Article 1.5
Administrative Proceedings

1. Where administrative decisions which pertain to or affect the implementation and operation of this Agreement are taken by the competent authorities of the Government of a Party, the competent authorities shall, subject to the laws and regulations of the Party:

(a) inform the applicant of the decision within a reasonable period of time after the submission of the application considered complete under the laws and regulations of the Party; and

(b) provide, within a reasonable period of time, information concerning the status of the application, on request of the applicant.

2. Recognising the importance of administering its laws, regulations, administrative procedures, and administrative rulings of general application in a consistent, impartial and reasonable manner, each Party shall ensure, subject to its laws and regulations, that its competent authorities, prior to any final administrative decision which imposes obligations on or restricts rights of a person, provide that person with:

(a) when the process is initiated, reasonable notice, including a description of the nature of the measure, specific provisions upon which such measure will be based, and the facts which may be a cause of taking such measure; and

(b) a reasonable opportunity to present facts and arguments in support of the positions of such person,

provided that time, the nature of the measure and the public interest permit.

Article 1.6
Review and Appeal

1. Each Party shall maintain judicial or administrative tribunals or procedures for the purpose of the prompt review and, where warranted, correction of administrative actions relating to matters covered by this Agreement. Such tribunals or procedures shall be impartial and independent of the authorities entrusted with the administrative enforcement of such actions.

2. Each Party shall ensure that the parties in any such tribunals or procedures are provided with the right to:

(a) a reasonable opportunity to support or defend their respective positions; and

(b) a decision based on the evidence and submissions of record.

3. Each Party shall ensure, subject to appeal or further review as provided for in its laws and regulations, that such decision is implemented by the relevant competent authorities with respect to the administrative action at issue.

Article 1.7
Confidential Information

1. Each Party shall, subject to its laws and regulations, maintain the confidentiality of information provided in confidence by the other Party pursuant to this Agreement.

2. Unless otherwise provided for in this Agreement, nothing in this Agreement shall require a Party to provide confidential information, the disclosure of which would impede law enforcement, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest, or which would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private.