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COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

**(b) Acceptance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the
Specialized Agencies**

Addendum 1

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General transmits the present addendum to the Assembly for information.

COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

(b) Acceptance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies

Addendum 1

Note by the Legal Adviser

1. The process of the conversion of the WTO into a specialized agency of the United Nations was completed through the formal ratification of the agreement, approved by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 10 July 2003, by the General Assembly of the WTO (resolution 453 of 24 October 2003) and by that of the United Nations (resolution 58/232 of 23 December 2003), respectively. Consequently, the question of the WTO's acceptance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947 arises.
2. As stated in its preamble, this Convention, whose text is attached as an annex to the present note, is aimed at "the unification as far as possible of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the United Nations and by the various specialized agencies". It regulates essential matters relative to the insertion in international society of the organizations linked to the United Nations by an agreement in accordance with the provisions of Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter: their juridical personality, the status of their property and assets, the facilities in respect of their communications, the privileges and immunities of the representatives of their Members and officials, and the *laissez-passer* they are entitled to use. Furthermore, the Convention contains clauses relative to abuses of privilege, its entry into force and its modes of application to each agency concerned, and to the settlement of disputes.
3. Acceptance of the Convention by the specialized agencies is not an obligation, and, furthermore, neither the General Assembly, nor the Economic and Social Council, nor the Office of the Legal Adviser of the United Nations made it a condition for the transformation of the WTO into a specialized agency. The fact remains, however, that despite not being legally indispensable, such formality has been carried out by *all* the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the last ones to acquire such status (UNIDO and IFAD). Acceptance of the Convention of 1947 seems to be essential, at least for the following reasons:

- it would solidify the WTO's anchorage in the system;
- it would allow the Organization to benefit from a coherent body of rules, which are well established and proven;
- it would usefully complement the provisions of the Statutes, which, although they state that the Organization has legal personality (Article 31) and enjoys in the territories of its Member States the privileges and immunities required for the exercise of its functions (Article 32), remain extremely lacking in this respect.

4. I would add that acceptance of the Convention would not affect the system of privileges and immunities provided for in the Convention of 10 November 1975 between Spain and the Organization, or the Supplemental Agreement of 19 May 1977, or the Special Agreement on the Headquarters Building of WTO:

- Article 3 of the 1975 Convention refers to all the immunities and privileges normally accorded to international organizations of a universal character, of which the 1947 Convention constitutes the most authoritative expression (it currently has 107 signatory States);
- Spain acceded to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies on 26 September 1974, and may, if it so wishes, refrain from accepting the annex (see below, par. 12) relative to the WTO, thus ensuring the continuity of the Headquarters Agreement with no possibility of any compatibility problems¹; incidentally, in accordance with the principle that the provisions of a special agreement takes precedence over those of a treaty of a general nature (*lex specialis priori derogat*), the first sentence of Section 39 of the Convention stipulates:

"The provisions of this Convention shall in no way limit or prejudice the privileges and immunities which have been, or may hereafter be, accorded by any State to any specialized agency by reason of the location in the territory of that State of its headquarters or regional offices";

Furthermore, certain States have expressly specified this upon their accession to the Convention) for example, the interpretive declaration annexed by France to its instrument of accession of 2 August 2000); and,

- on any view, there does not appear to be any incompatibility among the relevant instruments, even if the provisions of the 1947 Convention are often more precise and detailed than those of the Headquarters Agreement (although the opposite may sometimes be true: cf. the provisions relative to "Customs").

¹ States sometimes abstain from undertaking to apply the annexes relative to specialized agencies whose headquarters they host; but this is not a universal rule (cf. the acceptance by Italy of the annexes relative to the FAO and IFAD, by France of that relative to UNESCO, or by the United Kingdom of that relative to the IMO.)

5. In principle, Section 35 of the Convention stipulates that " the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit to the agency a draft annex recommended by the Economic and Social Council" As of this date, no such draft has been drawn up by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. However, it is my opinion that the WTO Executive Council would be well advised to:

- on the one hand, adopt a position regarding whether or not it would be advisable for the WTO to accept the Convention;
- and on the other hand, suggest the specific points that could be included in the annex in order to adapt the Convention, if necessary, to the specific characteristics of the Organization.

