

(b) The Joint Sectoral Committee will be cochaired by a representative of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the United States and a representative of the European Community (EC) who each will have one vote. Decisions will be taken by unanimous consent.

(c) The Joint Sectoral Committee's functions will include:

(1) Making a joint assessment, which must be agreed by both parties, of the equivalence of the respective authorities;

(2) Developing and maintaining the list of equivalent authorities, including any limitation in terms of inspecting type or products, and communicating the list to all authorities and the Joint Committee;

(3) Providing a forum to discuss issues relating to this subpart, including concerns that an authority may be no longer equivalent and opportunity to review product coverage; and

(4) Consideration of the issue of suspension.

(d) The Joint Sectoral Committee shall meet at the request of either party and, unless the cochaIRS otherwise agree, at least once each year. The Joint Committee will be kept informed of the agenda and conclusions of meetings of the Joint Sectoral Committee.

#### § 26.18 Regulatory collaboration.

(a) The parties and authorities shall inform and consult one another, as permitted by law, on proposals to introduce new controls or to change existing technical regulations or inspection procedures and to provide the opportunity to comment on such proposals.

(b) The parties shall notify each other in writing of any changes to appendix B of this subpart.

#### § 26.19 Information relating to quality aspects.

The authorities will establish an appropriate means of exchanging information on any confirmed problem reports, corrective actions, recalls, rejected import consignments, and other regulatory and enforcement problems for products subject to this subpart.

#### § 26.20 Alert system.

(a) The details of an alert system will be developed during the transitional period. The system will be maintained in place at all times. Elements to be considered in developing such a system are described in appendix E of this subpart.

(b) Contact points will be agreed between both parties to permit authorities to be made aware with the appropriate speed in case of quality defect, recalls, counterfeiting, and other problems concerning quality, which could necessitate additional controls or suspension of the distribution of the product.

#### § 26.21 Safeguard clause.

Each party recognizes that the importing country has a right to fulfill its legal responsibilities by taking actions necessary to ensure the protection of human and animal health at the level of protection it deems appropriate. This includes the suspension of the distribution, product detention at the border of the importing country, withdrawal of the batches and any request for additional information or inspection as provided in § 26.12.

#### APPENDIX A TO SUBPART A OF PART 26— LIST OF APPLICABLE LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

##### 1. For the European Community (EC):

[Copies of EC documents may be obtained from the European Document Research, 1100 17th St. NW., suite 301, Washington, DC 20036. EC documents may be viewed on the European Commission Pharmaceuticals Units web site at <http://dg3.eudra.org>.]

Council Directive 65/65/EEC of 26 January 1965 on the approximation of provisions laid down by law, regulation, or administrative action relating to proprietary medicinal products as extended, widened, and amended. Council Directive 75/319/EEC of 20 May 1975 on the approximation of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to proprietary medicinal products as extended, widened and amended.

Council Directive 81/851/EEC of 28 September 1981 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to veterinary medicinal products, as widened and amended.

Commission Directive 91/356/EEC of 13 June 1991 laying down the principles and guidelines of good manufacturing practice for medicinal products for human use.