

PART TWO

INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

Article 7: Ministerial Council

1. The Parties shall create a Ministerial Council, which shall be comprised of Ministers responsible for labour affairs of the Parties or their designees.
2. The Council shall meet within the first year after the date of entry into force of this Agreement and thereafter as often as it considers necessary to discuss matters of common interest, to oversee the implementation of the Agreement and review progress under it. The Council may hold joint meetings with Councils established under similar agreements.
3. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, each meeting of the Council shall include a session at which members of the Council have an opportunity to meet with the public to discuss matters relating to the implementation of this Agreement.
4. The Council may consider any matter within the scope of this Agreement and take such other action in the exercise of its functions as the Parties may agree.
5. The Council shall review the operation and effectiveness of the Agreement, including the degree to which progress has been made in implementing the objectives of this Agreement, within five years after the date of entry into force of the Agreement and thereafter within such other period as may be agreed by the Council. Such review:
 - (a) may be conducted by one or more independent experts;
 - (b) shall include a literature review and consultation with the members of the public, including representatives of labour and business organizations, as well as an opportunity for the Parties to provide comments;
 - (c) may make recommendations for the future; and
 - (d) shall be concluded within 180 days of its commencement and made public 30 days thereafter.