

*Article VII***Conformity Assessment Bodies**

1. The Conformity Assessment Bodies designated in the territory of the exporting Party shall operate to the requirements of the importing Party and fulfil the conditions of eligibility for conformity in relation to those requirements.
2. In designating such bodies, the Designating Authorities shall specify, in each Annex, the scope of conformity assessment activities for which such Bodies have been designated.
3. The designation constitutes a formal judgement by the Party concerned that the Conformity Assessment Body has demonstrated an acceptable level of technical competence in providing services identified in the designation and further has agreed to comply with the requirements of the other Party concerned, as set out in a Sectoral Annex.
4. In accordance with the terms of the Sectoral Annexes, each Designating Authority will make available, if requested, a statement of technical competence of its designated Conformity Assessment Bodies.

*Article VIII***Verification and Suspension of Conformity Assessment Bodies**

1. Canada, on the one hand, and each of the EEA EFTA States, on the other, has the right to challenge the technical competence and compliance of Conformity Assessment Bodies under the jurisdiction of the other Party concerned. This right will be exercised under exceptional circumstances only and justified, in an objective and reasoned manner in writing, to the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee will discuss such requests.
2. Where the Joint Committee, either on its own initiative or on a recommendation from the relevant sectoral group, comes to the conclusion that verification of technical competence or compliance of a Conformity Assessment Body operating in the territory of any of the Parties is required, it will be carried out in a timely manner by the Party in whose territory the Body in question is located, or by the Parties concerned jointly if they agree. The Party may seek the assistance of its Designating Authority in carrying out the verification.
3. Unless decided otherwise by the Joint Committee, the contested Conformity Assessment Body will be suspended by the competent Designating Authority from the time that a disagreement over the status of that body has been confirmed in the Joint Committee. The body in question shall remain suspended until agreement has been reached in the Joint Committee on the future status of that Body.