

**Draft**  
**Subject to Legal Review for Accuracy, Clarity, and Consistency**  
**October 3, 2005**

**CHAPTER NINETEEN**  
**ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

ARTICLE 19.1: CONTACT POINTS

1. Each Party shall designate a contact point or points to facilitate communications between the Parties on any matter covered by this Agreement.
2. On request of the other Party, a Party's contact point shall identify the office or official responsible for the matter and assist, as necessary, in facilitating communications with the other Party.

ARTICLE 19.2: JOINT COMMITTEE

1. The Parties hereby establish a Joint Committee to supervise the implementation of this Agreement and to review the trade relationship between the Parties.
  - (a) The Joint Committee shall comprise government officials of each Party and shall be co-chaired by (i) the United States Trade Representative and (ii) Oman's Minister of Commerce and Industry, or their designees.
  - (b) The Joint Committee may establish and delegate responsibilities to *ad hoc* and standing subcommittees or working groups and seek the advice of non-governmental persons.
2. The Joint Committee shall:
  - (a) review the general functioning of this Agreement;
  - (b) review and consider specific matters related to the operation and implementation of this Agreement in the light of its objectives;
  - (c) facilitate the prevention and settlement of disputes arising under this Agreement, including through consultations pursuant to Chapter Twenty (Dispute Settlement);
  - (d) consider and adopt any amendment or other modification to this Agreement, subject to completion of necessary approval procedures by each Party;

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- (e) consider ways to further enhance trade relations between the Parties and to promote the objectives of this Agreement, including through cooperation and assistance; and
  - (f) take such other action as the Parties may agree.
- 3. The Joint Committee may:
  - (a) establish its own rules of procedure; and
  - (b) issue interpretations of the provisions of this Agreement.
- 4. Unless the Parties agree otherwise, the Joint Committee shall convene
  - (a) in regular session every year, with such sessions to be held alternately in the territory of each Party; and
  - (b) in special session within 30 days of the request of a Party, with such special sessions to be held in the territory of the other Party or at such location as the Parties may agree.
- 5. The Parties recognize the importance of transparency and openness in implementing this Agreement, including considering the views of interested parties and other members of the public.
- 6. Each Party shall treat any confidential information exchanged in relation to a meeting of the Joint Committee on the same basis as the Party providing the information.