

**PART THREE**  
**PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW OF OBLIGATIONS**

**Article 12: Ministerial Consultations**

1. A Party may request, in writing to the Minister responsible for Labour, with a copy to the National Point of Contact, consultations with the other Party at the ministerial level regarding an obligation under this Agreement. The Party that is the object of the request shall respond within 60 days of receiving the request, or within such other period as the Parties may concur.

2. To facilitate discussion of the matters under consideration and assist in arriving at a mutually satisfactory resolution:

- (a) each Party shall provide the other Party and any independent expert, with sufficient information in its possession to allow a full examination of the matters raised, subject to a requirement in its domestic law regarding confidentiality of personal and commercial information; and
- (b) each Party may call upon one to three independent experts to prepare a report regarding the matter under consideration. The Parties shall make every effort to concur upon the selection of the expert or experts. The Parties shall share the costs equally, unless otherwise decided. The expert(s) shall work in an expeditious manner to provide a report based on a consideration of relevant information, including that provided by the Parties and any views of the national labour advisory or consultative committees or groups deemed necessary by the experts. The report shall remain confidential, unless the Parties otherwise decide.

3. Ministerial Consultations shall be concluded no later than 180 days after the request is received unless the Parties otherwise decide.

**Article 13: Establishment and Conduct of Review Panel**

1. Following the conclusion of Ministerial Consultations, the requesting Party may request that a Review Panel be convened if it considers that:

- (a) the matter is trade-related; and
- (b) the other Party has failed to comply with its obligations under this Agreement through:
  - (i) failure to comply with its obligations under Article 1 (General Obligations) and Article 2(1) (Upholding Levels of Protection) to the extent that they refer to the ILO 1998 Declaration, or