5. The Sub-Committee may, if necessary, establish ad hoc technical working groups as its subsidiary bodies relating to a specific area of SPS measures.

Article 49
Non-application of Chapter 13

Chapter 13 shall not apply to this Chapter.

Chapter 6
Technical Regulations, Standards, and Conformity Assessment Procedures

Article 50
Objectives

The objectives of this Chapter are to promote trade between the Parties by:

(a) ensuring that technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade;

(b) promoting mutual understanding of the technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures in each Party;

(c) strengthening information exchange and cooperation between the Parties in relation to the preparation, adoption, and application of technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures;

(d) strengthening cooperation between the Parties at international and regional fora on the work related to standardization and conformity assessments; and

(e) providing a framework to realize these objectives.

Article 51
Scope

1. This Chapter shall apply to technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures as defined in the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as "TBT Agreement").

2. This Chapter shall not apply to purchasing specifications prepared by governmental bodies for production or consumption requirements of governmental bodies and sanitary and phytosanitary measures as defined in Annex A of the SPS Agreement.

3. Nothing in this Chapter shall limit the right of a Party to prepare, adopt, and apply technical regulations and standards, to the extent necessary, to fulfill a legitimate objective. Such legitimate objectives are, *inter alia*, national security requirements; the prevention of deceptive practices; and protection of human health or safety, animal or plant life or health, or the environment.

Article 52
Reaffirmation of Rights and Obligations

The Parties reaffirm their rights and obligations relating to technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures under the TBT Agreement.

Article 53
Cooperation

1. For the purposes of ensuring that technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade in goods between the Parties, the Parties shall, where possible, cooperate in the field of technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures.

2. The forms of cooperation pursuant to paragraph 1 may include the following:

(a) conducting joint studies and holding seminars, in order to enhance mutual understanding of technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures in each Party;

(b) exchanging government officials of the Parties for training purposes;

(c) exchanging information on technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures;

(d) contributing, where appropriate, jointly to the activities related to technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures in international and regional fora;

(e) encouraging the bodies responsible for technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures in each Party to cooperate on matters of mutual interest; and

(f) enhancing participation in the existing framework for mutual recognition established under international agreements or developed by relevant international and regional bodies.