CHILEAN PROPOSAL CHAPTER XX ENVIRONMENT

Article XX.1: Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter:

environmental law means a statute or regulation of a Party, or provision thereof, , the primary purpose of which is the protection of the environment, or the prevention of a danger to human life or health, through:

- (a) the prevention, abatement or control of: the release, discharge or emission of pollutants or environmental contaminants;
- (b) the control of environmentally hazardous or toxic chemicals, substances, materials or wastes, and the dissemination of information related thereto; or
- (c) the protection or conservation of wild flora or fauna, including endangered species, their habitat, and specially protected natural areas ^{1,2}

but does not include a statute or regulation, or provision thereof, directly related to worker safety or health, nor any statute or regulation, or provision thereof, the primary purpose of which is managing the subsistence or aboriginal harvesting of natural resources; and

statute or regulation means:

(a) for Chile, a law of National Congress or decree of the President of the Republic, enacted as indicated by the Political Constitution of the Republic of Chile;

Article XX.2: Objectives

1. The objectives of this Chapter are to promote mutually supportive trade and environmental policies; promote high levels of environmental protection and effective enforcement of environmental laws; and enhance the capacities of the Parties to address trade-related environmental issues, including through cooperation.

¹ For the purposes of this Chapter, the term "specially protected natural areas" means those areas as defined by the Party in its legislation.

² The Parties recognise that such protection or conservation may include the protection or conservation of biological diversity.

2. Taking account of their respective national priorities and circumstances, the Parties recognise that enhanced cooperation to protect and conserve the environment and sustainably manage their natural resources brings benefits that can contribute to sustainable development, strengthen their environmental governance and complement the objectives of this Agreement.

Article XX.3: General Commitments

- 1. The Parties recognise the importance of mutually supportive trade and environmental policies and practices to improve environmental protection in the furtherance of sustainable development.
- 2. The Parties recognise the sovereign right of each Party to establish its own levels of domestic environmental protection and its own environmental priorities, and to establish, adopt or modify its environmental laws and policies accordingly.
- 3. Each Party shall strive to ensure that its environmental laws and policies provide for, and encourage, high levels of environmental protection and to continue to improve its respective levels of environmental protection.
- 4. No Party shall fail to effectively enforce its environmental laws through a sustained or recurring course of action or inaction in a manner affecting trade or investment between the Parties, after the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party.
- 5. The Parties recognise that each Party retains the right to exercise discretion and to make decisions regarding: (a) investigatory, prosecutorial, regulatory and compliance matters; and (b) the allocation of environmental enforcement resources with respect to other environmental laws determined to have higher priorities. Accordingly, the Parties understand that with respect to the enforcement of environmental laws a Party is in compliance with paragraph 4 if a course of action or inaction reflects a reasonable exercise of that discretion, or results from a bona fide decision regarding the allocation of those resources in accordance with priorities for enforcement of its environmental laws.
- 6. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, the Parties recognise that it is inappropriate to encourage trade or investment by weakening or reducing the protection afforded in their respective environmental laws. Accordingly, a Party shall not waive or otherwise derogate from, or offer to waive or otherwise derogate from, its environmental laws in a manner that weakens or reduces the protection afforded in those laws in order to encourage trade or investment between the Parties.
- 7. The Parties shall not establish or use their environmental laws or other measures in a manner which would constitute a disguised restriction on trade or investment between the Parties.

8. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to empower a Party's authorities to undertake environmental law enforcement activities in the territory of another Party.

Article XX.4: Multilateral Environmental Agreements

- 1. The Parties recognise that multilateral environmental agreements to which they are party play an important role, globally and domestically, in protecting the environment and that their respective implementation of these agreements is critical to achieving the environmental objectives of these agreements. Accordingly, each Party affirms its commitment to implement the multilateral environmental agreements to which it is a party.
- 2. The Parties emphasise the need to enhance the mutual supportiveness between trade and environmental law and policies, through dialogue between the Parties on trade and environmental issues of mutual interest, particularly with respect to relevant multilateral environmental agreements and trade agreements.

