

ANNEX IX

REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 3.9

RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS OF SERVICE SUPPLIERS

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RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS OF SERVICE SUPPLIERS

Article 1

Scope

This Annex applies to the recognition by a Party of qualifications obtained in the territory of another Party by natural persons of any Party.

Article 2

Procedures for Recognition

Where a Party has requirements for the authorisation, licensing or certification of service suppliers, that Party shall have procedures under which:

- (a) a service supplier of another Party has ways and means to request the recognition of its education or experience obtained, requirements met or its licences or certifications granted in the territory of another Party; and
- (b) where that Party finds that the education or experience obtained, requirements met or licences or certifications granted in the territory of another Party are deficient, the service supplier requesting recognition is informed of the deficiency. In that case, that Party shall endeavour to provide, under its procedures, for at least one means to achieve equivalence.¹

Article 3

Provision of information

1. Each Party shall establish or designate an enquiry point that provides, upon request by a service supplier of another Party, information on procedures available to service suppliers for applying for recognition pursuant to Article 2.
2. Each Party shall provide to the other Parties the contact details of such enquiry point.

¹ Such means to achieve equivalence may include, but are not limited to, additional experience under the supervision of a professional qualified or licensed in the territory of that Party, additional academic training or exams in a specialised field, or language exams.

3. Upon request by another Party, a Party shall hold consultations regarding its domestic procedures referred to in Article 2 and provide any relevant information.

Article 4

Recognition of qualifications

Each Party shall encourage the competent authorities and the professional bodies in its territory to recognise qualifications of the other Parties, based *inter alia* upon principles of equivalence, for the purpose of the fulfilment, in whole or in part, of its relevant standards or criteria for the authorisation, licensing, or certification of service suppliers, in particular in the sector of professional services.
