ANNEX 18A

FUNCTIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE RCEP JOINT COMMITTEE

Committee on Goods

1. The functions of the Committee on Goods, established pursuant to subparagraph 1(a) of Article 18.6 (Subsidiary Bodies of the RCEP Joint Committee), shall include supervising and coordinating the work of any other relevant subsidiary body, and considering any matter arising under or relating to the implementation or operation of:

   (a) Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods);

   (b) Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin);

   (c) Chapter 4 (Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation);

   (d) Chapter 5 (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures);

   (e) Chapter 6 (Standards, Technical Regulations, and Conformity Assessment Procedures); and

   (f) Chapter 7 (Trade Remedies).

2. With respect to Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods), the functions of the Committee on Goods shall include:

   (a) monitoring and reviewing the implementation and operation of Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods);

   (b) identifying and recommending measures to promote and facilitate improved market access, including through consultations on the acceleration or improvement of tariff commitments under this Agreement;

   (c) addressing barriers to trade in goods between the Parties, including those relevant issues on tariff and non-tariff measures, other than technical issues solely within the competence of another subsidiary body related to one of the Chapters referred to in paragraph 1;

   (d) considering matters related to the classification of goods under the Harmonized System for the application of Annex I (Schedules of Tariff Commitments) and the transposition of each Party's Schedule in Annex I (Schedules of Tariff Commitments) following periodic amendments to the Harmonized System, consistent with Article 2.14 (Transposition of Schedules of Tariff Commitments), including by adopting guidelines for the transposition of the Schedules in Annex I (Schedules of Tariff Commitments) and exchanging transposed Schedules of tariff commitments and correlation tables in a timely manner; and

   (e) discussing any other matter related to Chapter 2 (Trade in Goods), including good regulatory practice on measures affecting trade in goods and exploring avenues for enhancing cooperation on the use of good regulatory practice, as appropriate.

3. With respect to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin), the functions of the Committee on Goods shall include:

   (a) monitoring the implementation of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin);

   (b) reviewing and making appropriate recommendations to the RCEP Joint Committee, as necessary, on:

      (i) the effective and consistent administration of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin), including its interpretation and application, and the enhancement of cooperation in relation to Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin); and

      (ii) any potential amendments to Annex 3A (Product-Specific Rules) and Annex 3B (Minimum Information Requirements), consistent with Article 3.34 (Transposition of Product-Specific Rules) and Article 3.35 (Amendments to Annexes); and

   (c) facilitating cooperation and identifying measures with a view to simplifying the operational certification procedures covered by Section B (Operational Certification Procedures) of Chapter 3 (Rules of Origin) and making them more transparent, predictable, and standardised,