
PART V**INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES****Chapter Sixteen****Institutional Provisions****Article 1600: Committee on Internal Trade**

The Parties shall establish a Committee on Internal Trade to:

- (a) supervise the implementation of this Agreement;
- (b) assist in the resolution of disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of this Agreement;
- (c) approve the annual operating budget of the Secretariat; and
- (d) consider any other matter that may affect the operation of this Agreement.

Article 1601: Committee Structure and Procedures

1. The Committee shall be composed of cabinet-level representatives of each of the Parties or their designates.
2. The Committee may establish its own practices and procedures.
3. The Committee shall meet:
 - (a) annually; and
 - (b) at any other time at the call of the Chairperson, at the request of two or more Parties or as may be agreed by the Committee.
4. Each Party shall act as Chairperson of the Committee for a period of one calendar year. At the first meeting of the Committee, the first Chairperson and the Chairperson for each of the following 12 years shall be determined by drawing lots.
5. All decisions and recommendations of the Committee shall be taken by consensus, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.
6. The Committee shall prepare an annual report on the functioning of this Agreement, including the operation of Chapter Seventeen (Dispute Resolution Procedures).

Article 1602: Working Group on Adjustment

1. The Parties shall, no later than April 1, 1996, establish a Working Group on Adjustment, composed of representatives of each Party, which shall seek to determine the effects of this Agreement on each Province in each fiscal year.
2. The Working Group on Adjustment shall report annually to the Committee and may make recommendations for appropriate action to assist the Parties to adjust to the effects of this Agreement.
3. The Working Group on Adjustment shall meet at least semi-annually or at such other times as may be agreed by that Working Group.
4. The Working Group on Adjustment shall be dissolved on April 1, 2006, or at such other time as may be agreed by the Committee.

Article 1603: Secretariat

1. The Committee shall establish a Secretariat consisting of an office the location of which shall be determined no later than the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
2. The Committee shall appoint a Secretary to head the Secretariat for a term to be determined no later than the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
3. The Secretariat shall be funded in accordance with Annex 1603.3.
4. The Secretariat shall provide administrative and operational support to the Committee, working groups and other committees and such other support as the Committee may direct.

Annex 1603.3

Secretariat Funding

1. The annual operating budget of the Secretariat, as approved by the Committee, shall be funded by contributions from the Parties based on the following method of apportionment:
 - (a) Federal Government - 50 per cent of total budget; and
 - (b) Provinces - 50 per cent of total budget.

2. The respective share of each Province shall be determined by the size of its population relative to the total population of Canada. This apportionment shall be reviewed and revised as appropriate after every national census.

