(h) **transitional RCEP safeguard measure** means a safeguard measure described in Article 7.2 (Application of Transitional RCEP Safeguard Measures); and

(i) **transitional safeguard period** means, in relation to a particular good, the period from the date of entry into force of this Agreement until eight years after the date on which the elimination or reduction of the customs duty on that good is completed, in accordance with a Party's Schedule of tariff commitments in Annex I (Schedules of Tariff Commitments).

Article 7.2: Application of Transitional RCEP Safeguard Measures

1. If, as a result of the reduction or elimination of a customs duty under this Agreement, an originating good of another Party or Parties collectively is being imported into the territory of a Party in such increased quantities, in absolute terms or relative to domestic production, and under such conditions as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to its domestic industry producing a like or directly competitive good, the importing Party may, to the extent necessary to prevent or remedy the serious injury to its domestic industry and to facilitate its domestic industry's adjustment:

   (a) suspend the further reduction of any rate of customs duty provided for in this Agreement on the originating good; or

   (b) increase the rate of customs duty on the originating good to a level not to exceed the lesser of:

      (i) the most-favoured-nation applied rate of customs duty in effect on the day when the transitional RCEP safeguard measure is applied; or

      (ii) the most-favoured-nation applied rate of customs duty in effect on the day immediately preceding the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party.

2. The Parties understand that neither tariff rate quotas nor quantitative restrictions are permissible forms of transitional RCEP safeguard measures.

3. On request of any Party, the Committee on Goods may, no later than three years before the end of the transitional safeguard period, discuss and review the implementation and operation, including the duration, of the transitional RCEP safeguard measures.

Article 7.3: Notification and Consultation

1. A Party shall immediately deliver a written notice to the other Parties upon:

   (a) initiating an investigation referred to in Article 7.4 (Investigation Procedures) relating to serious injury or threat of serious injury and the reasons for it;

   (b) making a finding of serious injury or threat of serious injury caused by increased imports;

   (c) applying or extending the imposition of a transitional RCEP safeguard measure; and

   (d) taking a decision to modify, including to progressively liberalise, a transitional RCEP safeguard measure.

2. A written notice referred to in subparagraph 1(a) shall include:

   (a) a precise description of the originating good subject to the investigation including its heading and subheading under the Harmonized System and the national nomenclature of the Party;

   (b) a summary of the reason for the initiation of the investigation; and

   (c) the date of the initiation of the investigation and the period of investigation.

3. A Party shall provide to the other Parties a copy or the Uniform Resource Locator of the public version of the report by its competent authorities that is required under paragraph 1 of Article 7.4 (Investigation Procedures). The provided report may be in the language originally used in the report by its competent authorities.

4. A written notice referred to in subparagraphs 1(b) through (d) shall include: