(VI) ASSISTING, WHERE APPROPRIATE, IN OBTAINING EXPORT RELATED FINANCING THROUGH THE MARYLAND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY AND OTHER FEDERAL, LOCAL, OR PRIVATE PROGRAMS; AND

(VII) CHANNELING TRADE LEADS AND PROVIDING A LIST OF PRESCREENED FOREIGN INTERMEDIARIES.

(2) ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION BY MARYLAND BUSINESSES IN BARTER AND COUNTER TRADE TRANSACTIONS AND JOINT VENTURE TRANSACTIONS, WHERE APPROPRIATE, BY:

(I) PROVIDING INFORMATIONAL AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES ON, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE NECESSARY COMPONENTS, LAWS, AND REGULATIONS INVOLVED IN BARTER-AND-JOINT-VENTURE-TRANSACTION THESE TRANSACTIONS;

(II) FACILITATING THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MARYLAND BUSINESS AND COUNTERPART FOREIGN BUSINESS INVOLVED IN THESE TRANSACTIONS; AND

(III) PROVIDING, IN COOPERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, A LISTING OF POTENTIAL BARTER AND JOINT VENTURE OPPORTUNITIES.

(3) COORDINATE ITS PROGRAMS WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND TRANSPORTATION, THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, AND PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

(4) ASSUME LEAD AGENCY STATUS WITH RESPECT TO THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIPS.

(5) ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE REGIONAL EFFORTS TO DEVELOP LOCAL AND REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROGRAMS AND EXPERTISE, CONSISTENT WITH STATE EFFORTS, THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND USE OF MATCHING GRANTS TO PUBLIC OR PRIVATE REGIONAL ENTITIES CONSISTING--OF--2-OR-MORE-COUNTIES,--INCLUDING BALTIMORE-CITY.

(6) PARTICIPATE, WHERE APPROPRIATE, AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER UNITS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND ANY OTHER STATE AGENCIES OR DEPARTMENTS, IN MARYLAND OVERSEAS OFFICES TO PROVIDE INFORMATIONAL AND MARKETING SERVICES TO SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL TRADE EFFORTS OF THE OFFICE.

(7) ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER ENTITIES IN THE MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGN TRADE ZONES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

(8) ENGAGE IN ANY OTHER ACTIVITY REASONABLY NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.