## PART FOUR

## COOPERATION AND PROVISION OF INFORMATION

## Article 20: Cooperation

- 1. The Parties shall at all times endeavour to agree on the interpretation and application of this Agreement, and shall make every attempt through cooperation and consultations to resolve any matter that might affect its operation.
- 2. To the maximum extent possible, each Party shall notify the other Party of any proposed or actual environmental measure that the Party considers might materially affect the operation of this Agreement or otherwise substantially affect that other Party's interests under this Agreement.
- 3. On request of the other Party, a Party shall promptly provide information and respond to questions pertaining to any such actual or proposed environmental measure, whether or not the other Party has been previously notified of that measure.
- 4. A Party may notify the other Party of, and provide to that Party, any credible information regarding possible violations of its environmental law, specific and sufficient to allow the other Party to inquire into the matter. The notified Party shall take appropriate steps in accordance with its law to so inquire and to respond to the other Party.

## Article 21: Provision of Information

- 1. On request of the Council, a National Secretariat or the members of the Joint Submission Committee, each Party shall, in accordance with its law, provide such information as the Council, a National Secretariat or the members of the Joint Submission Committee may require, including:
  - (a) promptly making available any information in its possession required for the preparation of a report or factual record, including compliance and enforcement data; and
  - (b) taking all reasonable steps to make available any other such information requested.
- 2. If a Party considers that a request for information from a National Secretariat or the members of the Joint Submission Committee is excessive or otherwise unduly burdensome, it may so notify the Council. The National Secretariat or the members of a Joint Submission Committee shall revise the scope of the request to comply with any limitations established by the Council.
- 3. If a Party does not make available information requested by a National Secretariat, or the Joint Submission Committee, as may be limited pursuant to paragraph 2, it shall promptly advise the National Secretariat or the Joint Submission Committee, as appropriate, of its reasons in writing.