6. Section 33 of the Convention stipulates that the "standard clauses" of the Convention (that is, the provisions of Articles 1 to 9) may be modified if need be. According to Section 40:

"It is understood that the standard clauses, as modified by the final text of an annex sent by a specialized agency to the Secretary-General of the United Nations under section 36 (or any revised annex sent under section 38), will be consistent with the provisions of the constitutional instrument then in force of the agency in question, and that if any amendment to that instrument is necessary for the purpose of making the constitutional instrument so consistent, such amendment will have been brought into force in accordance with the constitutional procedure of that agency before the final (or revised) annex is transmitted. The Convention shall not itself operate so as to abrogate, or derogate from, any provisions of the constitutional instrument of any specialized agency or any rights or obligations which the agency may otherwise have, acquire, or assume."

I consider that no provision of the Convention is incompatible with the provisions of the Statutes, and that there is no need to modify the latter.

7. On the other hand, it would no doubt be useful to adapt certain standard clauses to the specific needs of the Organization, as has been done in the case of all the other specialized agencies. In an annex to the present note, I indicate the points to which, *prima facie*, more detailed treatment can be given in the draft annex, in my opinion.

8. The text finally approved by the Executive Council could be transmitted by the Legal Adviser of the WTO to his counterpart at the United Nations for submission to the Economic and Social Council and its approval by the latter as a recommended annex (Section 35, mentioned in par. 5 above). It is only after this can it be formally approved by the WTO in accordance with its constitutional procedure.

9. It has been pointed out to me that Annexes XV, XVI and XVII – respectively concerning the last three specialized agencies to have accepted the Convention, WIPO, IFAD and UNIDO – were approved by non-plenary organs of these organizations. This does not seem possible in the WTO because, according to Article 12(l) of the Statutes, it is for the General Assembly to "approve ... the conclusion of agreements with governments and international organizations". Of course, the Assembly may delegate such powers, but it did not do so at its last session. It seems more expeditious for it to directly approve the annex relative to the WTO at its next session, that is, if the said annex is ready for approval. If it is not, it would no doubt be appropriate for it to delegate power in this respect to the Executive Council.

10. Once the annex is approved, it shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and shall thereupon "replace the draft referred to in section 35" (section 36). According to section 37:

"The present Convention becomes applicable to each specialized agency when it has transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the final text of the relevant annex and has informed him that it accepts the standard clauses, as modified by this annex, and undertakes to give effect to sections 8, 18, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 42 and 45 (subject to any modification of section 32 which may be found necessary in order to make the final text of the annex consonant with the constitutional instrument of the agency) and any provisions of the annex placing obligations on the agency. The Secretary-General shall communicate to all Members of the United Nations and to other States members of the specialized agencies certified copies of all annexes transmitted to him under this section and of revised annexes transmitted under section 38."

11. It is useful to note that, if such a need is felt in the future, the WTO could modify the annex relative to it, in accordance with section 38 of the Convention.

12. Once the annex receives final approval, each Member State of the WTO may notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of its approval of the annex, thus undertaking to apply the Convention (and the annex) in its relations with the Organization (section 43 of the Convention).

Geneva, 5 April 2004,



Alain PELLET
Legal Adviser of WTO

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

*Approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations
on 21 November 1947*

Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted on 13 February 1946 a resolution contemplating the unification as far as possible of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the United Nations and by the various specialized agencies; and

Whereas consultations concerning the implementation of the aforesaid resolution have taken place between the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

Consequently, by resolution 179 (II) adopted on 21 November 1947, the General Assembly has approved the following Convention, which is submitted to the specialized agencies for acceptance and to every Member of the United Nations and to every other State member of one or more of the specialized agencies for accession.

Article I

DEFINITION AND SCOPE

Section 1

In this Convention:

(i) The words "standard clauses" refer to the provisions of articles II to IX.

(ii) The words "specialized agencies" mean:

- (a) The International Labour Organisation;
- (b) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;
- (c) The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;
- (d) The International Civil Aviation Organization;
- (e) The International Monetary Fund;
- (f) The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;

(g) The World Health Organization;

(h) The Universal Postal Union;

(i) The International Telecommunication Union; and

(j) Any other agency in relationship with the United Nations in accordance with Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter.

