

CHAPTER 17 INSTITUTIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Section A: Institutional Provisions

Article 17.1 : Joint Committee

1. The Parties hereby establish a Joint Committee.
2. The Joint Committee shall be composed of relevant government officials of each Party and co-chaired by ministerial level officials of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam, or their respective designees. The Joint Committee shall agree on its meeting schedule and set its agenda.
3. The Joint Committee shall:
 - (a) review and monitor the implementation and operation of this Agreement;
 - (b) supervise and coordinate the work of all committees, working groups and other bodies established under this Agreement;
 - (c) consider ways to further enhance trade and investment relations between the Parties;
 - (d) without prejudice to the procedures under Chapter 15 (Dispute Settlement), seek to resolve problems or disputes that may arise relating to the interpretation or application of this Agreement;
 - (e) adopt its own rules of procedure; and
 - (f) carry out any other function relating to the areas covered by this Agreement as the Parties may agree.
4. The Joint Committee may:
 - (a) establish and delegate responsibilities to committees, working groups or other bodies;
 - (b) recommend to the Parties amendments to this Agreement;
 - (c) adopt interpretations of the provisions of this Agreement; and
 - (d) make recommendations.
5. When a Party submits information considered as confidential under its domestic laws and regulations to the Joint Committee, committees, working groups or any other body, the other Party shall treat that information as confidential.

Article 17.2 : Procedures of the Joint Committee

1. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the Joint Committee shall convene:
 - (a) in regular session every year, with such sessions to be held alternately in the territory of each Party; and
 - (b) in special session within 30 days of the request of either Party, with such sessions to be held in the territory of the other Party or at such locations as the Parties may agree.
2. The meetings of the Joint Committee may be held in person or, if agreed by the Parties, by any technological means available to them.
3. All decisions of the Joint Committee shall be taken by mutual agreement.

Article 17.3 : Committees and Working Groups

1. The committees, working groups or any other body may be established under the auspices of the Joint Committee.
2. The composition, frequency of meetings, and functions of the committees, working groups or any other body shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement or determined by the Joint Committee consistent with this Agreement.
3. The committees, working groups or any other body shall inform the Joint Committee of their schedule and agenda sufficiently in advance of their meetings. They shall report to the Joint Committee on their activities at each regular meeting of the Joint Committee. The creation or existence of a committee, a working group or any other body shall not prevent either Party from bringing any matter directly to the Joint Committee.
4. The Joint Committee may decide to change or undertake the task assigned to a committee, a working group or any other body or may dissolve a committee, a working group or any other body.

Section B : Final Provisions

Article 17.4 : Contact Points

1. In order to facilitate communications between the Parties on any trade matter covered by this Agreement, the Parties hereby establish the following contact points:
 - (a) for Korea, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy; and

(b) for Viet Nam, the Ministry of Industry and Trade;

or their respective successors.

2. Upon request of either Party, the contact point of the other Party shall indicate the office or official responsible for any matter relating to the implementation of this Agreement, and provide the required support to facilitate communications with the requesting Party. Each Party shall notify the other Party of any change in its contact point in due time.

Article 17.5 : Amendments

The Parties may agree, in writing, to amend this Agreement. Any amendment shall enter into force after the Parties exchange written notifications through diplomatic channels certifying that they have completed all necessary domestic legal procedures, on such date as the Parties may agree. The amendments shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 17.6 : Amendments to the WTO Agreement

If any provision of the WTO Agreement that the Parties have incorporated into this Agreement is amended, the Parties shall consult to consider amending the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as appropriate, in accordance with Article 17.5.

Article 17.7 : Annexes, Appendices, and Footnotes

The Annexes, Appendices, and footnotes to this Agreement shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 17.8 : Entry into Force

1. The entry into force of this Agreement is subject to the completion of necessary domestic legal procedures by each Party.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month, following the date of the exchange of the written notifications through diplomatic channels, by which the Parties inform each other that all necessary domestic legal procedures for the entry into force of this Agreement have been completed, or on such other date as the Parties may agree.

Article 17.9 : Duration

1. This Agreement shall be valid indefinitely.

2. Either Party may notify the other Party of its intention to denounce this Agreement in writing through diplomatic channels.

3. The denunciation shall take effect six months after the notification under paragraph
- 2.

Article 17.10 : Authentic Texts

This Agreement is drawn up in duplicate in the Korean, Vietnamese, and English languages, each of these texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence, the English text shall prevail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at _____ on this _____ day of _____ in the year _____.

**For the Government of the Republic of
Korea:**

**For the Government of the Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam:**