2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the Parties may agree to jointly entrust an external body with providing support for certain administrative tasks for the dispute settlement procedure under this Chapter.

ARTICLE 22.26

Mutually agreed solution

1. The Parties may reach a mutually agreed solution at any time with respect to any dispute referred to in Article 22.2.

2. If a mutually agreed solution is reached during panel proceedings or a mediation procedure, the Parties shall jointly notify the agreed solution to the chairperson of the panel or the mediator. Upon such notification, the panel proceedings or the mediation procedure shall be terminated.

3. Each Party shall take the measures necessary to implement the mutually agreed solution within the agreed time period.

4. No later than the date of expiry of the agreed time period, the implementing Party shall inform the other Party in writing of any measures it has taken to implement the mutually agreed solution.

ARTICLE 22.27

Choice of forum

1. Where a dispute arises with regard to the alleged inconsistency of a particular measure with an obligation under this Agreement and a substantially equivalent obligation under any other international agreement to which both Parties are party, including the WTO Agreement, the complaining Party may select the forum in which to settle the dispute.

2. Once a Party has selected the forum and initiated dispute settlement proceedings under this Chapter or under the other international agreement with respect to the particular measure referred to in paragraph 1, that Party shall not initiate dispute settlement proceedings in another forum with respect to that particular measure unless the forum selected first fails to make findings on the issues in dispute for jurisdictional or procedural reasons.

3. For the purpose of paragraph 2:

(a) dispute settlement proceedings under this Chapter are deemed to be initiated when a Party requests the establishment of a panel in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 22.7;

(b) dispute settlement proceedings under the WTO Agreement are deemed to be initiated when a Party requests the establishment of a panel in accordance with Article 6 of the DSU; and

(c) dispute settlement proceedings under any other agreement are deemed to be initiated when a Party requests the establishment of a dispute settlement panel in accordance with the relevant provisions of that agreement.

4. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude a Party from implementing the suspension of concessions or other obligations authorised by the DSB. A Party shall not invoke the WTO Agreement to preclude the other Party from suspending concessions or other obligations under the covered provisions.

ARTICLE 22.28

Time period

1. All time periods provided for in this Chapter shall be counted from the date following the act or fact to which they refer.