

Chapter 14 Administration

Article 14.1 The Free Trade Commission

1. The Parties hereby establish the Free Trade Commission (Commission), comprising representatives of the Parties as follows:

(a) in the case of China, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM); and

(b) in the case of Ecuador, the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries (MPCEIP).

2. The Commission shall:

(a) supervise the implementation of this Agreement;

(b) oversee the further elaboration of this Agreement;

(c) seek to resolve disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement;

(d) supervise the work of all committees and working groups established under this Agreement;

(e) establish the amounts of remuneration and expenses that will be paid to panelists; and

(f) consider any other matter that may affect the operation of this Agreement.

3. The Commission may:

(a) establish and delegate responsibilities to committees and working groups;

(b) further the implementation of the Agreement's objectives by consulting any modifications of:

(i) the Schedules attached to Annex 2 (Schedules of Tariff Commitment), by accelerating tariff elimination,

(ii) the Chapter 4 (Rules of Origin and Implementation Procedures),

(c) take such other action in the exercise of its functions as the Parties may agree.

4. The Commission shall establish its rules and procedures. All decisions of the Commission shall be taken by mutual agreement.

5. The Commission shall convene once a year in regular session, or as otherwise mutually determined by the Parties. Regular sessions of the Commission shall be hosted

and chaired alternatively by each Party.

Article 14.2 Administration of Dispute Settlement Proceedings

1. Each Party shall designate an office that shall provide administrative assistance to arbitral panels established under Chapter 13 (Dispute Settlement) and perform such other functions as the Commission may direct.

2. Each Party shall be responsible for the operation and costs of its designated office, and shall notify the Commission of the coordinates of its office.