ANNEX 8-A

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

1. The Parties recognise the value of co-operation to facilitate and enhance trade in professional services, and the importance of ensuring that measures relating to professional qualification and registration requirements and procedures do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in professional services between them.

2. The Parties shall designate contact points to facilitate dialogue and exchange of information on professional service issues.

3. The Parties shall encourage and facilitate the establishment of dialogue between or among their regulators and relevant professional services industry bodies in areas of mutual interest, which may include engineering, architectural and veterinary services, with a view to the achievement of early outcomes on recognition of qualifications or professional registration.

4. Such recognition may be achieved through recognition of regulatory outcomes, recognition of qualifications and professional registration awarded by a Party as a means of complying with the regulatory requirements of the other Party (whether accorded unilaterally or by mutual arrangement) or recognition arrangements concluded between the Parties and between industry bodies or through such other means as the Parties may mutually agree.