(iii) The word "Convention" means, in relation to any particular specialized agency, the standard clauses as modified by the final (or revised) text of the annex transmitted by that agency in accordance with sections 36 and 38.

(iv) For the purposes of article III, the words "property and assets" shall also include property and funds administered by a specialized agency in furtherance of its constitutional functions.

(v) For the purposes of articles V and VII, the expression "representatives of members" shall be deemed to include all representatives, alternates, advisers, technical experts and secretaries of delegations.

(vi) In sections 13, 14, 15 and 25, the expression "meetings convened by a specialized agency" means meetings: (1) of its assembly and of its executive body (however designated), and (2) of any commission provided for in its constitution; (3) of any international conference convened by it; and (4) of any committee of any of these bodies.

(vii) The term "executive head" means the principal executive official of the specialized agency in question, whether designated "Director-General" or otherwise.

Section 2

Each State party to this Convention in respect of any specialized agency to which this Convention has become applicable in accordance with section 37 shall accord to, or in

connexion with, that agency the privileges and immunities set forth in the standard clauses on the conditions specified therein, subject to any modification of those clauses contained in the provisions of the final (or revised) annex relating to that agency and transmitted in accordance with sections 36 or 38.

Article II

JURIDICAL PERSONALITY

Section 3

The specialized agencies shall possess juridical personality. They shall have the capacity (a) to contract, (b) to acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property, (c) to institute legal proceedings.

Article III

PROPERTY, FUNDS AND ASSETS

Section 4

The specialized agencies, their property and assets, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except in so far as in any particular case they have expressly waived their immunity. It is, however, understood that no waiver of immunity shall extend to any measure of execution.

Section 5

The premises of the specialized agencies shall be inviolable. The property and assets of the specialized agencies, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.

Section 6

The archives of the specialized agencies, and in general all documents belonging to them or held by them, shall be inviolable, wherever located.

Section 7

Without being restricted by financial controls, regulations or moratoria of any kind:

(a) The specialized agencies may hold funds, gold or currency of any kind and operate accounts in any currency;

(b) The specialized agencies may freely transfer their funds, gold or currency from one country to another or within any country and convert any currency held by them into any other currency.

Section 8

Each specialized agency shall, in exercising its rights under section 7 above, pay due regard to any representations made by the Government of any State party to this Convention in so far as it is considered that effect can be given to such representations without detriment to the interests of the agency.

Section 9

The specialized agencies, their assets, income and other property shall be:

(a) Exempt from all direct taxes; it is understood, however, that the specialized agencies will not claim exemption from taxes which are, in fact, no more than charges for public utility services;

(b) Exempt from customs duties and prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports in respect of articles imported or exported by the specialized agencies for their official use; it is understood, however, that articles imported under such exemption will not be sold in the country into which they were imported except under conditions agreed to with the Government of that country;

(c) Exempt from duties and prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports in respect of their publications.

Section 10

While the specialized agencies will not, as a general rule, claim exemption from excise duties and from taxes on the sale of movable and immovable property which forms part of the price to be paid, nevertheless when the specialized agencies are making important purchases for official use of property on which such duties and taxes have been charged or are chargeable, States parties to this Convention will, whenever possible, make appropriate administrative arrangements for the remission or return of the amount of duty or tax.

Article IV

FACILITIES IN RESPECT OF COMMUNICATIONS

Section 11

Each specialized agency shall enjoy, in the territory of each State party to this Convention in respect of that agency, for its official communications, treatment not less favourable than that accorded by the Government of such State to any other Government, including the latter's diplomatic mission, in the matter of priorities, rates and taxes on mails, cables, telegrams, radiograms, telephotos, telephone and other communications, and press rates for information to the press and radio.

Section 12

No censorship shall be applied to the official correspondence and other official communications of the specialized agencies.

The specialized agencies shall have the right to use codes and to dispatch and receive correspondence by courier or in sealed bags, which shall have the same immunities and privileges as diplomatic couriers and bags.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude the adoption of appropriate security precautions to be determined by agreement between a State party to this Convention and a specialized agency.

