
11. TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Mexico's main objectives

- Promoting transparency, good practices and regulatory cooperation in relation to the processes of development, adoption and implementation of USMCA standards and technical regulations, as well as their conformity assessment procedures.
- Ensuring compliance of the member countries with their commitments under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

Benefits for Mexico

- Ensures non-discriminatory treatment for Mexicans interested in participating in the technical regulation and conformity assessment procedure processes of the US.
- Increases the level of commitment of the member countries to comply with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, and with the recommendations issued by the WTO TBT Committee, in order to facilitate their implementation.
- Ensures a reasonable period of time between the publication and the entry into force of the technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures of member countries, allowing Mexican producers and marketers to adapt their products or production methods to the new conditions set out in these measures.
- More dialogue mechanisms to encourage the resolution of trade concerns regarding technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures of member countries.

Chapter's main provisions

- The Parties recognize the important role that international standards, guides, and recommendations can play in supporting greater regulatory alignment and good regulatory practices **(Article 11.4)**.
- Member countries accord to provide conformity assessment bodies located in the territory of another Party treatment no less favorable than that it accords to conformity assessment bodies located in its own territory or in the territory of the other Party **(Article 11.6)**.
- The commitments shall also allow for the development of regulatory cooperation, with the objective of addressing unnecessary technical barriers to trade in specific sectors **(Article 11.9)**.
- Recognition that technical discussions and information exchange can serve an important function in reaching mutually satisfactory solutions to trade concerns **(Article 11.10)**.
- The establishment of a Committee to monitor the implementation of the commitments set out in the Chapter **(Article 11.11)**.