Article XX.5: Procedural Matters

- 1. Each Party shall promote public awareness of its environmental laws and policies, including enforcement and compliance procedures, by ensuring that relevant information is available to the public.
- 2. Each Party shall ensure that an interested person residing or established in its territory may request that the Party's competent authorities investigate alleged violations of its environmental laws, and that the competent authorities give those requests due consideration, in accordance with the Party's law.
- 3. Each Party shall ensure that judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings for the enforcement of its environmental laws are available under its law and that those proceedings are fair, equitable, transparent and comply with due process of law. Any hearings in these proceedings shall be open to the public, except when the administration of justice otherwise requires, and in accordance with its applicable laws.
- 4. Each Party shall ensure that persons with a recognised interest under its law in a particular matter have appropriate access to proceedings referred to in paragraph 3.
- 5. Each Party shall provide appropriate sanctions or remedies for violations of its environmental laws for the effective enforcement of those laws. Those sanctions or remedies may include a right to bring an action directly against the violator to seek damages or injunctive relief, or a right to seek governmental action.
- 6. Each Party shall ensure that it takes appropriate account of relevant factors in the establishment of the sanctions or remedies referred to in paragraph 5. Those factors may include the nature and gravity of the violation, damage to the environment and any economic benefit the violator derived from the violation.

Article XX.6: Opportunities for Public Participation

- 1. Each Party shall seek to accommodate requests for information regarding the Party's implementation of this Chapter.
- 2. Each Party shall make use of existing, or establish new, consultative mechanisms, for example national advisory committees, to seek views on matters related to the implementation of this Chapter. These mechanisms may include persons with relevant experience, as appropriate, including experience in business, natural resource conservation and management, or other environmental matters.

Article XX.7: Public Submissions

- 1. Each Party shall provide for the receipt and consideration of written submissions from persons of that Party regarding its implementation of this Chapter.³ Each Party shall respond in a timely manner to such submissions in writing and in accordance with domestic procedures, and make the submissions and its responses available to the public, for example by posting on an appropriate public website.
- 2. Each Party shall make its procedures for the receipt and consideration of written submissions readily accessible and publicly available, for example by posting on an appropriate public website. These procedures may provide that to be eligible for consideration the submission should:
 - (a) be in writing in one of the official languages of the Party receiving the submission;
 - (b) clearly identify the person making the submission;
 - (c) provide sufficient information to allow for the review of the submission including any documentary evidence on which the submission may be based;
 - (d) explain how, and to what extent, the issue raised affects trade or investment between the Parties;
 - (e) not raise issues that are the subject of ongoing judicial or administrative proceedings; and
 - (f) indicate whether the matter has been communicated in writing to the relevant authorities of the Party and the Party's response, if any.
- 3. Each Party shall notify the other Parties of the entity or entities responsible for receiving and responding to any written submissions referred to in paragraph 1 within 180 days of the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party.

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³ If available and appropriate, a Party may use an existing institutional body or mechanism for this purpose.

- 4. If a submission asserts that a Party is failing to effectively enforce its environmental laws and following the written response to the submission by that Party, any other Party may request that the Committee on Environment (Committee) discuss that submission and written response with a view to further understanding the matter raised in the submission and, as appropriate, to consider whether the matter could benefit from cooperative activities.
- 5. At its first meeting, the Committee shall establish procedures for discussing submissions and responses that are referred to it by a Party. These procedures may provide for the use of experts or existing institutional bodies to develop a report for the Committee comprised of information based on facts relevant to the matter.
- 6. No later than three years after the date of entry into force of this Agreement, and thereafter as decided by the Parties, the Committee shall prepare a written report for the Commission on the implementation of this Article. For the purposes of preparing this report, each Party shall provide a written summary regarding its implementation activities under this Article.

Article XX.8: Corporate Social Responsibility

Each Party should encourage enterprises operating within its territory or jurisdiction, to adopt voluntarily, into their policies and practices, principles of corporate social responsibility that are related to the environment, consistent with internationally recognised standards and guidelines that have been endorsed or are supported by that Party.

