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Administrative and Institutional Provisions

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) levels the playing field for American workers and American businesses, leading to more Made-in-America exports and more higher-paying American jobs here at home. By cutting over 18,000 taxes different countries put on Made-in-America products, TPP makes sure our farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, service suppliers, and small businesses can compete—and win—in some of the fastest growing markets in the world. With more than 95 percent of the world’s consumers living outside our borders, TPP will significantly expand the export of Made-in-America goods and services and support American jobs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the TPP goes into effect, participating governments will need to assess and guide implementation, and address any concerns that may emerge from business, civil society, and government agencies themselves. This chapter

sets out the institutional framework enabling them to do so, by establishing the Trans-Pacific Partnership Commission, composed by Ministerial or senior level officials, to oversee the implementation of the Agreement; and by defining the tasks the Commission will fulfill, the rules for its decision-making, and other general rules regarding the operation of the Agreement.

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Trans-Pacific Partnership Commission

The Administrative and Institutional Provisions chapter establishes the Trans-Pacific Partnership Commission to ensure that the Agreement is properly implemented.

Review of the Agreement

The Commission will review the operation of the Agreement on a periodic basis to ensure that it remains relevant to the challenges confronting the Parties. As in other agreements, the TPP can be modified or amended in the future, but any such modification or amendment would only apply following applicable domestic legal procedures, including Congressional consultation and approval.

Contact Points

The chapter identifies contact points to facilitate communications between the Parties.

Reporting on Progress Related to Transitional Measures

The chapter creates a mechanism through which a Party that has negotiated a specific transition period for an obligation must report on its progress to implement the obligation. This will provide greater transparency with respect to implementation of obligations after the Agreement enters into force, and provide early warning if a Party is not taking the steps necessary to implement its obligations on schedule.

NEW FEATURES

For the first time in a trade agreement, the TPP requires Parties to report

on their plan and progress in implementing those measures for which they have negotiated implementation transition periods. These transition periods support the development objectives of the TPP by providing lower-income TPP countries additional time to build capacity in specific agreed areas. Through the reporting requirements, Parties can monitor progress, address problems, and offer capacity building assistance if needed, ahead of the date for final implementation.

