

ANNEX 9-A

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

General Provisions

1. Each Party shall encourage its relevant bodies to establish or maintain dialogues with the relevant bodies of the other Party with the aim of facilitating the supply of professional services between the Parties through greater recognition of education or experience obtained in the territory of the other Party. This includes encouraging relevant professional bodies to engage in cooperation with a view to formalising recognition of licensing, registration and professional standards.
2. Each Party shall encourage its relevant bodies to take into account agreements that relate to professional services in the development of agreements on the recognition of professional qualifications, licensing and registration.
3. A Party may consider, if feasible, taking steps to implement a temporary or project specific licensing or registration regime based on a foreign supplier's home licence or recognised professional body membership, without the need for further written examination. That temporary or limited licence regime should not operate to prevent a foreign supplier from gaining a local licence once that supplier satisfies the applicable local licensing requirements.

Engineering and Architectural Services

4. Further to paragraph 2, the Parties recognise the work in APEC to promote the mutual recognition of professional competence in engineering and architecture, and the professional mobility of these professions, under the APEC Engineer and APEC Architect frameworks.
5. Each Party shall encourage its relevant bodies to work towards becoming authorised to operate APEC Engineer and APEC Architect Registers.
6. A Party shall encourage its relevant bodies operating APEC Engineer or APEC Architect Registers to enter into mutual recognition arrangements with the relevant bodies of the other Party operating those registers.

Legal Services

7. The Parties recognise that transnational legal services that cover the laws of multiple jurisdictions play an essential role in facilitating trade and investment and in promoting economic growth and business confidence.

8. If a Party regulates or seeks to regulate foreign lawyers and transnational legal practice, the Party shall encourage its relevant bodies to consider, subject to its laws and regulations, whether or in what manner:

- (a) foreign lawyers may practise foreign law on the basis of their right to practise that law in their home jurisdiction;
- (b) foreign lawyers may prepare for and appear in commercial arbitration, conciliation and mediation proceedings;
- (c) local ethical, conduct and disciplinary standards are applied to foreign lawyers in a manner that is no more burdensome for foreign lawyers than the requirements imposed on domestic (host country) lawyers;
- (d) alternatives for minimum residency requirements are provided for foreign lawyers, such as requirements that foreign lawyers disclose to clients their status as a foreign lawyer, or maintain professional indemnity insurance or alternatively disclose to clients that they lack that insurance;
- (e) the following modes of providing transnational legal services are accommodated:
 - (i) on a temporary fly-in, fly-out basis;
 - (ii) through the use of web-based or telecommunications technology;
 - (iii) by establishing a commercial presence; and
 - (iv) through a combination of fly-in, fly-out and one or both of the other modes listed in subparagraphs (ii) and (iii);
- (f) foreign lawyers and domestic (host country) lawyers may work together in the delivery of fully integrated transnational legal services; and
- (g) a foreign law firm may use the firm name of its choice.

Professional Services Working Group

9. The Parties hereby establish a Professional Services Working Group, which shall:

- (a) meet on request of the Joint Commission to ensure the observance of and discuss progress towards the objectives in paragraphs 1 through 3; and
- (b) support the Parties' relevant professional and regulatory bodies in pursuing the activities listed in paragraphs 1 through 3.