Article XX.9: Cooperation Frameworks

- 1. The Parties recognise the importance of cooperation as a mechanism to implement this Chapter, to enhance its benefits and to strengthen the Parties' joint and individual capacities to protect the environment and to promote sustainable development as they strengthen their trade and investment relations.
- 2. Taking account of their national priorities and circumstances, and available resources, the Parties shall cooperate to address matters of joint or common interest among the participating Parties related to the implementation of this Chapter, when there is mutual benefit from that cooperation. This cooperation may be carried out on a bilateral or plurilateral basis between Parties and, subject to consensus by the participating Parties, may include nongovernmental bodies or organisations and non-Parties to this Agreement.
- 3. Each Party shall designate the authority or authorities responsible for cooperation related to the implementation of this Chapter to serve as its national contact point on matters that relate to coordination of cooperation activities and shall notify the other Parties in writing within 90 days of the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party of its contact point. On notifying the other Parties of its contact point, or at any time thereafter through the contact points, a Party may:
 - (a) share its priorities for cooperation with the other Parties, including the objectives of that cooperation; and

- (b) propose cooperation activities related to the implementation of this Chapter to another Party or Parties.
- 4. When possible and appropriate, the Parties shall seek to complement and use their existing cooperation mechanisms and take into account relevant work of regional and international organisations.
- 5. Cooperation may be undertaken through various means including: dialogues, workshops, seminars, conferences, collaborative programmes and projects; technical assistance to promote and facilitate cooperation and training; the sharing of best practices on policies and procedures; and the exchange of experts.
- 6. In developing cooperative activities and programmes, a Party shall, if relevant, identify performance measures and indicators to assist in examining and evaluating the efficiency, effectiveness and progress of specific cooperative activities and programmes and share those measures and indicators, as well as the outcome of any evaluation during or following the completion of a cooperative activity or programme, with the other Parties.
- 7. Each Party shall promote public participation in the development and implementation of cooperative activities, as appropriate. This may include activities such as encouraging and facilitating direct contacts and cooperation among relevant entities and the conclusion of arrangements among them for the conduct of cooperative activities under this Chapter.
- 8. All cooperative activities under this Chapter are subject to the availability of funds and of human and other resources, and to the applicable laws and regulations of the participating Parties. The participating Parties shall decide, on a case-by-case basis, the funding of cooperative activities.

Article XX.10: Trade and Biodiversity

- 1. The Parties recognise the importance of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and their key role in achieving sustainable development.
- 2. Accordingly, each Party shall promote and encourage the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, in accordance with its law or policy.
- 3. The Parties recognise the importance of respecting, preserving and maintaining knowledge and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles that contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
- 4. The Parties recognise the importance of facilitating access to genetic resources within their respective national jurisdictions, consistent with each Party's international obligations. The Parties further recognise that some Parties require, through national measures, prior informed consent to access such genetic resources in accordance with national measures and, where such access is granted, the establishment of mutually agreed terms, including with respect to sharing of benefits from the use of such genetic resources, between users and providers.

- 5. The Parties also recognise the importance of public participation and consultation, in accordance with their respective law or policy, in the development and implementation of measures concerning the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Each Party shall make publicly available information about its programmes and activities, including cooperative programmes, related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
- 6. Consistent with Article 20.12 (Cooperation Frameworks), the Parties shall cooperate to address matters of mutual interest. Cooperation may include, but is not limited to, exchanging information and experiences in areas related to:
 - (a) the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;
 - (b) the protection and maintenance of ecosystems and ecosystem services; and
 - (c) access to genetic resources and the sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation.

Article XX.11: Invasive Alien Species

- 1. The Parties recognise that the movement of terrestrial and aquatic invasive alien species across borders through trade-related pathways can adversely affect the environment, economic activities and development, and human health. The Parties also recognise that the prevention, detection, control and, when possible, eradication, of invasive alien species are critical strategies for managing those adverse impacts.
- 2. Accordingly, the Committee shall coordinate with the Joint Management Committee for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Matters established under Article 89 (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures) to identify cooperative opportunities to share information and management experiences on the movement, prevention, detection, control and eradication of invasive alien species, with a view to enhancing efforts to assess and address the risks and adverse impacts of invasive alien species.

