

EU proposal

Without prejudice

This document contains an EU proposal for a Customs and Trade Facilitation chapter in the Trade Part of a possible modernised EU-Chile Association Agreement. It has been tabled for discussion with Chile. The actual text in the final agreement will be a result of negotiations between the EU and Chile. The EU reserves the right to make subsequent modifications to this proposal.

EU-Chile Free Trade Agreement

EU TEXTUAL PROPOSAL

CUSTOMS AND TRADE FACILITATION CHAPTER

Article X. 1

Objectives

1. The Parties recognise the importance of customs and trade facilitation in the evolving global trading environment.
2. The Parties recognize that international trade and customs instruments and standards are the basis for import, export and transit requirements and procedures.
3. The Parties recognize that legislation should be non-discriminatory and customs procedures should be based upon the use of modern methods and effective controls to combat fraud, protect consumer health and safety and promote legitimate trade. Each Party should periodically review its legislation and customs procedures. The Parties also recognize that their customs procedures should be no more administratively burdensome or trade restrictive than necessary to achieve legitimate objectives and that they should be applied in a manner that is predictable, consistent and transparent.
4. The Parties agree to reinforce their cooperation with a view to ensuring that the relevant legislation and procedures, as well as the administrative capacity of the relevant administrations, fulfil the objectives of promoting trade facilitation while ensuring effective customs control.

Article X. 2

Customs cooperation and mutual administrative assistance

1. The Parties shall cooperate on customs matters between their respective authorities in order to ensure that the objectives set out in Article 1 are attained.
2. The Parties shall develop cooperation, inter alia, by:
 - (a) exchanging information concerning customs legislation, its implementation, and customs procedures; particularly in the following areas:
 - simplification and modernisation of customs procedures,
 - enforcement of intellectual property rights by the customs authorities,
 - facilitation of transit movements and transshipment,
 - relations with the business community,
 - supply chain security and risk management.
 - (b) working together on the customs-related aspects of securing and facilitating the international trade supply chain in accordance with the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (SAFE Framework) of the World Customs Organization (WCO);

- (c) considering developing joint initiatives relating to import, export and other customs procedures including technical assistance, as well as towards ensuring an effective service to the business community;
- (d) strengthening their cooperation in the field of customs in international organisations such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO);
- (e) establishing, where relevant and appropriate, the mutual recognition of their Authorized Economic Operator programmes including equivalent trade facilitation measures;
- (f) establishing minimum standards, to the extent practicable, for risk management techniques and related requirements and programmes. Where relevant and appropriate, the Parties shall also consider mutual recognition of risk management techniques, risk standards and security controls.
- (g) endeavouring to harmonize their data requirements for import, export and other customs procedures by implementing common standards and data elements in accordance with the World Customs Organization (WCO) Data Model; and
- (h) maintaining a dialogue between their respective policy experts to promote the utility, efficiency, and applicability of advance rulings for authorities and traders.

[3. Any exchange of information between the Parties under this Chapter shall be *mutatis mutandis* subject to the confidentiality of information and personal data protection requirements set out in Article 10 of the Protocol on mutual administrative assistance in customs matters to the Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part, of 13 June 2001, as well as any confidentiality and privacy requirements set out in the legislation of the Parties.

4. The Parties shall provide each other with mutual administrative assistance in customs matters in accordance with the provisions of Protocol on mutual administrative assistance in customs matters to the Framework Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part, of 13 June 2001.]

Article X. 3

Customs and legislative procedures

1. The Parties shall ensure that their respective customs provisions and procedures shall be based upon:

- (a) international instruments and standards applicable in the area of customs and trade, including the substantive elements of the Revised Kyoto Convention on the Simplification and Harmonisation of Customs Procedures, the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, as well as the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade and the Customs Data Model of the WCO;
- (b) the protection and facilitation of legitimate trade through effective enforcement and compliance of legislative requirements;

(c) legislation that is proportionate and non-discriminatory, avoids unnecessary burdens on economic operators, provides for further facilitation for operators with high levels of compliance, including favourable treatment with respect to customs controls prior to the release of goods, and ensures safeguards against fraud and illicit or damageable activities.

