

1 ARTICLE 13	1
1.1 Text of Article 13	1
1.2 Related TBT Committee decisions and recommendations	1
1.2.1 Rules of procedure.....	1

1.2.3 Consideration of specific trade concerns

3. Pursuant to Article 13 of the TBT Agreement, the TBT Committee was established with the purpose of: "affording Members the opportunity of consulting on any matters relating to the operation of this Agreement or the furtherance of its objectives, and shall carry out such responsibilities as assigned to it under this Agreement or by the Members". Since its first meeting, Members have used the TBT Committee as a forum to discuss issues related to specific measures (technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment procedures) maintained by other

¹ [G/C/M/7](#), para. 2.2. The text of the Rules of Procedures for the meetings of the TBT Committee is also contained in [G/TBT/1/Rev.15](#), pp. 89-93.

² The text of the guidelines is contained in [G/TBT/1/Rev.15](#), pp. 94-95.

Members. These are referred to as "specific trade concerns" (STCs) and relate normally to proposed

- b. with respect to thematic sessions, building on the valuable experiences gained in the context of thematic sessions since 2012:
 - i. to **continue** to hold thematic sessions in conjunction with its regular meetings during 2019 to 2021, with a view to further deepening the Committee's exchange of experiences on specific topics;
 - ii. to **encourage** a more balanced representation of speakers in thematic sessions, from all regions in the world including developing and least developed Members (LDCs). In this respect, to **request** the Secretariat to explore the use of WTO technical assistance funding to support participation of

