

CHAPTER 8

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8.1 Fulfilment of Obligations

Each Party is fully responsible for the observance of all provisions in this Agreement and shall take such reasonable measures as may be available to it to ensure their observance by, as applicable, its regional and local governments and authorities, and non-governmental bodies in the exercise of governmental powers delegated to them within its territory.

Article 8.2 Annexes, Appendices and Footnotes

The Annexes to this Agreement, including their Appendices, and footnotes constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 8.3 Entry into Force

1. This Agreement is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with the respective legal requirements of each Party. The completion of ratification, acceptance or approval procedures shall be notified to the Depositary.
2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date on which at least three signatories to this Agreement have notified the Depositary in writing of the completion of their applicable legal procedures.
3. For any signatory to this Agreement for which this Agreement has not entered into force under paragraph 2, this Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date on which that signatory has notified the Depositary in writing of the completion of its applicable legal procedures.

Article 8.4 Amended or Successor International Agreements

If any international agreement referred to in, or incorporated into, this Agreement is amended or succeeded, the Parties shall upon request of a Party consult on whether it is necessary to amend this Agreement.

Article 8.5 Amendments

1. This Agreement may be amended by agreement in writing of all the Parties. Any Party may submit proposals for amendments to this Agreement to the Joint Commission for consideration. Amendments shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with the respective legal requirements of each Party.
2. An amendment to this Agreement shall enter into force for those Parties that have ratified, accepted or approved it on the first day of the third month following the date on which at least three-fourths of the Parties have notified the Depository of the completion of their ratification, acceptance or approval procedures, or on such other date as the Parties may agree. If a Party notifies the completion of its ratification, acceptance or approval after the amendment has entered into force, the amendment shall enter into force for that Party on the first day of the third month following its notification.
3. If its respective legal requirements permit, a Party may apply an amendment provisionally, pending its entry into force for that Party. Provisional application of an amendment shall be notified to the Depository.

Article 8.6 Accession

1. This Agreement shall be open to requests for accessions from any WTO Member, who may accede subject to such terms and conditions as may be agreed between the Parties and the accession candidate and approved in accordance with the applicable legal procedures of each Party.
2. An accession candidate may seek to accede to this Agreement by submitting a request in writing to the Depository.
3. If the Joint Commission, in accordance with Article 6.2 (Functions of the Joint Commission), adopts a decision approving the terms for an accession and inviting an accession candidate to become a Party, that decision shall specify a period, which may be subject to extension by agreement of the Parties, during which the accession candidate may deposit an instrument with the Depository indicating that it accepts the terms for the accession.
4. An accession candidate shall become a Party to this Agreement, subject to the terms for the accession approved in the Joint Commission's decision pursuant to paragraph 3, either:
 - (a) on the first day of the third month following the date on which the accession candidate deposits an instrument of accession with the Depository indicating that it accepts the terms for the accession; or

- (b) on the first day of the third month following the date on which all the Parties have notified the Depositary that they have completed their respective applicable legal procedures for the approval of the terms for the accession,

whichever is later.

5. Without prejudice to paragraph 1, an expedited accession process may be considered for WTO Members that participated in the negotiation of this Agreement.

Article 8.7 Withdrawal

Any Party may withdraw from this Agreement by providing written notice of withdrawal to the Depositary. Such withdrawal shall take effect six months after the notice of withdrawal is received by the Depositary. If a Party withdraws, this Agreement shall remain in force for the other Parties.

Article 8.8 Depositary

1. New Zealand is hereby designated as the Depositary of this Agreement.
2. The Depositary shall transmit certified copies of this Agreement and any amendment to this Agreement to all signatories and Parties to this Agreement as well as accession candidates.
3. The Depositary shall notify all signatories and Parties to this Agreement as well as accession candidates as appropriate of:
 - (a) each ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with Article 8.3 (Entry into Force), Article 8.5 (Amendments) and Article 8.6 (Accession);
 - (b) the respective dates on which this Agreement or an amendment enters into force in accordance with Article 8.3 (Entry into Force), Article 8.5 (Amendments) and Article 8.6 (Accession);
 - (c) any notification of withdrawal received in accordance with Article 8.7 (Withdrawal); and
 - (d) the date on which a withdrawal enters into effect in accordance with Article 8.7 (Withdrawal).

Article 8.9
Authentic texts

The English, French and Spanish texts of this Agreement are equally authentic. In the event of any divergence between those texts, the English text shall prevail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE the fifteenth day of November, two thousand and twenty-four, in one original in the English, French and Spanish languages.