3. The Sub-Committee:

(a) shall be composed of and co-chaired by representatives of the Governments of the Parties; and

(b) may invite, by consensus, representatives of relevant entities other than the Governments of the Parties, with necessary expertise relevant to the issues to be discussed, to attend meetings of the Sub-Committee to provide advice on specific issues.

4. The Sub-Committee shall meet at such venues and times and by such means as may be agreed by the Parties.

CHAPTER 17
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Article 17.1
Scope

1. This Chapter shall apply to any measure regarding covered procurement.

2. For the purposes of this Chapter, the term "covered procurement" means a government procurement of goods, services or both:

(a) by any contractual means, including through such methods as purchase or as lease, rental or hire purchase, with or without an option to buy, build-operate-transfer contracts and public works concession contracts;

(b) that is conducted by a procuring entity;

(c) where the value of the contracts to be awarded is estimated in accordance with Article 17.5 to be not less than the thresholds specified in Annex 13 (Government Procurement) at the time of publication of a notice in accordance with Article 17.10;

(d) subject to the conditions specified in Annex 13 (Government Procurement); and

(e) that is not excluded from coverage by this Agreement.

3. This Chapter shall not apply to:

(a) procurement of goods and services by a procuring entity from another entity of the same Party, or between a procuring entity of a Party and a regional or local government of that Party;

(b) non-contractual agreements or any form of assistance that a Party provides, including grants, loans, equity infusions, fiscal incentives, subsidies, guarantees, cooperative agreements, and sponsorship arrangements;