

Chapter 13
Improvement of the Business Environment

Article 195
Basic Principles

Each Party shall, in accordance with its laws and regulations, take appropriate measures to further improve the business environment for the persons of the other Party conducting their business activities in the former Party.

Article 196
Sub-Committee on Improvement of the Business Environment

1. For the purposes of the effective implementation and operation of this Chapter, the Parties hereby establish a Sub-Committee on Improvement of the Business Environment (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as "the Sub-Committee").
2. The functions of the Sub-Committee shall be:
 - (a) reviewing findings reported by a Liaison Office on Improvement of the Business Environment (hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as "the Liaison Office") to be designated by each Party under Article 197;
 - (b) addressing, and seeking ways to promptly resolve, issues related to the business environment on its own initiative or based on the findings reported by the Liaison Office;
 - (c) reporting its findings and decisions, including those on measures that should be taken by the Parties, to the Parties;
 - (d) reviewing, where appropriate, the measures taken by the Parties in relation to such decisions referred to in subparagraph (c);
 - (e) making available to the public, in an appropriate manner, the decisions referred to in subparagraph (c) and the results of the review referred to in subparagraph (d);

- (f) reporting promptly the findings and decisions referred to in subparagraph (c) to the Commission;
- (g) cooperating, in an appropriate manner, with other Sub-Committees established under this Agreement, with a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of works. The forms of such cooperation may include:
 - (i) informing the results of its consideration to such other Sub-Committees;
 - (ii) seeking opinions from such other Sub-Committees;
 - (iii) inviting to the Sub-Committee the members of such other Sub-Committees; and
 - (iv) where appropriate, transferring the relevant issues to such other Sub-Committees; and
- (h) other functions assigned by the Commission.

3. The Sub-Committee shall be composed of government officials of the Parties. The Sub-Committee may invite representatives of relevant entities other than the Governments of the Parties with the necessary expertise relevant to the issues to be addressed.

4. The Sub-Committee shall hold meetings at such times and venues or by means, as may be agreed by the Parties.

Article 197 Liaison Office

1. Each Party shall designate and maintain the Liaison Office in the Party.

2. The functions of the Liaison Office in each Party shall be:

- (a) receiving complaints, inquiries and/or requests for consultations from the persons of the other Party with regard to the laws, regulations and other measures of that Party which may adversely affect the business activities of such persons of that other Party;
- (b) transmitting the complaints, inquiries and/or requests for consultations referred to in subparagraph (a) to relevant authorities of that Party;
- (c) transmitting responses from the relevant authorities of that Party to the persons that submitted the complaints, made inquiries and/or made requests for consultations;
- (d) providing necessary information and advice to the persons that submitted the complaints, made inquiries and/or made requests for consultations, in collaboration with relevant authorities of that Party;
- (e) when necessary, submit to the Sub-Committee the relevant information regarding complaints, inquiries and/or requests for consultations from the persons of that Party with regard to the laws, regulations and other measures of the other Party which may adversely affect the business activities of such persons; and
- (f) reporting its findings, with regard to the exercise of its functions referred to in subparagraphs (a) through (e), to relevant Sub-Committees and/or the other consulting fora referred to in Article 198.

3. The Liaison Office in each Party shall endeavor to respond within a reasonable period of time to the persons that submitted complaints, made inquiries and/or made requests for consultations.

4. Communications between the Liaison Office in a Party and the persons of the other Party referred to in paragraph 2 may be conducted through an authority or an organization designated as a contact point by the Government of that other Party.

5. For the purposes of subparagraph 2(e), the contact point of a Party may also provide relevant information to its own Liaison Office.

6. Paragraphs 2 through 5 shall not be construed as to prevent or restrict any contacts made by the persons of a Party directly to relevant authorities of the other Party or to its own Liaison Office.

7. The Liaison Office shall be:

- (a) for Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or its successor; and
- (b) for Peru, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism, or its successor.

Article 198 Consulting Fora

Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to impede the use of other consulting fora between the Parties for the improvement of the business environment in the Parties.

Article 199 Implementation of the Decisions of the Sub-Committee

1. In implementing Article 195, the decisions of the Sub-Committee referred to in Article 196 shall be respected.

2. The Parties may cooperate to facilitate the implementation of the decisions of the Sub-Committee.