Decision by the Commission
of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership establishing an interim CPTPP Support Office

The Commission decides as follows:

1. In accordance with Article 27.2.2(a), (d) and (h) (Functions of the Commission) of the CPTPP, to establish an interim CPTPP Support Office in Japan, which will provide administrative and operational support to the Commission, standing committees, working groups, and other subsidiary bodies established under the Agreement.

2. The Commission adopts the *Terms of Reference for the Provision of Administrative and Operational Support to the CPTPP* set forth in the Annex, which will be applied to the interim Support Office, and any subsequent permanent administrative body established by the Commission to fulfil the same purpose.

3. The interim Support Office is an informal body that does not possess its own legal personality. It cannot incur financial or legal obligations on its own behalf or on behalf of any of the CPTPP Parties.

4. The interim Support Office will begin its work in 2027 and in accordance with the *Terms of Reference* adopted by this Decision. It will be staffed through the temporary assignment of officials from volunteering Parties. Its operating budget will be financed through contributions from Parties on a voluntary basis; no Party is obliged to contribute financially to the interim Support Office established by this Decision.

5. Unless otherwise decided by the Parties, the interim Support Office will cease operations on 31 December 2029, or when a permanent administrative body is established, whichever is earlier. The Commission will review the operation of, and any other issues relating to, the interim Support Office each year, with a view towards the establishment of a permanent administrative body.

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