ARTICLE 16.3

International labour standards and conventions

1. The Parties recognise full and productive employment and decent work for all as key elements to respond to economic, labour and social challenges. The Parties further recognise the importance of promoting the development of international trade in a way that is conducive to full and productive employment and decent work for all. In that context, the Parties shall exchange views and information on trade-related labour issues of mutual interest in the meetings of the Committee on Trade and Sustainable Development established pursuant to Article 23.3, and as appropriate in other fora.

2. The Parties reaffirm their obligations deriving from the International Labour Organisation (hereinafter referred to as "ILO") membership. The Parties further reaffirm their respective commitments with regard to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up. Accordingly, the Parties shall respect, promote and realise in their laws, regulations and practices the internationally recognised principles concerning the fundamental rights at work, which are:

(a) the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

(b) the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour;

(c) the effective abolition of child labour; and

(d) the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

3. Each Party shall make continued and sustained efforts on its own initiative to pursue ratification of the fundamental ILO Conventions and other ILO Conventions which each Party considers appropriate to ratify.

4. The Parties shall exchange information on their respective situations as regards the ratification of ILO Conventions and Protocols, including the fundamental ILO Conventions.

5. Each Party reaffirms its commitments to effectively implement in its laws, regulations and practices ILO Conventions it has ratified.

6. The Parties recognise that the violation of the internationally recognised principles concerning the fundamental rights at work referred to in paragraph 2 cannot be invoked or otherwise used as a legitimate comparative advantage, and that labour standards should not be used for protectionist trade purposes.

ARTICLE 16.4

Multilateral environmental agreements

1. The Parties stress the importance of multilateral environmental agreements, in particular those to which both Parties are party, as a means of multilateral environmental governance for the international community to address global or regional environmental challenges. The Parties further stress the importance of achieving mutual supportiveness between trade and environment. In this context, the Parties shall exchange views and information on trade-related environmental matters of mutual interest in the meetings of the Committee on Trade and Sustainable Development, and as appropriate in other fora.

2. Each Party reaffirms its commitment to effectively implement in its laws, regulations and practices the multilateral environmental agreements to which it is party.

3. Each Party shall exchange information with the other Party on its respective situation and advancements regarding ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, multilateral environmental agreements, including their amendments, which each Party considers appropriate to be bound by, as well as implementation of such agreements.