

CHAPTER 17

ADMINISTRATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 17.1: Establishment of the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Commission

The Parties hereby establish a Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Commission (Commission) which may meet at the level of Ministers or senior officials, as mutually determined by the Parties. Each Party shall be responsible for the composition of its delegation.

Article 17.2: Functions of the Commission

1. The Commission shall:
 - (a) consider any matters relating to the implementation of this Agreement;
 - (b) review within 2 years of entry into force of this Agreement and at least every 3 years thereafter the economic relationship and partnership among the Parties, consider any proposal to amend this Agreement or its Annexes and otherwise oversee the further elaboration of this Agreement;
 - (c) supervise the work of all Committees and working groups established under this Agreement;
 - (d) explore measures for the further expansion of trade and investment among the Parties and identify appropriate areas of commercial, industrial and technical cooperation between relevant enterprises and organisations of the Parties; and
 - (e) consider any other matter that may affect the operation of this Agreement.
2. The Commission may:
 - (a) establish committees and working groups, refer matters to any committee or working group for advice, and consider matters raised by any committee or working group;

- (b) further the implementation of the Agreement's objectives by approving any modifications¹ of, *inter alia*:
 - (i) the Schedules contained in Annex I (*Elimination of Customs Duties*), by accelerating the elimination of customs duties;
 - (ii) the rules of origin established in Annex II (*Specific Rules of Origin*); or
 - (iii) the lists of entities and covered goods and services and thresholds contained in Annexes 11.A and 11.C of the Chapter 11 (*Government Procurement*).
- (c) further the implementation of the Agreement's objectives through Implementing Arrangements;
- (d) seek to resolve differences or disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement;
- (e) seek the advice of non-governmental persons or groups on any matter falling within its responsibilities where this would help the Commission make an informed decision; and
- (f) take such other action in the exercise of its functions as the Parties may agree.

Article 17.3: Rules of Procedure of the Commission

1. The Commission may take decisions on any matter within its functions as set out in Article 17.2 by mutual agreement of those Parties present at the meeting of the Commission. Any decision affecting a Party shall only be taken by the Commission with the express agreement of that Party.

2. The Commission shall convene annually, or at such other times as the Parties may mutually agree. Annual sessions of the Commission shall be chaired successively by each Party. Other sessions of the Commission shall be chaired by the Party convening the meeting.

¹ The acceptance of any modification by a Party is subject to the completion of any necessary domestic legal procedures of that Party. Chile shall implement the actions of the Commission through *Acuerdos de Ejecución*, in accordance with article 50, numeral 1, second paragraph, of the *Constitución Política de la República de Chile*.

3. The Party chairing a session of the Commission shall provide any necessary administrative support for such session. Decisions of the Commission shall be notified to the Parties by the Party chairing that session of the Commission.