

Ex Parte Contacts

33. The panel shall not meet with or contact a Party in the absence of the other Party, nor shall a Party communicate with the panel or individual panellists without notifying the other Party.
34. Subject to paragraph 13, no member of the panel may discuss an aspect of the subject matter of the proceedings with a Party or both Parties in the absence of the other panellists.

Amicus Curiae Submissions

35. Unless the Parties decide otherwise, within three days of the date of the appointment of the three panellists, the panel may receive unsolicited written submissions from interested persons of the Parties, provided that they are made within 10 days of the date of the appointment of the three panellists, that they are concise and in no case longer than 15 typed pages, including any annexes, and that they are directly relevant to the factual and legal issues under consideration by the panel.
36. The submission must contain a description of the person making the submission, including its nationality or place of establishment, the nature of its activities and the source of its financing, and specify the nature of the interest that the person has in the proceeding.
37. The panel shall list in its ruling all the submissions it has received that conform to paragraphs 35 and 36. The panel is not obliged to address in its ruling the factual or legal arguments made in these submissions. A submission obtained by the panel under paragraphs 35 and 36 shall be submitted to the Parties for their comments.

Cases of Urgency

38. In cases of urgency referred to in Article 21.6.1(b), the panel shall adjust, as appropriate, the time limits referred to in this Annex.

Translation and Interpretation

39. During the consultations referred to in Article 21.4, and no later than the meeting referred to in paragraph 10, the Parties shall endeavour to agree on a common working language for the proceedings before the panel.
40. If the Parties are unable to agree on a common working language, each Party shall expeditiously arrange for and bear the costs of the translation of its written submissions into the language chosen by the other Party and the Party complained against shall arrange for the interpretation of oral submissions into the languages chosen by the Parties.
41. Panel rulings shall be issued in the language or languages chosen by the Parties.
42. The costs incurred for translation of a panel ruling shall be borne equally by the Parties.