ARTICLE 8.35

Mutual recognition

1. Nothing in this Section shall prevent a Party from requiring that natural persons must possess the necessary qualifications or professional experience specified in the territory where the service is supplied, for the sector of activity concerned.

2. Each Party shall encourage the relevant professional bodies in its territory to provide joint recommendations on mutual recognition to the Committee, for the purpose of the fulfilment, in whole or in part, by entrepreneurs and service suppliers of the criteria applied by that Party for the authorisation, licensing, operation and certification of entrepreneurs and service suppliers, and, in particular, in the sector of professional services.

3. On receipt of a joint recommendation referred to in paragraph 2, the Committee shall, within a reasonable period of time, review that recommendation with a view to ensuring its consistency with this Agreement and, on the basis of the information contained therein, assess in particular:

(a) the extent to which the standards and criteria applied by each Party for the authorisation, licensing, operation and certification referred to in paragraph 2 are converging; and

(b) the potential economic value of a mutual recognition agreement for the authorisation, licensing, operation and certification referred to in paragraph 2.

4. Where those requirements are satisfied, the Committee shall establish the necessary steps to negotiate. Thereafter the Parties shall enter into negotiations, through their competent authorities, of a mutual recognition agreement for the authorisation, licensing, operation and certification referred to in paragraph 2.

5. Any mutual recognition agreement that the Parties may conclude shall be in conformity with the relevant provisions of the WTO Agreement and, in particular, Article VII of GATS.

SUB-SECTION 3

Postal and courier services

ARTICLE 8.36

Scope and definitions

1. This Sub-Section sets out the principles of the regulatory framework for the supply of postal and courier services, and applies to measures by a Party affecting trade in postal and courier services.