Article V

REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBERS

Section 13

Representatives of members at meetings convened by a specialized agency shall, while exercising their functions and during their journeys to and from the place of meeting, enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

(a) Immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal baggage, and in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in their official capacity, immunity from legal process of every kind;

(b) Inviolability for all papers and documents;

(c) The right to use codes and to receive papers or correspondence by courier or in sealed bags;

(d) Exemption in respect of themselves and their spouses from immigration restrictions, aliens' registration or national service obligations in the State which they are visiting or through which they are passing in the exercise of their functions;

(e) The same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restrictions as are accorded to representatives of foreign Governments on temporary official missions;

(f) The same immunities and facilities in respect of their personal baggage as are accorded to members of comparable rank of diplomatic missions.

Section 14

In order to secure for the representatives of members of the specialized agencies at meetings convened by them complete freedom of speech and complete independence in the discharge of their duties, the immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in discharging their duties shall continue to be accorded, notwithstanding that the persons concerned are no longer engaged in the discharge of such duties.

Section 15

Where the incidence of any form of taxation depends upon residence, periods during which the representatives of members of the specialized agencies at meetings convened by them are present in a member State for the discharge of their duties shall not be considered as periods of residence.

Section 16

Privileges and immunities are accorded to the representatives of members, not for the personal benefit of the individuals themselves, but in order to safeguard the independent exercise of their functions in connexion with the specialized agencies. Consequently, a member not only has the right but is under a duty to waive the immunity of its representatives in any case where, in the opinion of the member, the immunity would impede the course of justice, and where it can be waived without prejudice to the purpose for which the immunity is accorded.

Section 17

The provisions of sections 13, 14 and 15 are not applicable in relation to the authorities of a State of which the person is a national or of which he is or has been a representative.

Article VI

OFFICIALS

Section 18

Each specialized agency will specify the categories of officials to which the provisions of this article and of article VIII shall apply. It shall communicate them to the Governments of all States parties to this Convention in respect of that agency and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The names of the officials included in these categories shall from time to time be made known to the above-mentioned Governments.

Section 19

Officials of the specialized agencies shall:

- (a) Be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity;
- (b) Enjoy the same exemptions from taxation in respect of the salaries and emoluments paid to them by the specialized agencies and on the same conditions as are enjoyed by officials of the United Nations;
- (c) Be immune, together with their spouses and relatives dependent on them, from immigration restrictions and alien registration;
- (d) Be accorded the same privileges in respect of exchange facilities as are accorded to officials of comparable rank of diplomatic missions;
- (e) Be given, together with their spouses and relatives dependent on them, the same repatriation facilities in time of international crises as officials of comparable rank of diplomatic missions;
- (f) Have the right to import free of duty their furniture and effects at the time of first taking up their post in the country in question.

Section 20

The officials of the specialized agencies shall be exempt from national service obligations, provided that in relation to the States of which

they are nationals, such exemption shall be confined to officials of the specialized agencies whose names have, by reason of their duties, been placed upon a list compiled by the executive head of the specialized agency and approved by the State concerned.

Should other officials of specialized agencies be called up for national service, the State concerned shall, at the request of the specialized agency concerned, grant such temporary deferments in the call-up of such officials as may be necessary to avoid interruption in the continuation of essential work.

Section 21

In addition to the immunities and privileges specified in sections 19 and 20, the executive head of each specialized agency, including any official acting on his behalf during his absence from duty, shall be accorded in respect of himself, his spouse and minor children, the privileges and immunities, exemptions and facilities accorded to diplomatic envoys, in accordance with international law.

Section 22

Privileges and immunities are granted to officials in the interests of the specialized agencies only and not for personal benefit of the individuals themselves. Each specialized agency shall have the right and the duty to waive the immunity of any official in any case where, in its opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the agency.

Section 23

Each specialized agency shall co-operate at all times with the appropriate authorities of member States to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of police regulations and prevent the occurrence of any abuses in connexion with the privileges, immunities and facilities mentioned in this article.

Article VII

ABUSES OF PRIVILEGE

Section 24

If any State party to this Convention considers that there has been an abuse of a priv-

ilege or immunity conferred by this Convention, consultations shall be held between that State and the specialized agency concerned to determine whether any such abuse has occurred and, if so, to attempt to ensure that no repetition occurs. If such consultations fail to achieve a result satisfactory to the State and the specialized agency concerned, the question whether an abuse of a privilege or immunity has occurred shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice in accordance with section 32. If the International Court of Justice finds that such an abuse has occurred, the State party to this Convention affected by such abuse shall have the right, after notification to the specialized agency in question, to withhold from the specialized agency concerned the benefits of the privilege or immunity so abused.