2. In order to improve working methods, as well as to ensure non-discrimination, transparency, efficiency, integrity and accountability of operations, the Parties shall:

(a) simplify and review requirements and formalities wherever possible with a view to the rapid release and clearance of goods;

(b) work towards the further simplification and standardisation of data and documentation required by customs and other agencies in order to reduce the time and costs thereof for traders or operators, including small and medium-sized enterprises;

(c) ensure that the highest standards of integrity be maintained, through the application of measures reflecting the principles of the relevant international conventions and instruments in this field.

Article X. 4

Release of Goods

Each Party shall ensure that its customs authorities, border agencies or other competent authorities:

(a) provide for the prompt release of goods within a period no greater than that required to ensure compliance with its customs and other trade-related laws and formalities;

(b) enable the release of goods on their arrival subject to electronic submission of information on the goods by traders allowing processing of that information by the competent authorities prior to the arrival of the goods and provided the conditions for the release are fulfilled;

(c) allow for the release of goods prior to the final determination and payment of customs duties, taxes, and fees. Before releasing the goods, a Party may require that an importer provides sufficient guarantee in the form of a surety, a deposit, or some other appropriate instrument. Such guarantee shall not be greater than the amount required to ensure payment of customs duties, taxes, fees and charges due for the goods covered by the guarantee. The guarantee shall be discharged when it is no longer required.

Article X. 5

Simplified Customs Procedures

1. Each Party shall adopt or maintain measures allowing traders or operators fulfilling criteria specified in its laws and regulations to benefit from further simplification of customs procedures. Such measures may include customs declaration containing a reduced set of data or supporting documents, or periodical customs declaration for the determination and

payment of customs duties and taxes covering multiple imports within a given period, after the release of those imported goods.

Article X. 6

Data and Documentation

1. Each Party shall ensure that import, export and transit formalities, data and documentation requirements:

(a) are adopted and/or applied with a view to a rapid release of goods, provided the conditions for the release are fulfilled;

(b) are adopted and/or applied in a manner that aims to reduce the time and cost of compliance for traders and operators;

(c) are the least trade-restrictive measure chosen, where two or more alternative measures are reasonably available for fulfilling the policy objective or objectives in question; and

(d) are not maintained, including parts thereof, if no longer required.

2. Each Party shall apply common customs procedures and uniform customs documents for release of goods throughout its customs territory.

Article X. 7

Use of information technology and electronic payment

1. Each Party shall use information technologies that expedite procedures for the release of goods in order to facilitate trade between the Parties.

2. Each Party shall:

(a) make available by electronic means a customs declaration that is required for the import, transit or export of goods;

(b) allow a customs declaration to be submitted in electronic format;

(c) establish a means of providing for the electronic exchange of customs information with its trading community;

(d) promote the electronic exchange of data between their respective traders and customs administrations, as well as other related agencies.

(e) use electronic risk management systems for assessment and targeting that enable its customs authorities to focus their inspections on high-risk goods and that facilitate the release and movement of low-risk goods.

3. Each Party shall adopt or maintain procedures allowing the option of electronic payment for duties, taxes, fees and charges collected by customs incurred upon importation and exportation.

Article X. 8

Transit and Transshipment

1. Each Party shall ensure the facilitation and effective control of transshipment operations and transit movements through their respective territories.
2. Each Party shall promote and implement regional transit arrangements with a view to facilitating trade.
3. Each Party shall ensure cooperation and coordination between all concerned authorities and agencies in their respective territories to facilitate traffic in transit.
4. Each Party shall allow goods intended for import to be moved within its territory under customs control from a customs office of entry to another customs office in its territory from where the goods would be released or cleared.

Article X. 9

Temporary Admission

1. For the purposes of this Article, the term "temporary admission" means the customs procedure under which certain goods (including means of transport) can be brought into a customs territory conditionally relieved from payment of import duties and taxes and without application of import prohibitions or restrictions of economic character. Such goods must be imported for a specific purpose and must be intended for re-exportation within a specified period and without having undergone any change except normal depreciation due to the use made of them.

