

September 6, 1992

ANNEX 1210

Professional Services

Section A - General Provisions

Scope and Coverage

1. This Annex applies to measures adopted or maintained by a Party relating to the licensing and certification of professional service providers.

Processing of Applications for Licenses and Certification

2. Each Party shall ensure that its competent authorities, within a reasonable period after the submission of an application for licensing or certifications by a national of another Party:
 - (a) where the application is complete, make a determination on the application, and inform the applicant of that determination; or
 - (b) where the application is not complete, inform the applicant without undue delay of the status of the application and the additional information that is required under its domestic law.

Development of Mutually Acceptable Professional Standards and Criteria

3. The Parties shall encourage the relevant bodies in their respective territories to develop mutually acceptable professional standards and criteria for licensing and certification of professional service providers and to provide recommendations on mutual recognition to the Commission.
4. Such standards and criteria may be developed with regard to the following matters:
 - (a) **education** - accreditation of schools or academic programs where professional service providers obtain formal education;
 - (b) **examinations** - qualifying examinations for the purpose of licensing professional service providers, including alternative methods of assessment such as oral examinations and interviews;