

## **CHAPTER 16**

### **FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### ARTICLE 16.1

##### *Annexes and Appendices*

The Annexes and Appendices, Records of Understandings, and footnotes to this Agreement constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 16.2

##### *Amendments*

1. Any Party may submit proposals for amendments to this Agreement to the Joint Committee for consideration and recommendation.
2. Amendments to this Agreement other than those referred to in Article 14 (Joint Committee) shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval.
3. Unless otherwise agreed, amendments shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date on which at least one EFTA State and one MERCOSUR State have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Depositary. In relation to an EFTA State or a MERCOSUR State depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval after the date on which at least one EFTA State and one MERCOSUR State have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Depositary, the amendment shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the deposit of its instrument.
4. Amendments regarding issues related only to one or several EFTA States and one or several MERCOSUR States shall be agreed upon by the State Parties concerned.
5. The text of the amendments and the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Depositary.
6. A State Party may apply an amendment provisionally, subject to its domestic legal requirements. Provisional application of amendments shall be notified to the Depositary. The provisional application of an amendment shall begin:
  - (a) for an EFTA State, on the first day of the third month following the date of its notification to the Depositary, provided that at least one MERCOSUR State has notified its intention to apply the amendment provisionally or deposited its instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval; and
  - (b) for a MERCOSUR State, on the first day of the third month following the date of its notification to the Depositary, provided that at least one EFTA

State has notified its intention to apply the amendment provisionally or deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

#### ARTICLE 16.3

##### *Accession*

1. Any State becoming a Member of EFTA or MERCOSUR, may accede to this Agreement on terms and conditions agreed by the State Parties and the acceding State.
2. In relation to an acceding State, this Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date on which the acceding State and the last State Party have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the terms of accession.

#### ARTICLE 16.4

##### *Withdrawal and Expiration*

1. The MERCOSUR States may collectively withdraw from this Agreement by means of a written notification to the Depositary. Any EFTA State may withdraw from this Agreement by means of a written notification to the Depositary.
2. The withdrawal shall take effect six months from the date on which the notification is received by the Depositary.
3. Any EFTA State which withdraws from the Convention establishing the European Free Trade Association shall, ipso facto on the same day as the withdrawal takes effect, cease to be a Party to this Agreement.
4. Any MERCOSUR State which withdraws from the Treaty establishing the Common Market of the South shall, ipso facto, on the same day as the withdrawal takes effect, cease to be a Party to this Agreement.
5. Without prejudice to paragraphs 3 and 4, any State Party withdrawing from the Convention establishing the European Free Trade Association or from the Treaty establishing the Common Market of the South shall promptly notify the Depositary of the initiation of the withdrawal process. The Depositary shall promptly notify the other Parties.
6. If all the EFTA States withdraw or if all the MERCOSUR States collectively withdraw, this Agreement shall, ipso facto, be terminated.

#### ARTICLE 16.5

##### *Entry into Force*

1. This Agreement is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. The instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the

Depositary.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date on which at least one EFTA State and one MERCOSUR State have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Depositary.

3. In relation to an EFTA State or a MERCOSUR State depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval after the date on which at least one EFTA State and a MERCOSUR State have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Depositary, this Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the deposit of its instrument.

4. A State Party may apply this Agreement provisionally, subject to its domestic legal requirements. Provisional application of this Agreement shall be notified to the Depositary. The provisional application shall begin:

- a) for an EFTA State, on the first day of the third month following the date of its notification to the Depositary, provided that at least one MERCOSUR State has notified its intention to apply this Agreement provisionally or deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval; and
- b) for a MERCOSUR State, on the first day of the third month following the date of its notification to the Depositary, provided that at least one EFTA State has notified its intention to apply this Agreement provisionally or deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

#### ARTICLE 16.6

##### *Depositary*

1. The Government of Norway shall act as Depositary.

2. An original of this Agreement and of any amendment shall be lodged with Paraguay.

3. Paraguay shall coordinate the actions of the MERCOSUR States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done at Rio de Janeiro, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025, in two originals in English, one of which shall be deposited with the Depositary and the other shall be lodged with Paraguay. The Depositary shall transmit certified copies to all the Parties. For internal approval purposes, official translations of the authentic text shall be prepared by the Parties and exchanged through diplomatic channels.