

ANNEX 11A : PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Development Of Professional Services Standards

1. Each Party shall encourage the relevant bodies in its respective territory to develop mutually acceptable standards and criteria for licensing and certification of professional services suppliers, as well as for the mutual recognition of professional degrees.

2. The standards and criteria referred to in paragraph 1 may be developed with regard to the following matters:

- (a) education – accreditation of schools or academic programs;
- (b) examinations – qualifying examinations for licensing, including alternative methods of assessment such as oral examinations and interviews;
- (c) experience – length and nature of experience required for licensing;
- (d) conduct and ethics – standards of professional conduct and the nature of disciplinary action for non-conformity with those standards;
- (e) professional development and re-certification – continuing education and ongoing requirements to maintain professional certification;
- (f) scope of practice – extent of, or limitations on, permissible activities;
- (g) local knowledge – requirements for knowledge of such matters as local laws, regulations, language, geography, or climate; and
- (h) consumer protection – including alternatives to residency requirements, such as bonding, professional liability insurance, and client restitution funds, to provide for the protection of consumers.

3. On receipt of a recommendation referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission shall review the recommendation within a reasonable time to determine whether it is consistent with this Agreement. Based on the Commission's review, each Party shall encourage its respective competent authorities, where appropriate, to implement the recommendation within a mutually agreed time.

Temporary Licensing

4. For mutually agreed individual professional services, each Party shall encourage the relevant bodies in its territory to develop procedures for the temporary licensing of professional service suppliers of the other Parties.

Revision

5. The Commission shall review the implementation of this Annex at least once every two (2) years. The Commission will take into account in its revision the different views on regulation that exists between the Parties. Among other issues, one Party could formulate matters related with the elaboration of international rules of pertinent international organizations related to professional services^{11A-1}.

^{11A-1} **Pertinent international organizations** refers to international organizations whose membership is open to the corresponding organizations in both Parties.