If the competent governmental authority of the exporting Party fails to respond to the request within the period specified therein, the customs authority of the importing Party shall determine that the good subject to the verification does not qualify as an originating good, therefore considering the proof of origin as not valid, and shall deny it preferential tariff treatment.

4. The customs authority of the importing Party shall send the questionnaires referred to in subparagraph 1(b), to the exporters or producers in the exporting Party, in the manner specified in the Uniform Regulations referred to in Article 10.

5. The provisions of paragraph 1 above shall not prevent the customs authority or the competent governmental authority, as the case may be, of the importing Party from exercising its powers to take action in that Party, in relation with the compliance with its domestic laws and regulations by its own importers, exporters, or producers.

6. The exporter or producer who receives a questionnaire pursuant to subparagraph 1(b) shall have 45 days from the date of its receipt to answer such questionnaire and return it.

7. Where the importing Party has received the answer to the questionnaire referred to in subparagraph 1(b) within the period specified in paragraph 6 above, and considers that it requires more information to determine whether the good subject to the verification qualifies as an originating good, it may, through its customs authority, request additional information from the exporter or producer, by means of a subsequent questionnaire, in which case, the exporter or producer shall have 45 days from the date of its receipt to answer and return it.

8. (a) If the response by the exporter or producer to any of the questionnaires referred to in paragraph 6 or 7 above does not contain sufficient information to determine that the good is originating, the customs authority of the importing Party may determine that the good subject to the verification does not qualify as an originating good and may deny it preferential tariff treatment, upon written determination under paragraph 22 below.

(b) If the response to the questionnaire referred to in paragraph 6 above is not returned within the period specified therein, the customs authority of the importing Party shall determine that the good subject to the verification does not qualify as an originating good, therefore considering the proof of origin as not valid, and shall deny it preferential tariff treatment.

9. The conducting of a verification in accordance with one of the methods set forth in paragraph 1 above shall not preclude the use of another verification method provided for in paragraph 1 above.

10. When requesting the exporting Party to conduct a visit pursuant to subparagraph 1(c), the importing Party shall deliver a written communication with such request to the exporting Party, the receipt of which is to be confirmed by the latter Party, at least 30 days in advance of the proposed date of the visit. The competent governmental authority of the exporting Party shall request the written consent of the exporter or producer whose premises are to be visited.

11. The communication referred to in paragraph 10 above shall include:

(a) the identity of the customs authority issuing the communication;