Section 25

1. Representatives of members at meetings convened by specialized agencies, while exercising their functions and during their journeys to and from the place of meeting, and officials within the meaning of section 18, shall not be required by the territorial authorities to leave the country in which they are performing their functions on account of any activities by them in their official capacity. In the case, however, of abuse of privileges of residence committed by any such person in activities in that country outside his official functions, he may be required to leave by the Government of that country provided that:

2. (I) Representatives of members, or persons who are entitled to diplomatic immunity under section 21, shall not be required to leave the country otherwise than in accordance with the diplomatic procedure applicable to diplomatic envoys accredited to that country.

(II) In the case of an official to whom section 21 is not applicable, no order to leave the country shall be issued other than with the approval of the Foreign Minister of the country in question, and such approval shall be given only after consultation with the executive head of the specialized agency concerned; and, if expulsion proceedings are taken against an official, the executive head of the specialized agency shall have the right to appear in such proceedings on behalf of the person against whom they are instituted.

Article VIII

LAISSEZ-PASSER

Section 26

Officials of the specialized agencies shall be entitled to use the United Nations *laissez-passer* in conformity with administrative arrangements to be concluded between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the competent authorities of the specialized agencies, to which agencies special powers to issue *laissez-passer* may be delegated. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify each State party to this Convention of each administrative arrangement so concluded.

Section 27

States parties to this Convention shall recognize and accept the United Nations *laissez-passer* issued to officials of the specialized agencies as valid travel documents.

Section 28

Applications for visas, where required, from officials of specialized agencies holding United Nations *laissez-passer*, when accompanied by a certificate that they are travelling on the business of a specialized agency, shall be dealt with as speedily as possible. In addition, such persons shall be granted facilities for speedy travel.

Section 29

Similar facilities to those specified in section 28 shall be accorded to experts and other persons who, though not the holders of United Nations *laissez-passer*, have a certificate that they are travelling on the business of a specialized agency.

Section 30

The executive heads, assistant executive heads, heads of departments and other officials of a rank not lower than head of department of the specialized agencies, travelling on United Nations *laissez-passer* on the business of the specialized agencies, shall be granted the same facilities for travel as are accorded to officials of comparable rank in diplomatic missions.

Article IX

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Section 31

Each specialized agency shall make provision for appropriate modes of settlement of:

(a) Disputes arising out of contracts or other disputes of private character to which the specialized agency is a party;

(b) Disputes involving any official of a specialized agency who by reason of his official position enjoys immunity, if immunity has not been waived in accordance with the provisions of section 22.

Section 32

All differences arising out of the interpretation or application of the present Convention shall be referred to the International Court of Justice unless in any case it is agreed by the parties to have recourse to another mode of settlement. If a difference arises between one of the specialized agencies on the one hand, and a member on the other hand, a request shall be made for an advisory opinion on any legal question involved in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter and Article 65 of the Statute of the Court and the relevant provisions of the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agency concerned. The opinion given by the Court shall be accepted as decisive by the parties.

Article X

ANNEXES AND APPLICATION TO INDIVIDUAL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

Section 33

In their application to each specialized agency, the standard clauses shall operate subject to any modifications set forth in the final (or revised) text of the annex relating to that agency, as provided in sections 36 and 38.

Section 34

The provisions of the Convention in relation to any specialized agency must be interpreted in the light of the functions with which that agency is entrusted by its constitutional instrument.

Section 35

Draft annexes I to IX¹ are recommended to the specialized agencies named therein. In the case of any specialized agency not mentioned by name in section 1, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit to the agency a draft annex recommended by the Economic and Social Council.

Section 36

The final text of each annex shall be that approved by the specialized agency in question in accordance with its constitutional procedure. A copy of the annex as approved by each specialized agency shall be transmitted by the agency in question to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and shall thereupon replace the draft referred to in section 35.

Section 37

The present Convention becomes applicable to each specialized agency when it has transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the final text of the relevant annex and has informed him that it accepts the standard clauses, as modified by this annex, and undertakes to give effect to sections 8, 18, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 42 and 45 (subject to any modification of section 32 which may be found necessary in order to make the final text of the annex consonant with the constitutional instrument of the agency) and any provisions of the annex placing obligations on the agency. The Secretary-General shall communicate to all Members of the United Nations and to other States members of the specialized agencies certified copies of all annexes transmitted to him under this section and of revised annexes transmitted under section 38.

