5. If the Parties decide to engage in a regulatory cooperation activity, the regulatory authority of each Party shall:

(a) inform the regulatory authority of the other Party about the development of new or the revision of existing measures that are relevant for the regulatory cooperation activity;

(b) upon request, provide information and discuss measures that are relevant for the regulatory cooperation activity; and

(c) when developing new or revising existing regulatory or other measures, consider, to the extent feasible, any regulatory approach by the other Party on the same or a related matter.

6. The Parties may engage in regulatory cooperation activities on a voluntary basis. A Party may refuse to engage in or withdraw from regulatory cooperation activities. A Party that refuses to engage in or withdraws from regulatory cooperation activities should explain the reasons for its decision to the other Party.

7. Where appropriate, the regulatory authorities may, by mutual consent, entrust the implementation of a regulatory cooperation activity to the relevant bodies in the Parties.

ARTICLE 18.13

Good practices to promote regulatory compatibility

The regulatory authority of each Party shall, in order to promote regulatory compatibility, consider, *inter alia*, the following:

(a) promotion of common principles, guidelines, codes of conduct, mutual recognition of equivalence and implementing tools, to avoid unnecessary duplication of regulatory requirements such as testing, qualifications, audits or inspections; and

(b) bilateral cooperation and cooperation with third countries in relevant international fora, where feasible, including through joint initiatives and proposals, with a view to developing and promoting the adoption and implementation of international regulatory standards, guidelines or other approaches.

SUB-SECTION 4

Institutional provisions

ARTICLE 18.14

Committee on Regulatory Cooperation

1. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation established pursuant to Article 23.3 shall enhance and promote good regulatory practices and regulatory cooperation between the Parties in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

2. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation may invite interested persons to participate in its meetings.

3. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation may, in particular:

(a) discuss proposals for regulatory cooperation activities;

(b) exchange information on, and promote, good regulatory practices;

(c) recommend regulatory cooperation activities on matters of common interest to the Parties, including those on pre-regulatory research;

(d) promote bilateral regulatory cooperation activities with the aim of facilitating compatible regulatory outcomes in each Party, in particular in areas where no regulatory measures exist or where their developments are at an initial stage;