

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

ENVIRONMENT

Article 17.1: Context and Objectives

1. Recalling *Agenda 21 on Environment and Development of 1992*, and the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development of 2002*

Article 17.8: Transparency

1. Each Party shall ensure that its laws respecting any matter covered by this Chapter are promptly published or otherwise made available so that interested persons and the other Party can become acquainted with them.
2. Each Party shall publish or otherwise make available in advance, to the extent possible, any such law that it proposes to adopt, so that the other Party or interested persons may provide comments.
3. Article 19.1

Article 17.13: Panel of Experts²

Annex 17-A

Procedures Related to Panel of Experts

1. For the purposes of selecting the panellists, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) the Panel of Experts shall be composed of three panel members;
 - (b) within 30 days of receiving the request to establish a Panel of Experts, each Party shall select one panellist; and
 - (c) if a Party fails to select that Party'

3. The experts proposed as panellists must be individuals with specialised knowledge or expertise in environmental law, or issues addressed in this Chapter and, to the extent possible, the resolution of disputes arising under international agreements. The panellists must be independent, serve in their individual capacities and not take instructions from any organisation or government with regard to issues related to the matter at stake, or be affiliated with the government of either Party.

4. Unless the Parties otherwise decide, the Panel of Experts shall perform its functions according to Annexes 21-B (Code of Conduct for Members of Panel) and 21-C (Model Rules of Procedure), which apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Panel of Experts.