Section 38

If, after the transmission of a final annex under section 36, any specialized agency approves any amendments thereto in accordance with its constitutional procedure, a revised annex shall be transmitted by it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

¹ For the text of the above-mentioned draft annexes, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Second Session, Resolutions*, page 124 et seq.

Section 39

The provisions of this Convention shall in no way limit or prejudice the privileges and immunities which have been, or may hereafter be, accorded by any State to any specialized agency by reason of the location in the territory of that State of its headquarters or regional offices. This Convention shall not be deemed to prevent the conclusion between any State party thereto and any specialized agency of supplemental agreements adjusting the provisions of this Convention or extending or curtailing the privileges and immunities thereby granted.

Section 40

It is understood that the standard clauses, as modified by the final text of an annex sent by a specialized agency to the Secretary-General of the United Nations under section 36 (or any revised annex sent under section 38), will be consistent with the provisions of the constitutional instrument then in force of the agency in question, and that if any amendment to that instrument is necessary for the purpose of making the constitutional instrument so consistent, such amendment will have been brought into force in accordance with the constitutional procedure of that agency before the final (or revised) annex is transmitted.

The Convention shall not itself operate so as to abrogate, or derogate from, any provisions of the constitutional instrument of any specialized agency or any rights or obligations which the agency may otherwise have, acquire, or assume.

Article XI

FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 41

Accession to this Convention by a Member of the United Nations and (subject to section 42) by any State member of a specialized agency shall be effected by deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of accession which shall take effect on the date of its deposit.

Section 42

Each specialized agency concerned shall communicate the text of this Convention to-

gether with the relevant annexes to those of its members which are not Members of the United Nations and shall invite them to accede thereto in respect of that agency by depositing an instrument of accession to this Convention in respect thereof either with the Secretary-General of the United Nations or with the executive head of the specialized agency.

Section 43

Each State party to this Convention shall indicate in its instrument of accession the specialized agency or agencies in respect of which it undertakes to apply the provisions of this Convention. Each State party to this Convention may by subsequent written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations undertake to apply the provisions of this Convention to one or more further specialized agencies. This notification shall take effect on the date of its receipt by the Secretary-General.

Section 44

This Convention shall enter into force for each State party to this Convention in respect of a specialized agency when it has become applicable to that agency in accordance with section 37 and the State party has undertaken to apply the provisions of the Convention to that agency in accordance with section 43.

Section 45

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all Members of the United Nations, as well as all members of the specialized agencies, and executive heads of the specialized agencies, of the deposit of each instrument of accession received under section 41 and of subsequent notifications received under section 43. The executive head of a specialized agency shall inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the members of the agency concerned of the deposit of any instrument of accession deposited with him under section 42.

Section 46

It is understood that, when an instrument of accession or a subsequent notification is deposited on behalf of any State, this State will be in a position under its own law to give effect to the terms of this Convention, as modified by the final texts of any annexes

relating to the agencies covered by such accessions or notifications.

Section 47

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this section, each State party to this Convention undertakes to apply this Convention in respect of each specialized agency covered by its accession or subsequent notification, until such time as a revised convention or annex shall have become applicable to that agency and the said State shall have accepted the revised convention or annex. In the case of a revised annex, the acceptance of States shall be by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which shall take effect on the date of its receipt by the Secretary-General.

2. Each State party to this Convention, however, which is not, or has ceased to be, a member of a specialized agency, may address a written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the executive head of the agency concerned to the effect that it intends to withhold from that agency the benefits of this Convention as from a specified

date, which shall not be earlier than three months from the date of receipt of the notification.

3. Each State party to this Convention may withhold the benefit of this Convention from any specialized agency which ceases to be in relationship with the United Nations.

4. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all member States parties to this Convention of any notification transmitted to him under the provisions of this section.

Section 48

At the request of one-third of the States parties to this Convention, the Secretary-General of the United Nations will convene a conference with a view to its revision.

Section 49

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit copies of this Convention to each specialized agency and to the Government of each Member of the United Nations.