

- (d) accreditation of conformity assessment bodies of the Parties, as well as cooperation between conformity assessment bodies.

2. The Parties recognize that a wide range of mechanisms exist to support regulatory harmonization and to eliminate unnecessary technical barriers to trade between the Parties, including mechanisms that promote:

- (a) regulatory dialogue and cooperation to, *inter alia*:
 - (i) exchange information on regulatory approaches and practices;
 - (ii) develop good regulatory practices to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures;
 - (iii) provide technical advice to the other Party on mutually agreed terms and conditions, on the improvement of practices related to the development, implementation and review of technical regulations, standards, conformity assessment procedures and metrology; or
 - (iv) build capacity and support for the implementation of this Chapter on mutually agreed terms and conditions;
- (b) harmonization of national standards with relevant international standards, except where inappropriate or ineffective;
- (c) greater use of relevant international standards, guides, and recommendations as the basis for the Parties' respective technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures; and
- (d) equivalence of technical regulations of the other Party.

3. The Parties shall seek to strengthen their exchange of information and collaboration on mechanisms that facilitate the acceptance of conformity assessment results, to support greater regulatory harmonization and to eliminate unnecessary technical barriers to trade.

4. At the request of a Party, the other Party shall give favourable consideration to any reasonable sector-specific proposal the Party makes for cooperation under this Chapter.

5. The Parties shall encourage cooperation between their respective bodies, including both public and private bodies that are responsible for standardization, conformity assessment, and accreditation, with a view to addressing issues related to this Chapter.