Chapter 15
Administration of the Agreement

Article 148
Joint Committee

1. The Parties hereby establish the Joint Committee which shall be co-chaired by senior officials of the Parties.

2. The functions of the Joint Committee shall be:

(a) reviewing and monitoring the implementation and operation of this Agreement;

(b) considering and recommending to the Parties any amendments to this Agreement;

(c) supervising and coordinating the work of all Sub-Committees and *ad hoc* working groups established pursuant to this Agreement;

(d) endeavouring to resolve disputes between the Parties about any matter concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement;

(e) adopting the Operational Procedures for Trade in Goods and the Operational Procedures for Rules of Origin, referred to in Article 24 and Article XXVIII of Annex II, respectively;

(f) reviewing and amending, as necessary, the Operational Procedures referred to in subparagraph (e);

(g) adopting any necessary decisions for the operation of this Agreement; and

(h) carrying out other functions as the Parties may agree or as provided for in this Agreement.

3. The Joint Committee may establish Sub-Committees or *ad hoc* working groups to assist it in carrying out its functions. The mandate of the Sub-Committees or *ad hoc* working groups shall be established by the Joint Committee except where specifically provided for in this Agreement.

4. The Joint Committee shall establish its rules of procedures.

5. The Joint Committee shall meet, in principle, every two years at such venue as may be agreed by the Parties. Each Party may, in cases of urgency, request in writing to the other Party that a special meeting of the Joint Committee be held. Upon such request, the Parties shall make every effort to hold the special meeting within 30 days. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, a special meeting can be held at any appropriate level.

Article 149
Communications

1. Each Party shall designate upon entry into force of this Agreement a contact point to facilitate communications between the Parties on any matter relating to this Agreement.

2. Communications referred to in paragraph 1 shall be made in English.