Article XX.12: Sustainable Agriculture

- 1. The Parties recognize the increasing impact that global changes, such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, land degradation, droughts and the emergence of new pests and diseases, have on the development of agriculture, livestock and forestry.
- 2. In this context, the Parties recognize the importance of strengthening policies and devising programs that contribute to the development of more productive, sustainable, inclusive and resilient agricultural systems.
- 3. Accordingly, the Parties will exchange information and experiences in the development and the implementation of integrated policies which promote the inclusion of the three pillars of sustainable agriculture development. The Parties may cooperate in areas of mutual interest

such as, but not limited to: improving agricultural productivity considering the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems and natural resources as well as the social dimension. In order to the effectively contribute to the agriculture, forestry and food sector adaptation to global changes.

Article XX.13: Climate Change and Trade

- 1. The Parties recognize the importance of fulfilling their respective commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its related legal instruments, including the Paris Agreement, among other instruments. Furthermore, the Parties acknowledge that transition to a low greenhouse gas emissions economy requires collective action.
- 2. The Parties recognize that climate change impacts are being felt and pose significant risks to communities, infrastructure, the economy, the natural environment and human health. They acknowledge that efforts to increase resilience to the impacts are required. The Parties commit to promoting effective climate change adaptation, in order to moderate harm or take advantage of new opportunities.
- 3. The Parties agrees that mitigation and adaptation actions should reflect domestic circumstances and capabilities and, consistent with Article 20.12 (Cooperation Frameworks), Parties shall cooperate to address matters of joint or common interest. Areas of cooperation may include, but are not limited to: energy efficiency; development of cost-effective, low emissions technologies and alternative, clean and renewable energy sources; sustainable transport and sustainable urban infrastructure development; addressing deforestation and forest degradation; emissions monitoring; market and nonmarket mechanisms; addressing hazards and risks associated to climate change and adaptation measures and sharing of information and experiences in addressing it. Further, the Parties shall, as appropriate, engage in cooperative and capacity-building activities related to transitioning to a low emissions and resilient economy.

Article XX.14: Marine Capture Fisheries⁴

1. The Parties acknowledge their role as major consumers, producers and traders of fisheries products and the importance of the marine fisheries sector to their development and to the livelihoods of their fishing communities, including artisanal or small-scale fisheries. The Parties also acknowledge that the availability of fishery resources is an urgent resource problem facing the international community. Accordingly, the Parties recognise the importance of taking measures aimed at the conservation and the sustainable management of fisheries.

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⁴ For greater certainty, this Article does not apply with respect to aquaculture.

- 2. In this regard, the Parties acknowledge that inadequate fisheries management and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing⁵ can have significant negative impacts on trade, development and the environment and recognise the need for individual and collective action to address the problems of overfishing and unsustainable utilisation of fisheries resources.
- 3. While developing and implementing conservation and management measures, the Parties shall take into consideration social, trade, developmental and environmental concerns and the importance of artisanal or small scale fisheries to the livelihoods of local fishing communities.
- 4. Accordingly, each Party shall seek to operate a fisheries management system that regulates marine wild capture fishing and that is designed to:
 - (a) prevent overfishing and overcapacity;
 - (b) reduce bycatch of non-target species, including through the regulation of fishing gear that results in bycatch and the regulation of fishing in areas where bycatch is likely to occur; and
 - (c) promote the recovery of overfished stocks for all marine fisheries in which that Party's persons conduct fishing activities.
 - (d) promote fisheries management with an ecosystem approach, including through cooperation among the Parties.

Such a management system shall be based on the best scientific evidence available and on internationally recognised best practices for fisheries management and conservation as reflected in the relevant provisions of international instruments aimed at ensuring the sustainable use and conservation of marine species.⁶

4. Each Party shall promote the long-term conservation of sharks, marine turtles, seabirds, and marine mammals, through the implementation and effective enforcement of conservation and management measures.

⁶ These instruments include, among others, and as they may apply, UNCLOS, the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, done at New York, December 4, 1995 (UN Fish Stocks Agreement), the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the 1993 FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, (Compliance Agreement) done at Rome, November 24, 1993 and the 2001 IUU Fishing Plan of Action.

