1 ARTICLE 4 ........................................................................................................................................ 1

1.1 Text of Article 4 ................................................................................................................................ 1

1.2 General ............................................................................................................................................... 1

1 ARTICLE 4

1.1 Text of Article 4

Article 4

Developing Country Members

A developing country Member shall be free to deviate temporarily from the provisions of Article 2 to the extent and in such a manner as Article XVIII of GATT 1994, the Understanding on the Balance-of-Payments Provisions of GATT 1994, and the Declaration on Trade Measures Taken for Balance-of-Payments Purposes adopted on 28 November 1979 (BISD 265/205-209) permit the Member to deviate from the provisions of Articles III and XI of GATT 1994.

1.2 General

1. In Indonesia – Autos, the Panel noted that "a violation of Article 2.1 of the TRIMs Agreement may be justified under Articles 3, 4 or 5 of the TRIMs Agreement".¹

2. In Canada – Renewable Energy / Feed-In Tariff Program, the Appellate Body referred to Article 4 in the context of finding that the procurement derogation in Article III:8(a) of the GATT 1994 is applicable to Article 2.2 of the TRIMs Agreement and the Illustrative List annexed thereto. The Appellate Body stated:

"[T]here is little, if any, indication that the provisions of the TRIMs Agreement were intended to override rights recognized in the GATT, such as the right provided in Article III:8(a). On the contrary, several provisions of the TRIMs Agreement – particularly the initial clause of Article 2.1, and Articles 3 and 4 – would seem to reflect reiterative attempts to safeguard rights recognized in the GATT, rather than to override them."²

Current as of: June 2022

² Appellate Body Reports, Canada – Renewable Energy / Feed-In Tariff Program, para. 5.32.