

**ANNEX TO THE PROTOCOL AMENDING  
THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT**

**Preamble**

The Parties to this Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

*Recognizing* the need for an effective multilateral framework for government procurement, with a view to achieving greater liberalization and expansion of, and improving the framework for, the conduct of international trade;

*Recognizing* that measures regarding government procurement should not be prepared, adopted or applied so as to afford protection to domestic suppliers, goods or services, or to discriminate among foreign suppliers, goods or services;

*Recognizing* that the integrity and predictability of government procurement systems are integral to the efficient and effective management of public resources, the performance of the Parties' economies and the functioning of the multilateral trading system;

*Recognizing* that the procedural commitments under this Agreement should be sufficiently flexible to accommodate the specific circumstances of each Party;

*Recognizing* the need to take into account the development, financial and trade needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries;

*Recognizing* the importance of transparent measures regarding government procurement, of carrying out procurements in a transparent and impartial manner and of avoiding conflicts of interest and corrupt practices, in accordance with applicable international instruments, such as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption;

*Recognizing* the importance of using, and encouraging the use of, electronic means for procurement covered by this Agreement;

*Desiring* to encourage acceptance of and accession to this Agreement by WTO Members not party to it;

Hereby *agree* as follows: