Article 4.19: Customs Cooperation

1. The customs authority of each Party may, as deemed appropriate, assist the customs authorities of other Parties, in relation to:

   (a) the implementation and operation of this Chapter;

   (b) developing and implementing customs best practice and risk management techniques;

   (c) simplifying and harmonising customs procedures;

   (d) advancing technical skills and the use of technology;

   (e) application of the Customs Valuation Agreement; and

   (f) such other customs issues as the Parties may mutually determine.

2. Each Party shall, to the extent possible, provide the other Parties with timely notice of any significant administrative change, modification of a law or regulation, or similar measure related to its laws or regulations that govern importations or exportations, that is likely to substantially affect the operation of this Chapter. The notice can be made in the English language or the Party's language and will be provided to the contact point designated pursuant to Article 4.20 (Consultations and Contact Points).

3. The customs authority of a Party may, as deemed appropriate, share with other Parties, information and experiences on development of customs administration.

4. Each Party shall, to the extent possible and practicable, cooperate on mutually agreed terms with other Parties with whom it shares a common border with a view to coordinating procedures at border crossings to facilitate cross-border trade.

Article 4.20: Consultations and Contact Points

1. A Party may at any time request consultations with another Party regarding any significant customs matter arising from the operation or implementation of this Chapter, providing relevant details related to the matter. Such consultations shall be conducted through the respective contact points designated pursuant to paragraph 3 and shall commence within 30 days following the date of the receipt of the request, unless the relevant Parties determine otherwise.

2. In the event that such consultations fail to resolve the matter, the requesting Party may refer the matter to the Committee on Goods.

3. Each Party shall, within 30 days of the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party, designate one or more contact points for the purposes of this Chapter and notify the other Parties of the contact details and other relevant information, if any. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Parties of any change to those contact details.

Article 4.21: Implementation Arrangement

Recognising the different levels of readiness of Parties in implementing some of the commitments under this Chapter, Parties shall be given a period of time as identified in Annex 4A (Period of Time to Implement the Commitments) during which the full implementation of specified commitments shall commence.