(b) restrict or require specific types of legal entity or joint venture through which a service supplier may supply a service.

ARTICLE 8.16

National treatment

1. Each Party shall accord to services and service suppliers of the other Party treatment no less favourable than that it accords to its own like services and service suppliers.

2. A Party may meet the requirement of paragraph 1 by according to services and service suppliers of the other Party, either formally identical treatment or formally different treatment to that it accords to its own like services and service suppliers.

3. Formally identical or formally different treatment shall be considered to be less favourable if it modifies the conditions of competition in favour of services or service suppliers of the Party compared to like services or service suppliers of the other Party.

4. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as requiring either Party to compensate for any inherent competitive disadvantage which results from the foreign character of the relevant services or service suppliers.

ARTICLE 8.17

Most-favoured-nation treatment

1. Each Party shall accord to services and service suppliers of the other Party treatment no less favourable than that it accords to like services and service suppliers of a third country.

2. Paragraph 1 shall not be construed as obliging a Party to extend to services and service suppliers of the other Party the benefit of any treatment resulting from:

(a) an international agreement for the avoidance of double taxation or other international agreement or arrangement relating wholly or mainly to taxation; or

(b) existing or future measures providing for recognition of qualifications, licences or prudential measures as referred to in Article VII of GATS or paragraph 3 of its Annex on Financial Services.