4. Each Party shall ensure that the decisions of, and the procedures used by, its regulatory authority are impartial with respect to all market participants.

5. Each Party shall ensure that its regulatory authority performs its tasks in a transparent manner and, to the extent practicable, without undue delay.

6. Each Party shall provide its regulatory authority with the power to request from suppliers of telecommunications networks and services all the information, including financial information, which is necessary to carry out its tasks in accordance with this Sub-Section. The regulatory authority shall not request more information than that which is necessary to perform its tasks and shall treat the information obtained from those suppliers in accordance with the laws and regulations of that Party relating to business confidentiality.

ARTICLE 8.50

Universal service

1. Each Party has the right to define the kind of universal service obligations it wishes to maintain. Those obligations are not be regarded as anti-competitive *per se*, provided that they are administered in a transparent, objective, non-discriminatory and competitively neutral manner and are not more burdensome than necessary for the kind of universal service defined by the Party.

2. All suppliers of telecommunications services should be eligible to provide universal service. Universal service suppliers shall be designated through a transparent, non-discriminatory and not unduly burdensome mechanism.

3. The regulatory authority of a Party may determine whether a mechanism is required in order to compensate the net cost of the suppliers designated to provide universal service, taking into account the market benefit, if any, accruing to those suppliers, or to share the net cost of the universal service obligations.

ARTICLE 8.51

Authorisation to provide telecommunications networks and services

1. Each Party shall authorise the provision of telecommunications networks or services, to the extent possible, upon simple notification or registration without requiring a prior explicit decision by its regulatory authority. The rights and obligations resulting from such authorisation shall be made publicly available in an easily accessible form.

2. If necessary, a Party may require a licence for the right of use for radio frequencies and numbers, in particular in order to:

(a) avoid harmful interference;