

3. In the application of its customs, immigration, quarantine and similar regulations, each Contracting Party shall accord vessels of the other Contracting Party treatment no less favourable than it accords to vessels of any other country engaged in similar international transport services, and shall provide, on the basis of reciprocity and to the extent allowed under their laws and policy, treatment no less favourable than that accorded to its own vessels.

ARTICLE 16

International Rights and Obligations

1. This Agreement does not affect the rights and obligations of either Contracting Party arising from international agreements or from the Contracting Party's membership in international organizations.
2. If a multilateral agreement concerning international maritime transport comes into force in respect of both Contracting Parties, and there are provisions which are in conflict with this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall hold a consultation in accordance with Article 18 of this Agreement. However, the provisions of the aforesaid multilateral agreement shall prevail until a conclusion be reached between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 17

Transparency

Each Contracting Party shall respond promptly to the other Contracting Party in respect to its requests for specific information on any measures affecting the operation of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 18

Consultations

1. With a view to assuring full implementation of this Agreement and facilitating international maritime transportation services between their two countries, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, where necessary and upon request by either Contracting Party, meet to settle matters arising from the implementation of this Agreement. Such consultations shall begin as soon as possible, and in any event, within 120 days of the request, unless otherwise mutually agreed.
2. For the purposes of this Article, the competent authorities are:
 - (a) the Department of Transport of Canada;
 - (b) the Ministry of Communications of the People's Republic of China.
3. In the case of any changes to the names of the competent authorities, the Contracting Parties shall make the necessary notification through diplomatic channels.