⁵ The term "illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing" is to be understood to have the same meaning as paragraph 3 of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (2001 IUU Fishing Plan of Action) of the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), adopted in Rome, 2001.

- 14. In support of efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing practices and to help deter trade in products from species harvested from those practices, each Party shall:
 - (a) cooperate with other Parties to identify needs and to build capacity to support the implementation of this Article;
 - (b) support monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems, to: (i) deter vessels that are flying its flag and its nationals from engaging in IUU fishing activities; and (ii) address the transhipment at sea of fish or fish products caught through IUU fishing activities;
 - (c) implement port State measures;
 - (d) strive to act consistently with relevant conservation and management measures adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations of which it is not a member so as not to undermine those measures; and
 - (e) endeavour not to undermine catch or trade documentation schemes operated by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations or Arrangements or an intergovernmental organisation whose scope includes the management of shared fisheries resources, including straddling and highly migratory species, where that Party is not a member of those organisations or arrangements.
- 15. A Party shall, to the extent possible, provide other Parties the opportunity to comment on proposed measures that are designed to prevent trade in fisheries products that results from IUU fishing.

Article XX.15: Conservation and Trade

- 1. The Parties affirm the importance of combating the illegal trade in, wild fauna and flora, and acknowledge that this trade undermines efforts to conserve and sustainably manage those natural resources, has social consequences, distorts legal trade in wild fauna and flora, and reduces the economic and environmental value of these natural resources.
- 2. Accordingly, each Party reaffirms its obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).⁷
- 3. The Parties commit to promote conservation and to combat the illegal trade in, wild fauna and flora. To that end, the Parties shall:
 - (a) exchange information and experiences on issues of mutual interest related to combating the illegal take of, and illegal trade in, wild fauna and flora, including

⁷ For the purposes of this Article, a Party's CITES obligations include existing and future amendments to which it is a Party and any existing and future reservations, exemptions, and exceptions applicable to it.

combating illegal logging and associated illegal trade, and promoting the legal trade in associated products;

- (b) undertake, as appropriate, joint activities on conservation issues of mutual interest, including through relevant regional and international fora; and
- (c) endeavour to implement, as appropriate, CITES resolutions that aim to protect and conserve species whose survival is threatened by international trade.

4. Each Party further commits to:

- (a) take appropriate measures to protect and conserve wild fauna and flora that it has identified to be at risk within its territory, including measures to conserve the ecological integrity of specially protected natural areas, for example wetlands;
- (b) maintain or strengthen government capacity and institutional frameworks to promote sustainable forest management and wild fauna and flora conservation, and endeavour to enhance public participation and transparency in these institutional frameworks;

And

- (c) endeavour to develop and strengthen cooperation and consultation with interested non-governmental entities in order to enhance implementation of measures to combat the illegal take of, and illegal trade in, wild fauna and flora.
- 7. In order to promote the widest measure of law enforcement cooperation and information sharing between the Parties to combat the illegal take of, and illegal trade in, wild fauna and flora, the Parties shall endeavour to identify opportunities, consistent with their respective law and in accordance with applicable international agreements, to enhance law enforcement cooperation and information sharing, for example by creating and participating in law enforcement networks.

Article XX.16: Environment Committee and Contact Points

- 1. Each Party shall designate and notify a contact point from its relevant authorities within 90 days of the date of entry into force of this Agreement for it, in order to facilitate communication between the Parties in the implementation of this Chapter. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Parties in the event of any change to its contact point.
- 2. The Parties establish an Environment Committee (Committee) composed of senior government representatives, or their designees, of the relevant trade and environment national authorities of each Party responsible for the implementation of this Chapter.
- 3. The purpose of the Committee is to oversee the implementation of this Chapter and its functions shall be to:

- (a) provide a forum to discuss and review the implementation of this Chapter;
- (b) provide periodic reports to the Commission regarding the implementation of this Chapter;
- (c) provide a forum to discuss and review cooperative activities under this Chapter;
- (d) consider and endeavour to resolve matters referred to it under Article 20.21 (Senior Representative Consultations);
- (e) coordinate with other committees established under this Agreement as appropriate; and
- (f) perform any other functions as the Parties may decide.
- 4. The Committee shall meet within one year of the date of entry into force of this Agreement. Thereafter, the Committee shall meet every two years unless the Committee agrees otherwise. The Chair of the Committee and the venue of its meetings shall rotate among each of the Parties in English alphabetical order, unless the Committee agrees otherwise.
- 5. All decisions and reports of the Committee shall be made by consensus, unless the Committee agrees otherwise or unless otherwise provided in this Chapter.
- 6. All decisions and reports of the Committee shall be made available to the public, unless the Committee agrees otherwise.
- 7. During the fifth year after the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the Committee shall:
 - (a) review the implementation and operation of this Chapter;
 - (b) report its findings, which may include recommendations, to the Parties and the Commission; and
 - (c) undertake subsequent reviews at intervals to be decided by the Parties.
- 8. The Committee shall provide for public input on matters relevant to the Committee's work, as appropriate, and shall hold a public session at each meeting.
- 9. The Parties recognise the importance of resource efficiency in the implementation of this Chapter and the desirability of using new technologies to facilitate communication and interaction between the Parties and with the public.

Article XX.17: Environment Consultations

1. The Parties shall at all times endeavour to agree on the interpretation and application of this Chapter, and shall make every effort through dialogue, consultation, exchange of information and, if appropriate, cooperation to address any matter that might affect the operation of this Chapter.

- 2. A Party (the requesting Party) may request consultations with any other Party (the responding Party) regarding any matter arising under this Chapter by delivering a written request to the responding Party's contact point. The requesting Party shall include information that is specific and sufficient to enable the responding Party to respond, including identification of the matter at issue and an indication of the legal basis for the request. The requesting Party shall circulate its request for consultations to the other Parties through their respective contact points.
- 3. A Party other than the requesting or the responding Party that considers it has a substantial interest in the matter (a participating Party) may participate in the consultations by delivering a written notice to the contact point of the requesting and responding Parties no later than seven days after the date of circulation of the request for consultations. The participating Party shall include in its notice an explanation of its substantial interest in the matter.
- 4. Unless the requesting and the responding Parties (the consulting Parties) agree otherwise, the consulting Parties shall enter into consultations promptly, and no later than 30 days after the date of receipt by the responding Party of the request.
- 5. The consulting Parties shall make every effort to arrive at a mutually satisfactory resolution to the matter, which may include appropriate cooperative activities. The consulting Parties may seek advice or assistance from any person or body they deem appropriate in order to examine the matter.

Article XX.18: Senior Representative Consultations

- 1. If the consulting Parties have failed to resolve the matter under Article XX.17 (Environment Consultations), a consulting Party may request that the Committee representatives from the consulting Parties convene to consider the matter by delivering a written request to the contact point of the other consulting Party or Parties. At the same time, the consulting Party making the request shall circulate the request to the contact points of other Parties.
- 2. The Committee representatives from the consulting Parties shall promptly convene following the delivery of the request, and shall seek to resolve the matter including, if appropriate, by gathering relevant scientific and technical information from governmental or non-governmental experts. Committee representatives from any other Party that considers it has a substantial interest in the matter may participate in the consultations.

Article XX.19: Ministerial Consultations

1. If the consulting Parties have failed to resolve the matter under Article XX.18 (Senior Representative Consultations), a consulting Party may refer the matter to the relevant Ministers of the consulting Parties who shall seek to resolve the matter.

2. Consultations pursuant to Article XX.17 (Environment Consultations), Article XX.18 (Senior Representative Consultations) and this Article may be held in person or by any technological means available as agreed by the consulting Parties. If in person, consultations shall be held in the capital of the responding Party, unless the consulting Parties agree otherwise.

Article XX.20 End of Consultations and Final Report.

- 1. The Parties shall produce a report by consensus that reflects the results of the consultations that were held and commit to implement the conclusions and recommendations thereof, as soon as possible.
- 3. Consultations shall be confidential and without prejudice to the rights of any Party in any future proceedings.

Article XX.21: Non-Application of Dispute Settlement

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