement and to review the trade relationship between the Parties.

2. The functions of the Joint Committee shall include, *inter alia*:

- (a) reviewing the general functioning of this Agreement;
- (b) reviewing the results of this Agreement in light of the experience gained during its functioning and its objectives, and considering ways of improving trade relations between the Parties, and furthering the objectives of the Agreement, including through further cooperation and assistance;
- (c) facilitating the avoidance and settlement of disputes, including through consultations pursuant to Articles 17.1 (b) and 17.2 (a);
- (d) considering and adopting any amendment to this Agreement or modification to the commitments therein, provided that the adoption of such amendment or modification shall be subject to the domestic legal requirements of each Party;
- (e) developing guidelines, explanatory materials, and rules on the proper implementation of this Agreement, as necessary, and particularly: (i) guidelines and explanatory materials on the implementation of Annex 2.2, and (ii) rules for the selection and conduct of members of panels formed under Article 17, and model rules of procedure for such panels;
- (f) at its first meeting, discussing the review performed by each Party of the environmental effects of this Agreement.

3. Structure of the Joint Committee

(a) The Joint Committee shall be composed of representatives of the Parties and shall be headed by (i) the United States Trade Representative and (ii) Jordan's Minister primarily responsible for international trade, or their designees.

(b) The Joint Committee may establish and delegate responsibilities to ad hoc and standing committees or working groups, and seek the advice of non-governmental persons or groups.

4. The Joint Committee shall convene at least once a year in regular session in order to review the general functioning of the Agreement. Regular sessions of the Joint Committee shall be held alternately in each country. Special meetings of the Joint Committee shall also be convened within 30 days at the request of either Party and shall be held in the territory of the other Party, except as the Parties may otherwise agree. The Joint Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure. All decisions of the Joint Committee shall be taken by consensus.