

## United States – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA)

### Environment

The objective of this chapter is to **promote environmental protection in a trade openness context**, through commitments that strengthen the parties' ability to **enforce their environmental legislation** and their **obligations in multilateral environmental agreements**. USMCA will be the third international trade agreement where Mexico incorporates a specific chapter regarding the environment.

#### General provisions:

- To promote **air quality, sustainable use of biodiversity, combat wildlife trafficking, and maintain institutional frameworks, public participation and regional cooperation** that the region's authorities have developed within the **North America Commission for Environmental Cooperation**.
- **Marine species protection**, such as whales and sea turtles, including maritime habitats.
- Enhance the effectiveness **of shipment inspections** containing **wild fauna and flora**.
- Parties acknowledge the **importance of trade and investment in environmental goods and services**, including clean tech, while agreeing to undertake efforts for its facilitation and promotion.
- In case of **non-compliance** of the chapter's provisions, the parties could participate in **high level or ministerial consultations** or could be subject to the **Dispute Settlement Mechanism**.
- **The chapter includes the communication mechanism of the North American Environment Cooperation Agreement (ECA)**, thus strengthening **transparency** when receiving questions or comments from society regarding the chapter's implementation.
- **It includes specific provisions not considered on the ECA**, regarding multilateral environment agreements, such as:
  - Ozone layer protection;
  - Protection of the Marine Environment from Ship Pollution;
  - Fight against marine litter;
  - Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
  - Sustainable fisheries management; among others.

The inclusion of such provisions demonstrates the parties' interest to **address the environmental agenda's challenges**, as well as its commitment to comply with their multilateral obligations.