

undertaken common investigation. The report points to the benefits of common fact-finding as a successful device in mitigating or narrowing bilateral disputes of a technical nature. The International Joint Committee has used such techniques in its long history of investigative boards. Moreover, the Canada/U.S. Trade Statistics Committee which was established in 1971 subsequent to the Nixon August economic measures, reconciles figures on bilateral merchandise trade. Such common fact-finding and reconciliation procedures would seem to lend themselves relatively easily to a binational regime governing antidump, countervail, and dispute settlement generally.

There are seven European agreements of relevance, i.e., those that Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Finland, Austria, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein have individually with the EC. These free trade area agreements have institutional arrangements that are essentially consultative in nature. There is no common secretariat nor binding dispute settlement mechanisms. Bilateral free trade agreements, with the exception of the U.S./Israeli Free Trade Agreement, do not incorporate dispute settlement procedures other than consultative mechanisms to be triggered at the request of one party.