

7. If a Party accredits, approves, licenses or otherwise recognizes a body that assesses conformity with a specific technical regulation or standard in its territory and that Party refuses to accredit, approve, license or otherwise recognize a body that assesses conformity with that technical regulation or standard in the territory of the other Party, it shall, on request of the other Party, provide the reasons for its decision.

8. If a Party does not accept the results of a conformity assessment procedure that is conducted in the territory of the other Party it shall, on request of that other Party, provide the reasons for its decision.

9. Further to Article 6.3 of the TBT Agreement, if a Party declines the other Party's request to engage in negotiations or to conclude an arrangement or agreement for mutual recognition of the results of the other Party's conformity assessment procedures it shall, on the request of the other Party, provide the reasons for its decision.

Article C *ter*-07: Transparency

1. The obligations in this Article supplement those set out in Chapter L (Publication, Notification and Administration of Laws). In the event of an inconsistency between this Article and the obligations in Chapter L, this Article prevails.

2. A Party shall ensure that transparency procedures for the development of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures allow an interested person to participate at an early appropriate stage, when amendments can still be introduced and comments taken into account, except when urgent problems of safety, health, environmental protection, or national security arise or threaten to arise. If a consultation process of a Party for the development of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures is open to the public, each Party shall permit a person of the other Party to participate on terms no less favourable than those accorded to its own persons.

3. A Party shall recommend to standardization bodies in its territory to observe paragraph 2 with respect to the consultation processes for the development of a standard or voluntary conformity assessment procedure.

4. A Party shall allow a period of at least 60 days following its notification to the WTO's Central Registry of Notifications of proposed technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures for the public and the other Party to provide written comments, except where urgent problems of safety, health, environmental protection or national security arise or threaten to arise.

5. A Party shall, at the request of the other Party, provide information regarding the objectives of, and rationale for, a technical regulation or conformity assessment procedure that the Party has adopted or is proposing to adopt.

6. A Party shall ensure that its adopted technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures are posted on official websites that are publicly accessible without charge.