4. The Parties may cooperate on matters of mutual interest related to consumer protection. Such cooperation shall be carried out in a manner compatible with the Parties' respective laws and regulations and within their available resources.

Article 13.8: Consultations

In order to foster understanding between the Parties, or to address specific matters that arise under this Chapter, on request of a Party, the requested Party shall enter into consultations with the requesting Party. In its request, the requesting Party shall indicate, if relevant, how the matter affects its important interests, including trade or investment between the Parties concerned. The requested Party shall accord full and sympathetic consideration to the concerns of the requesting Party.

Article 13.9: Non-Application of Dispute Settlement

No Party shall have recourse to dispute settlement under Chapter 19 (Dispute Settlement) for any matter arising under this Chapter.

ANNEX 13A

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 13.3 (APPROPRIATE MEASURES AGAINST ANTI-COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES) AND ARTICLE 13.4 (COOPERATION) TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

1. If, as of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, Brunei Darussalam has not complied with the obligations under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 13.3 (Appropriate Measures against Anti-Competitive Activities), Brunei Darussalam shall comply with those obligations no later than three years after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

2. Paragraphs 3 through 11 of Article 13.3 (Appropriate Measures against Anti-Competitive Activities) and Article 13.4 (Cooperation) shall apply to Brunei Darussalam as soon as it complies with the obligations under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 13.3 (Appropriate Measures against Anti-Competitive Activities) and, in any case, no later than three years after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

3. During the three-year transitional period, Brunei Darussalam shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that it is in compliance with Article 13.3 (Appropriate Measures against Anti-Competitive Activities) and Article 13.4 (Cooperation) by the end of the three-year period and shall endeavour to comply with the obligations under those Articles before the end of such period.

4. On request of a Party, Brunei Darussalam shall inform the Parties of its progress since the date of entry into force of this Agreement in meeting the obligations under Article 13.3 (Appropriate Measures against Anti-Competitive Activities) and Article 13.4 (Cooperation) by the end of the three-year period.