ARTICLE 3.22

Administrative cooperation

1. In order to ensure the proper application of this Chapter, the Parties shall cooperate, through the customs authority of each Party, in verifying whether a product is originating and in compliance with the other requirements provided for in this Chapter.

2. If the claim for preferential tariff treatment was based on a statement on origin referred to in subparagraph 2(a) of Article 3.16, after having first requested information in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 3.21, the customs authority of the importing Party conducting the verification may also request information from the customs authority of the exporting Party within a period of two years after the importation of the products if the customs authority of the importing Party conducting the verification considers that additional information is necessary in order to verify the originating status of the product. The request for information should include the following information:

(a) the statement on origin;

(b) the identity of the customs authority issuing the request;

(c) the name of the exporter;

(d) the subject and scope of the verification; and

(e) if applicable, any relevant documentation.

In addition to this information, the customs authority of the importing Party may request the customs authority of the exporting Party for specific documentation and information, where appropriate.

3. The customs authority of the exporting Party may, in accordance with its laws and regulations, request documentation or examination by calling for any evidence or by visiting the premises of the exporter to review records and observe the facilities used in the production of the product.

4. Without prejudice to paragraph 5, the customs authority of the exporting Party receiving the request referred to in paragraph 2 shall provide the customs authority of the importing Party with the following information:

(a) the requested documentation, where available;

(b) an opinion on the originating status of the product;

(c) the description of the product subject to examination and the tariff classification relevant to the application of this Chapter;

(d) a description and explanation of the production process sufficient to support the originating status of the product;