

5. Each Party shall ensure that it maintains appropriate procedures for assessing the environmental impacts in accordance with national law and policy of proposed plans and projects, which may cause adverse effects on the environment, with a view to avoiding or minimizing such adverse effects.
6. The Parties shall encourage the promotion of the trade and investment of environmental goods and services.
7. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to empower a Party's authorities to undertake environmental law enforcement activities in the territory of the other Party.
8. The Parties affirm the importance of the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, done at Rio de Janeiro on 5 June, 1992 ("Convention on Biological Diversity"), and agree to work together to advance the objectives of that Convention.
9. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to affect the existing rights and obligations of either Party under other international environmental agreements to which such Party is a Party.

Article 3: Availability of Proceedings and Procedural Standards

1. Each Party shall ensure that judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative enforcement proceedings are available to provide sanctions or remedies for violations of its environmental law.
2. Each Party shall ensure that interested persons residing in or established in the territory of such Party may request the Party's competent authorities to investigate alleged violations of its environmental law and shall give such requests due consideration, in accordance with its law.
3. Each Party shall ensure that persons with a legally recognized interest under its law in a particular matter covered by this Agreement shall have appropriate access to judicial, quasi-judicial and administrative proceedings for the enforcement of the Party's environmental law, and to remedies for violations of that law.
4. Each Party shall ensure that the proceedings in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 3 are fair, equitable and transparent, comply with due process of law and are open to the public, except where the administration of justice otherwise requires.