

ANNEX 6.D
RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS OF SERVICE SUPPLIERS

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Article 1
Scope

This Annex shall apply to the recognition by a Party of qualifications obtained in the territory of another Party by natural persons of any Party.

Article 2
Procedures for Recognition

Where a Party has requirements for the authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers, whether by competent governmental authorities, or relevant professional bodies, as the case may be, that Party shall have procedures under which:

- (a) a service supplier has ways and means to request the recognition of its education or experience obtained, requirements met, or its licences or certifications granted, in the territory of another Party; and
- (b) where that Party finds that the education or experience obtained, requirements met, or licences or certifications granted, in the territory of another Party are deficient, the service supplier requesting recognition shall be informed of the deficiency. In that case, that Party shall endeavour to provide, under its domestic procedures, for at least one means to achieve equivalence.¹

Article 3
Provision of Information

- 1. Each Party shall establish or designate an enquiry point that provides, upon request by a service supplier of another Party, information on procedures available to service suppliers for applying for recognition pursuant to Article 2.
- 2. Each Party shall provide the other Parties with the contact details of such enquiry point.
- 3. Upon request by another Party, a Party shall hold consultations regarding its domestic procedures referred to in Article 2 and provide any required information.

¹ Such means to achieve equivalence may include additional experience under the supervision of a professional qualified or licensed in the territory of that Party, additional academic training or exams in a specialised field, or language exams depending on the context.

Article 4
Recognition of Qualifications

1. Each Party shall encourage the competent governmental authorities or relevant professional bodies, as the case may be, in its territory, in the relevant service sectors, to cooperate with a view to engage in issues of recognition for the purpose of the fulfilment in whole or in part of its relevant standards or criteria for the authorisation, licensing, certification or requirements of experience obtained of service suppliers and recognise qualifications of the other Parties based, *inter alia*, upon principles of equivalence.

 2. In respect of regulated or licensed occupations of mutual interest, the Parties shall engage with their relevant bodies or authorities and encourage them to establish dialogues with the relevant bodies or authorities of another Party with a view to negotiating and concluding within two years from the entry into force of the Agreement agreements or arrangements providing for the mutual recognition of the qualifications, licensing, and registration procedures. In addition to providing for the mutual recognition of the qualifications, licensing, and registration procedures, such agreements or arrangements may include provisions relating to streamlined procedures and administrative arrangements for the specific profession. The Parties shall promptly exchange contact points to facilitate such dialogues and shall report periodically to the Joint Committee on the implementation of this article.
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