

Article 31: Role of Experts

On request of either Party, or on its own initiative, the panel may seek information and technical advice from any person or body that it deems appropriate, provided that the Parties so agree and subject to such terms and conditions as the Parties may agree.

Article 32: Initial Report

1. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the panel shall base its report on the submissions and arguments of the Parties and on any information before it pursuant to Article 31.
2. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the panel shall, within 180 days after the last panelist is selected, present to the Parties an initial report containing:
 - (a) findings of fact;
 - (b) its determination as to whether there has been a persistent pattern of failure by the Party complained against to effectively enforce its occupational safety and health, child labour or minimum wage technical labour standards in a matter that is trade-related and covered by mutually recognized labour laws, or any other determination requested in the terms of reference; and
 - (c) in the event the panel makes an affirmative determination under subparagraph (b), its recommendations, if any, for the resolution of the dispute, which normally shall be that the Party complained against adopt and implement an action plan sufficient to remedy the pattern of non-enforcement.
3. Panelists may furnish separate opinions on matters not unanimously agreed.
4. Either Party may submit written comments to the panel on its initial report within 30 days of presentation of the report.
5. In such an event, and after considering such written comments, the panel, on its own initiative or on the request of either Party, may:
 - (a) request the views of the Parties;
 - (b) reconsider its report; and
 - (c) make any further examination that it considers appropriate.

Article 33: Final Report

1. The panel shall present to the Parties a final report, including any separate opinions on matters not unanimously agreed, within 60 days of presentation of the initial report, unless the Parties otherwise agree.
2. The Parties shall transmit to the Council the final report of the panel, as well as any written views that either Party desires to be appended, on a confidential basis within 15 days after it is presented to them.
3. The final report of the panel shall be published five days after it is transmitted to the Council.