2. Each Party undertakes to grant temporary admission, with total conditional relief from import duties and taxes and without application of import restrictions or prohibitions of economic character, as provided for in its laws and regulations, to the following goods:

(a) Goods for display or use at exhibitions, fairs, meetings or similar events (goods intended for display or demonstration at an event; goods intended for use in connection with the display of foreign products at an event; equipment including interpretation equipment, sound and image recording apparatus and films of an educational, scientific or cultural character intended for use at international meetings, conferences or congresses); products obtained incidentally during the event from temporarily imported goods, as a result of the demonstration of displayed machinery or apparatus;

(b) Professional equipment (equipment for the press or for sound or television broadcasting which is necessary for representatives of the press or of broadcasting or television organizations visiting the territory of another country for purposes of reporting or in order to transmit or record material for specified programmes; cinematographic equipment necessary for a person visiting the territory of another country in order to make a specified film or films; any other equipment necessary for the exercise of the calling, trade or profession of a person visiting the territory of another country to perform a specified task, insofar as it is not to be used for the industrial manufacture or packaging of goods or (except in the case of hand tools) for the exploitation of natural resources, for the construction, repair or maintenance of buildings or for earth moving and like projects; ancillary apparatus for the equipment mentioned above, and accessories therefor); component parts imported for repair of professional equipment temporarily admitted;

(c) Goods imported in connection with a commercial operation but whose importation does not in itself constitute a commercial operation (packings which are imported filled for re-exportation empty or filled, or are imported empty for re-exportation filled; containers, whether or not filled with goods, and accessories and equipment for temporarily admitted containers, which are either imported with a container to be re-exported separately or with another container, or are imported separately to be re-exported with a container and component parts intended for the repair of containers granted temporary admission; pallets; samples; advertising films; other goods imported in connection with a commercial operation);

(d) Goods imported in connection with a manufacturing operation (matrices, blocks, plates, moulds, drawings, plans, models and other similar articles; measuring, controlling and checking instruments and other similar articles; special tools and instruments, imported for use during a manufacturing process); replacement means of production (instruments, apparatus and machines made available to a customer by a supplier or repairer, pending the delivery or repair of similar goods);

(e) Goods imported exclusively for educational, scientific or cultural purposes (scientific equipment, pedagogic material, welfare material for seafarers, and any other goods imported in connection with educational, scientific or cultural activities); spare parts for scientific equipment and pedagogic material which has been granted temporary admission; tools specially designed for the maintenance, checking, gauging or repair of such equipment;

(f) Personal effects (all articles, new or used, which a traveller may reasonably require for his or her personal use during the journey, taking into account all the circumstances of the journey, but excluding any goods imported for commercial purposes); goods imported for sports purposes (sports requisites and other articles for use by travellers in sports contests or demonstrations or for training in the territory of temporary admission);

(g) Tourist publicity material (goods imported for the purpose of encouraging the public to visit another foreign country, in particular in order to attend cultural, religious, touristic, sporting or professional meetings or demonstrations held there);

(h) Goods imported as frontier traffic (goods carried by frontier zone inhabitants in the performance of their profession or trade (doctors, craftsmen, etc.); personal or household effects of frontier zone inhabitants imported by them for repair, manufacture or processing; equipment intended for working on land located within the frontier zone of the territory of temporary admission; equipment owned by an official body, imported in connection with a relief operation (fire, floods, etc.));

(i) Goods imported for humanitarian purposes (medical, surgical and laboratory equipment and relief consignments, such as vehicles and other means of transport, blankets, tents, prefabricated houses or other goods of prime necessity, forwarded as aid to those affected by natural disaster and similar catastrophes);

(j) Animals imported for specific purposes (dressage, training, breeding, shoeing or weighing, veterinary treatment, testing (for example, with a view to purchase), participation in shows, exhibitions, contests, competitions or demonstrations, entertainment (circus animals, etc.), touring (including pet animals of travellers), exercise of function (police dogs or horses; detector dogs, dogs for the blind, etc.), rescue operations, transhumance or grazing, performance of work or transport, medical purposes (delivery of snake poison, etc.)).

3. Each Party shall, for the temporary admission of the goods referred to in paragraph 2 and regardless of their origin, accept A.T.A. carnets issued in the other Party, endorsed there and guaranteed by an association forming part of the international guarantee chain, certified by the competent authorities and valid in the customs territory of the importing Party.

Article X. 10

Risk Management

1. Each Party shall adopt or maintain a risk management system for customs control.
2. Each Party shall design and apply risk management in a manner as to avoid arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination, or disguised restrictions to international trade.
3. Each Party shall concentrate customs control and other relevant border controls on high-risk consignments and expedite the release of low-risk consignments. Each Party may also select, on a random basis, consignments for such controls as part of its risk management.
4. Each Party shall base risk management on assessment of risk through appropriate selectivity criteria.

