CHAPTER 4

CUSTOMS MATTERS AND TRADE FACILITATION

ARTICLE 4.1

Objectives

The objectives of this Chapter are to:

(a) promote trade facilitation for goods traded between the Parties while ensuring effective customs controls, taking into account the evolution of trade practices;

(b) ensure transparency of each Party's customs legislation and other trade-related laws and regulations and consistency thereof with applicable international standards;

(c) ensure predictable, consistent and non-discriminatory application by each Party of its customs legislation and other trade-related laws and regulations;

(d) promote simplification and modernisation of each Party's customs procedures and practices;

(e) further develop risk management techniques to facilitate legitimate trade while securing the international trade supply chain; and

(f) enhance cooperation between the Parties in the field of customs matters and trade facilitation.

ARTICLE 4.2

Scope

1. This Chapter applies to matters relating to each Party's customs legislation, other trade-related laws and regulations and general administrative procedures related to trade, including their application to goods traded between the Parties, as well as the cooperation between the Parties.

2. Nothing in this Chapter shall affect the rights and obligations of a Party under Chapters 6 and 7.

3. In the event of any inconsistency between this Chapter and Chapter 6 or 7, Chapter 6 or 7 shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

4. This Chapter applies without prejudice to the fulfilment of each Party's legitimate policy objectives and its obligations under international agreements to which it is a party, regarding the protection of:

(a) public morals;

(b) human, animal or plant life or health;

(c) national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value; or

(d) the environment.

5. This Chapter shall be implemented by each Party in accordance with its laws and regulations. Each Party shall use its available resources in an appropriate way to implement this Chapter.