ARTICLE 2.17

Import and export licensing procedures

1. The Parties affirm their existing rights and obligations under the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures.

2. Each Party shall adopt or maintain export licensing procedures in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 9 of Article 1 and with Article 3 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. A Party may adopt or maintain export licensing procedures in accordance with Article 2 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. To that end, those provisions of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures are incorporated into and made part of this Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*, and shall apply to export licensing procedures between the Parties. Paragraphs 2 to 8 apply to any good listed in Annex 2-B.

3. Each Party shall ensure that all export licensing procedures are neutral in application and administered in a fair, equitable, non-discriminatory and transparent manner.

4. Each Party shall adopt or maintain import or export licensing procedures only when other appropriate procedures to achieve an administrative purpose are not reasonably available.

5. A Party shall not adopt or maintain non-automatic import or export licensing procedures unless necessary to implement a measure that is consistent with this Agreement. A Party adopting non-automatic licensing procedures shall clearly indicate the measure being implemented through such licensing procedure.

6. Each Party shall respond, within 60 days, to any enquiry from the other Party regarding import or export licensing procedures which the former Party intends to adopt, has adopted or maintains, as well as the criteria for granting or allocating import or export licenses.

7. In applying export restrictions to a good in the form of a quota, a Party shall aim at a distribution of trade in that good approaching as closely as possible the shares which would be expected in the absence of that restriction.

8. If a Party adopts or maintains export licensing procedures, the Parties shall hold consultations, on request of the other Party, on any issues related to the implementation of those procedures, and give due consideration to the results of those consultations.