Article X. 11

Post-clearance Audit

1. With a view to expediting the release of goods, each Party shall adopt or maintain post-clearance audit to ensure compliance with customs and other related laws and regulations.
2. Each Party shall conduct post-clearance audits in a risk-based manner.
3. Each Party shall conduct post-clearance audits in a transparent manner. Where an audit is performed and conclusive results have been achieved the Party shall, without delay, notify the person whose record is audited of the results, the person's rights and obligations and the reasons for the results.
4. The Parties acknowledge that the information obtained in a post-clearance audit may be used in further administrative or judicial proceedings.
5. The Parties shall, wherever practicable, use the result of post-clearance audit in applying risk management.

Article X. 12

Authorised Economic Operator - AEO

1. Each Party shall establish or maintain a trade facilitation partnership programme for operators who meet specified criteria, hereinafter, called authorised operators.
2. The specified criteria to qualify as authorised operators shall be related to compliance, or the risk of non-compliance, with requirements specified in the Parties' laws, regulations or procedures. The specified criteria, which shall be published, may include:
 - (a) the absence of any serious infringement or repeated infringements of customs legislation and taxation rules, including no record of serious criminal offences relating to the economic activity of the applicant;

(b) the demonstration by the applicant of a high level of control of his or her operations and of the flow of goods, by means of a system of managing commercial and, where appropriate, transport records, which allows appropriate customs controls;

(c) financial solvency, which shall be deemed to be proven where the applicant has good financial standing, which enables him or her to fulfil his or her commitments, with due regard to the characteristics of the type of business activity concerned;

(d) proven competences or professional qualifications directly related to the activity carried out; and

(e) appropriate security and safety standards.

3. The specified criteria to qualify as an authorised operator shall not be designed or applied so as to afford or create arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between operators where the same conditions prevail and shall allow the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises.

4. The trade facilitation partnership programme shall include the following benefits:

(a) low documentary and data requirements, as appropriate;

(b) low rate of physical inspections and examinations as appropriate;

(c) rapid release time as appropriate;

(d) deferred payment of duties, taxes, fees and charges;

(e) use of comprehensive guarantees or reduced guarantees;

(f) a single customs declaration for all imports or exports in a given period; and

(g) clearance of goods at the premises of the authorized economic operator or another place authorized by customs.

Article X. 13

Transparency

1. The Parties agree:

(a) on the importance of timely consultations with trade representatives on legislative proposals and general procedures related to customs and trade issues. To that end, appropriate consultations between administrations and the business community, shall take place in each Party.

(b) to ensure that their respective customs and related requirements and procedures continue to meet the needs of the trading community, follow best practices, and remain as little trade-restrictive as possible.

2. Each Member shall, as appropriate, provide for regular consultations between border agencies and traders or other stakeholders within its territory.

3. Each Party shall promptly publish, in a non-discriminatory and easily accessible manner, and as far as possible through electronic means, new legislation and general procedures related to customs and trade facilitation issues prior to the application of any such legislation and procedures, as well as changes to and interpretations of such legislation and procedures. This shall include:

- (a) importation, exportation and transit procedures (including port, airport, and other entry-point procedures) and required forms and documents;
- (b) applied rates of duties and taxes of any kind imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation;
- (c) fees and charges imposed by or for governmental agencies on or in connection with importation, exportation or transit;
- (d) rules for the classification or valuation of products for customs purposes;
- (e) laws, regulations and administrative rulings of general application relating to rules of origin;
- (f) import, export or transit restrictions or prohibitions;
- (g) penalty provisions against breaches of import, export or transit formalities;
- (h) appeal procedures;
- (i) agreements or parts thereof with any country or countries relating to importation, exportation or transit;
- (j) procedures relating to the administration of tariff quotas;
- (k) hours of operation and operating procedures for customs offices at ports and border crossing points;
- (l) points of contact for information enquiries; and
- (m) other relevant notices of an administrative nature in relation to the above.

4. Each Party shall ensure there is a reasonable time period between the publication of new or amended legislation, procedures and fees or charges and their entry into force.

5. Each Party shall make available, and update as appropriate, the following through the internet:

- (a) a description of its importation, exportation and transit procedures, including appeal procedures, informing of the practical steps needed to import and export, and for transit;
- (b) the forms and documents required for importation into, exportation from, or transit through the territory of that Party;
- (c) contact information on enquiry points.

6. Each Party shall establish or maintain one or more enquiry points to answer within a reasonable time enquiries of governments, traders and other interested parties on customs and other trade-related matters.

7. A Party shall not require the payment of a fee for answering enquiries or providing required forms and documents.

8. The enquiry points shall answer enquiries and provide the forms and documents within a reasonable time period set by each Party, which may vary depending on the nature or complexity of the request.

Article X. 14

Advance Rulings

1. An advance ruling is a written decision provided to an applicant prior to the importation of a good covered by the application that sets forth the treatment that the Party shall provide to the good at the time of importation with regard to:

- (a) the good's tariff classification; and
- (b) the origin of the good.

2. Each Party shall issue, through its customs authorities, an advance ruling that sets forth the treatment to be provided to the goods concerned. That ruling shall be issued in a reasonable, time bound manner to the applicant that has submitted a written request, including in electronic format, containing all necessary information in accordance with the laws and regulations of the issuing Party.

3. The advance ruling shall be valid for at least a three-year period of time after its issuance unless the law, facts or circumstances supporting the original advance ruling have changed.

4. A Party may decline to issue an advance ruling where the question raised is the subject of administrative or judicial review, or where the application does not relate to any intended use of the advance ruling. If a Party declines to issue an advance ruling, it shall promptly notify the applicant in writing, setting out the relevant facts and the basis for its decision.

5. Each Party shall publish, at least:

- (a) the requirements for the application for an advance ruling, including the information to be provided and the format;
- (b) the time period by which it will issue an advance ruling; and
- (c) the length of time for which the advance ruling is valid.

6. Where a Party revokes or modifies or invalidates an advance ruling, it shall provide written notice to the applicant setting out the relevant facts and the basis for its decision. Where the Party revokes or modifies or invalidates an advance ruling with retroactive effect, it may only do so where the ruling was based on incomplete, incorrect, false or misleading information.

7. An advance ruling issued by a Party shall be binding on that Party in respect of the applicant that sought it. The Party may provide that the advance ruling be binding on the applicant.

8. Each Party shall provide, upon written request of an applicant, a review of the advance ruling or of the decision to revoke, modify or invalidate it.

9. Subject to any confidentiality requirements substantive elements of these rulings shall be published, e.g. on the Internet.

10. To facilitate trade, the Parties shall include in their bilateral dialogue regular updates on changes in their respective legislation on the matters listed above.

Article X. 15

Customs Brokers

The Parties agree that their respective customs provisions and procedures shall not require the mandatory use of customs brokers. Each Party shall notify and publish its measures on the use of customs brokers. The Parties shall apply transparent, non-discriminatory and proportionate rules if and when licensing customs brokers.

Article X. 16

Pre-shipment Inspections

The Parties shall not require the mandatory use of pre-shipment inspections as defined in the WTO Agreement on Pre-shipment Inspection, or any other inspection activity performed at destination, before customs clearance, by private companies.

Article X. 17

Appeals

1. Each Party shall provide effective, prompt, non-discriminatory and easily accessible procedures to guarantee the right of appeal against the administrative actions, rulings and decisions of customs or other competent authorities affecting import or export of goods or goods in transit.

2. Appeal procedures may include administrative review by the supervising authority and judicial review of decisions taken at the administrative level according to the legislation of the Parties.

3. Any person who has applied to the customs authorities for a decision and has not obtained a decision on that application within the relevant time-limits shall also be entitled to exercise the right of appeal.

4. Each Party shall provide a person to whom it issues an administrative decision with the reasons for the administrative decision, so as to enable such a person to have recourse to appeal procedures where necessary.

Article X. 18

Penalties

1. Each Party shall ensure that its respective customs laws and regulations provide that any penalties imposed for breaches of customs regulations or procedural requirements be proportionate and non-discriminatory.
2. Penalties for a breach of a customs law, regulation, or procedural requirement are imposed only on the person(s) responsible for the breach under its laws.
3. Penalties imposed shall depend on the facts and circumstances of the case and shall be commensurate with the degree and severity of the breach. Each Party shall avoid incentives for the assessment or collection of a penalty, or conflicts of interest in the assessment and collection of penalties.
4. In case of voluntary prior disclosure to a customs administration of the circumstances of a breach of a customs law, regulation, or procedural requirement, each Party is encouraged to consider this as a potential mitigating factor when establishing a penalty.
5. When a penalty is imposed for a breach of a customs laws, regulations, or procedural requirements, an explanation in writing is provided to the person(s) upon whom the penalty is imposed specifying the nature of the breach and the applicable law, regulation or procedure under which the amount or range of penalty for the breach has been prescribed

Article X. 19

Customs Committee

1. The Parties hereby establish a Special Committee on Customs, Trade Facilitation and Rules of Origin, composed of representatives of the Parties. The Committee shall meet on a date and with an agenda agreed in advance by the Parties. The office of chairperson of the Committee shall be held alternately by each of the Parties and rotate annually. The Committee shall report to the [xx *Committee*].
2. The Committee shall ensure the proper functioning of this Chapter, the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights by Customs in sub-section xx of the IPR chapter, the [*Protocol xx on Rules of Origin*], the [*Protocol xx on MAA*] and any additional customs-related provisions agreed between the Parties, and examine all issues arising from their application.
3. The functions of the Committee shall include:
 - (a) monitoring the implementation and administration of this Section and of the Annex/Protocol on rules of origin;
 - (b) providing a forum to consult and discuss all issues concerning customs, including in particular customs procedures, customs valuation, tariff regimes, customs nomenclature, customs cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters;
 - (c) providing a forum to consult and discuss issues relating to rules of origin and administrative cooperation;

(d) enhancing cooperation on the development, application and enforcement of customs procedures, mutual administrative assistance in customs matters, rules of origin and administrative cooperation.

4. The Committee shall examine the need for, and take, decisions, opinions, proposals or recommendations on all issues arising from their implementation. It shall have the power to adopt decisions on mutual recognition of risk management techniques, risk standards, security controls and trade partnership programmes, including aspects such as data transmission and mutually agreed benefits.

5. The Parties may agree to hold ad hoc meetings for customs cooperation or for rules of origin or mutual administrative assistance.

Article X. 20

Repaired Goods

Article X.9

Repaired Goods

[Jointly tabled and to be discussed in coordination with Trade in Goods Chapter]

1. No Party shall apply a customs duty to a good, regardless of its origin, that re-enters the Party's customs territory after that good has been temporarily exported from its customs territory to the customs territory of the other Party for repair.¹
2. Paragraph 1 does not apply to a good imported in bond, into free trade zones, or in similar status, that is then exported for repair and is not re-imported in bond, into free trade zones, or in similar status.
3. No Party shall apply a customs duty to a good, regardless of its origin, imported temporarily from the customs territory of the other Party for repair.²

DEFINITION

- (a) "Repair" means any processing operation undertaken on a good to remedy operating defects or material damage and entailing the re-establishment of the good to its original function or to ensure compliance with technical requirements for its use, without which the good could no longer be used in the normal way for the purposes for which they were intended. Repair of goods includes restoration and maintenance but does not include an operation or process that:

¹ In the EU, the outward processing procedure as laid down in Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 is used for the purpose of this paragraph.

² In the EU, the inward processing procedure as laid down in Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 is used for the purpose of this paragraph

- (i) destroys the essential characteristics of a good, or creates a new or commercially different good;
- (ii) transforms an unfinished good into a finished good; or
- (iii) is used to improve or upgrade the technical performance of goods.

Article X. 21

Fees and Formalities

[Jointly tabled and to be discussed in coordination with Trade in Goods Chapter]

1. Fees and other charges imposed by a Party on or in connection with importation or exportation of a good of the other Party shall be limited in amount to the approximate cost of services rendered, and shall not represent an indirect protection to domestic goods or taxation of imports or exports for fiscal purposes. No Party shall levy fees or other charges on or in connection with importation or exportation on an ad valorem basis.
2. Each Party may impose charges or recover costs only where specific services are rendered, in particular the following:
 - (a) attendance, where requested, by customs staff outside official office hours or at premises other than customs premises;
 - (b) analyses or expert reports on goods and postal fees for the return of goods to an applicant, particularly in respect of decisions relating to binding information or the provision of information concerning the application of the customs legislation;
 - (c) the examination or sampling of goods for verification purposes, or the destruction of goods, where costs other than the cost of using customs staff are involved;
 - (d) exceptional control measures, where these are necessary due to the nature of the goods or to a potential risk.
3. Each Party shall promptly publish all fees and charges it imposes in connection with importation or exportation in such a manner as to enable governments, traders and other interested parties, to become acquainted with them.
4. No Party shall require consular transactions, including related fees and charges, in connection with the importation of any good of the other Party.