

17. Any participant may raise any matter relating to or affecting the observance of the commitments at a meeting of the Negotiating Group on Agriculture.

18. In exceptional circumstances* a participant can be relieved by the Negotiating Group on Agriculture of commitments under the above undertakings.

Developing countries

19. Developing countries are not expected to subscribe to the commitments under B.

C. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY REGULATIONS

20. Ministers endorse harmonization of national regulations as a long-term goal and a work programme embodying the following objectives:

- (1) develop harmonization of sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and measures, on the basis of appropriate standards established by relevant international organizations including the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the International Office of Epizootics and the International Plant Protection Convention;
- (2) strengthen Article XX so that measures taken to protect human, animal or plant life or health are consistent with sound scientific evidence and use suitable principles of equivalency;
- (3) review existing notification and counter-notification procedures to ensure transparency and the existence of an effective

*For particular countries excessive rates of inflation will be taken into account.