Competitiveness

This chapter is new to the agreement and was suggested by Mexico, based on the idea that the country's growth and development are closely related to the competitiveness of its North American partners, which is why it is fundamental to deepen the region's economic integration.

General dispositions:

- It acknowledges the unique economic and commercial ties, the proximity and importance of trade flows through the region's borders.

- This chapter establishes an information exchange and implementation mechanism to favor competitiveness in North America. For example, creating an international forum to discuss North American competitiveness.

- A Competitiveness Committee is established, composed by government representatives of the three Parties, in order to promote economic integration among the region. This Committee will coordinate with the Parties' corresponding agencies and organisms for whatever is pertinent regarding competitiveness. Some of its functions include:
  
  - Discuss and perform cooperation activities to encourage production in North America, facilitate regional trade and investment, promote goods and services circulation in the region, and provide an answer to market and emerging technologies developments.
  
  - Present recommendations to the Free Trade Commission to enhance competitiveness in the region.
  
  - Identify priority projects and policy to develop physical and digital infrastructure to better merchandise circulation.
  
  - Discuss collective action required to fight distorting practices for the market by other countries not party to the Agreement that could affect the region's competitiveness.
  
  - Promote cooperation activities in innovation and technology.