

(g) They may include, among others, specific rules regarding origin, safeguard clauses, non-tariff restrictions, withdrawal of concessions, renegotiation of concessions, denouncement, coordination and harmonization of policies. Should these specific rules not have been adopted, the general provisions to be established by member countries on the respective matters shall be taken into account.

Article 10

Trade agreements are exclusively aimed towards trade promotion among member countries, and shall be subject to the specific rules to be established for that purpose.

Article 11

Economic complementation agreements are aimed, among other objectives, to promote maximum utilization of production factors, stimulate economic complementation, ensure equitable conditions for competition, facilitate entry of products into the international market, and encourage the balanced and harmonious development of member countries.

These agreements shall be subject to the specific rules to be established for that purpose.

Article 12

Agricultural agreements are aimed to promote and regulate intraregional trade of agricultural and livestock products. They shall contemplate flexibility elements bearing in mind the participating countries' socio-economic characteristics of production. These agreements may refer to specific products or groups of products, and may be based on temporary, seasonal, per quota or mixed concessions, or on contracts between State or para-State organizations. They shall be subject to the specific rules to be established for that purpose.

Article 13

Trade promotion agreements shall refer to non-tariff matters and tend to promote intraregional trade flows. They shall be subject to the specific rules to be established for that purpose.

Article 14

Member countries may establish, through the corresponding regulations, specific rules to conclude other modalities of partial scope agreements.

For this purpose, they shall take into consideration, among other matters, scientific and technological cooperation, tourism promotion and preservation of the environment.

CHAPTER III

System in favour of countries at a relatively less advanced stage of economic development

Article 15

Member countries shall establish conditions favouring participation of countries at a relatively less advanced stage of economic development in the economic integration process, based on the principles of non-reciprocity and community cooperation.

Article 16

For the purpose of ensuring them an effective preferential treatment, member countries shall establish market openings as well as set up programmes and other specific forms of cooperation.

Article 17

Actions favouring relatively less developed countries shall be concluded through regional scope and partial scope agreements.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of such agreements, member countries shall execute negotiated rules concerning preservation of preferences, elimination of non-tariff restrictions and application of safeguard clauses in justified cases.

First section – Regional scope agreements

Article 18

For each relatively less developed country, member countries shall approve negotiated lists of preferably industrial products originating from each relatively less developed country, for which total elimination of customs duties and other restrictions shall be accorded, without reciprocity, by all other member countries of the Association.

Member countries shall set up the necessary procedures to achieve progressive extension of the respective liberalization lists. Corresponding negotiations may be carried out when deemed convenient.

At the same time, member countries shall endeavour to set up effective compensation mechanisms to take care of negative effects which might influence intraregional trade of the relatively less developed landlocked countries.

Second section – Partial scope agreements

Article 19

Partial scope agreements negotiated by the relatively less developed countries with other member countries shall conform, wherever pertinent, with the provisions contained in Articles 8 and 9 of the present Treaty.

Article 20

In order to encourage effective and collective cooperation in favour of relatively less developed countries, member countries shall negotiate Special Cooperation Programmes with each one of them.

Article 21

In order to facilitate utilization of tariff cuts, member countries may set up cooperation programmes and actions in the fields of pre-investment, financing and technology, mainly directed towards supporting the relatively less developed countries, with special regard, among them, to landlocked countries.

Article 22

Notwithstanding the preceding Articles, treatments in favour of relatively less developed countries may include collective and partial cooperation actions calling for effective mechanisms

meant to compensate the disadvantageous situation faced by Bolivia and Paraguay due to their landlocked location.

Provided that criteria referred to gradual timing are adopted within the regional tariff preference referred to in Article 5 of the present Treaty, attempts shall be made to preserve the margins granted in favour of landlocked countries by means of cumulative tariff cuts.

At the same time, attempts shall be made to establish compensation formulae, both as regards the regional tariff preference when deepened, and regional and partial scope agreements.

Article 23

Member countries shall endeavour to grant landlocked countries facilities to establish free zones, warehouses or ports and other administrative international transit facilities in their territories.

CHAPTER IV

Convergence and cooperation with other Latin American countries and areas of economic integration

Article 24

Member countries may establish multilateral association or relationship systems encouraging convergence with other countries and areas of economic integration of Latin America, including the possibility of agreeing with these countries or areas the establishment of a Latin American tariff preference.

Member countries shall in due course regulate the characteristics of these systems.

Article 25

Likewise, member countries may draw up partial scope agreements with other Latin American countries and areas of economic integration, in accordance with the various modalities foreseen in the third section of Chapter II of the present Treaty, and under the terms of the respective regulative provisions.

Notwithstanding the above, these agreements shall be subject to the following rules:

(a) Concessions granted by participating member countries shall not be extensive to the others, excepting the relatively less developed countries;

(b) When a member country includes products already negotiated in partial agreements with other member countries, concessions granted may be higher than those agreed with the former; in this case, consultation with the affected member countries shall be carried out in order to find mutually satisfactory solutions, unless the respective partial agreements include clauses concerning automatic extension or waiver of preferences contained in the partial agreements referred to in the present Article; and

(c) They shall be multilaterally assessed by the member countries within the Committee in order to acknowledge the scope of the agreements drawn up and facilitate participation of other member countries in same.