ARTICLE 10.9

Test reports

1. Each Party, including its procuring entities, may require that interested suppliers provide a test report issued by a conformity assessment body or a certificate issued by such a body as a means of proof of conformity with the requirements or the criteria set out in the technical specifications, the evaluation criteria or any other terms or conditions.

2. When requiring the submission of a test report or a certificate issued by a conformity assessment body, each Party, including its procuring entities, shall:

(a) accept the results of conformity assessment procedures that are conducted by the registered conformity assessment bodies of the other Party in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Protocol on Mutual Recognition; and

(b) duly take into consideration any future expansion of the scope of the Protocol on Mutual Recognition, or any further agreement to be concluded between the Parties with the purpose of mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures, once it has entered into force.

ARTICLE 10.10

Environmental conditions

Procuring entities may lay down environmental conditions relating to the performance of a procurement, provided that those conditions are compatible with the rules established by this Chapter and are indicated in the notice of intended procurement or in another notice used as a notice of intended procurement or tender documentation.

ARTICLE 10.11

Treatment of tenders and awarding of contracts

1. Further to paragraph 5 of Article XV of the GPA, and in accordance with the conditions set out in each Party's laws and regulations, each Party shall ensure that its procuring entities are entitled to choose between the two criteria referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 5 of Article XV of the GPA and that they are aware of the respective merits of those criteria.

2. Further to paragraph 6 of Article XV of the GPA, if a procuring entity receives a tender with a price that is abnormally lower than the prices in other tenders submitted, it may also verify with the supplier whether the price takes into account the grant of subsidies.

ARTICLE 10.12

Domestic review procedures

1. Where an impartial administrative authority is designated by a Party under paragraph 4 of Article XVIII of the GPA, that Party shall ensure that:

(a) the members of the designated authority are independent, impartial, and free from external influence during the term of appointment;

(b) the members of the designated authority are not dismissed against their will while they are in office, unless their dismissal is required by the provisions governing the designated authority; and

(c) with regard to the procuring entities covered under Annexes 1 and 3 of each Party to Appendix I to the GPA, as well as the central government entities and all other entities except the sub-central government entities covered under Part 2 of Annex 10, the President or at least one other member of the designated authority, has legal and professional qualifications equivalent to those necessary for judges, lawyers or other legal experts qualified under the laws and regulations of the Party.