

## CHAPTER 1

### INITIAL PROVISIONS

#### **Article 1.1: Objectives**

1. This Agreement establishes a Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership among the Parties, based on common interest and on the deepening of the relationship in all areas of application.
2. This Agreement covers in particular the commercial, economic, financial, scientific, technological and cooperation fields. It may be extended to other areas to be agreed upon by the Parties in order to expand and enhance the benefits of this Agreement.
3. The Parties seek to support the wider liberalisation process in APEC consistent with its goals of free and open trade and investment.
4. The trade objectives of this Agreement, as elaborated more specifically through its principles and rules, including national treatment, most-favoured- nation treatment and transparency, are to:
  - (a) encourage expansion and diversification of trade among each Party's territory;
  - (b) eliminate barriers to trade in, and facilitate the cross-border movement of, goods and services among the territories of the Parties;
  - (c) promote conditions of fair competition in the free trade area;
  - (d) substantially increase investment opportunities among each Party's territory;
  - (e) provide adequate and effective protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in each Party's territory; and
  - (f) create an effective mechanism to prevent and resolve trade disputes.

#### **Article 1.2: Establishment of the Free Trade Area**

The Parties to this Agreement, consistent with Article XXIV of the *General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994* and Article V of the *General Agreement on Trade in Services*, which are part of the WTO Agreement, hereby establish a free trade area.