

Article 22 - Settlement of disputes

1. Parties shall seek to settle any dispute between them concerning the interpretation or application of this Instrument through negotiation or other peaceful means of their own choice.
2. When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Instrument, or at any time thereafter, a Party that is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the Depositary that, with regard to any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Instrument, it recognizes one or both of the following means of dispute settlement in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation:
 - a. Arbitration in accordance with procedures to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties in as soon as practicable;
 - b. Submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice.
3. A Party that is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration in accordance with the procedure referred to in paragraph 2(a).
4. A declaration made pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3 shall remain in force until it expires in accordance with its terms or until three months after written notice of its revocation has been deposited with the Depositary.
5. The expiry of a declaration, a notice of revocation or a new declaration shall in no way affect proceedings pending before an arbitral tribunal or the International Court of Justice, unless the Parties to the dispute otherwise agree.
6. If the Parties to a dispute have not accepted the same means of dispute settlement pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3, and if they have not been able to settle their dispute through the means mentioned in paragraph 1 within twelve months following notification by one Party to another that a dispute exists between them, the dispute shall be submitted to a conciliation commission at the request of any Party to the dispute. The conciliation commission shall render a report with recommendations. Additional procedures relating to the conciliation commission to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties no later than at its second meeting.

No work is envisaged during the interim period between DipCON and COP-1.

Article 23 - Amendments to the Instrument

1. Amendments to this Instrument may be proposed by any Party.
2. Amendments to this Instrument shall be adopted at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for adoption. The Secretariat shall also communicate the proposed amendment to the signatories to this Instrument and, for information, to the Depositary.
3. The Parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on any proposed amendment to this Instrument by consensus. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted, and no agreement reached, the amendment shall as a last resort be adopted by consensus of the Parties present and voting at the meeting.
4. An adopted amendment shall be communicated by the Depositary to all Parties for ratification, acceptance or approval.

5. Ratification, acceptance or approval of an amendment shall be notified to the Depositary in writing. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 3 shall enter into force for the Parties having consented to be bound by it on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval by all Parties that were Parties at the time at which the amendment was adopted. