

## ANNEX 3-A

### OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

1. This Annex shall remain in force for a period of 12 years from the date of entry into force of this Agreement according to Article 30.5.1 (Entry into Force).
2. A Party may apply the arrangements under paragraph 5 only if it has notified the other Parties of its intention to apply those arrangements at the time of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party. That Party (the notifying Party) may apply these arrangements for a period not exceeding five years after the date of entry into force of this Agreement for that Party.
3. The notifying Party may extend the period under paragraph 2 for one additional period of no more than five years if it notifies the other Parties no later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the initial period.
4. In no case shall a Party apply the arrangements under paragraph 5 beyond 12 years from the date of entry into force of this Agreement according to Article 30.5.1 (Entry into Force).
5. An exporting Party may require that a certification of origin for a good exported from its territory be either:
  - (a) issued by a competent authority; or
  - (b) completed by an approved exporter.
6. If an exporting Party applies the arrangements under paragraph 5, it shall provide the requirements for those arrangements in publicly available laws or regulations, inform the other Parties at the time of the notification under paragraph 2, and inform the other Parties at least 90 days before any modification to the requirements comes into effect.
7. An importing Party may treat a certification of origin issued by a competent authority or completed by an approved exporter in the same manner as a certification of origin under Section B.
8. An importing Party may condition acceptance of a certification of origin issued by a competent authority or completed by an approved exporter on the authentication of elements such as stamps, signatures or approved exporter numbers. To facilitate that authentication, the Parties concerned shall exchange information on those elements.

9. If a claim for preferential tariff treatment is based on a certification of origin issued by a competent authority or completed by an approved exporter, the importing Party may make a verification request to the exporter or producer in accordance with Article 3.27 (Verification of Origin) or to the competent authority that issued the certification of origin.

10. If a Party makes a verification request to the competent authority, the competent authority shall respond to it in the same manner as an exporter or producer under Article 3.27 (Verification of Origin). A competent authority shall maintain records in the same manner as an exporter or producer under Article 3.26 (Record Keeping Requirements). If the competent authority that issued the certification of origin fails to respond to a verification request, the importing Party may deny the claim for preferential tariff treatment.

11. If an importing Party makes a verification request under Article 3.27.1(b) (Verification of Origin), it shall, on request of the Party where the exporter or producer is located and in accordance with the importing Party's laws and regulations, inform that Party. The Parties concerned shall decide the manner and timing of informing the Party where the exporter or producer is located of the verification request. In addition, on request of the importing Party, the competent authority of the Party where the exporter or producer is located may, as it deems appropriate and in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Party where the exporter or producer is located, assist in the verification in the same manner as Article 3.27.7 (Verification of Origin).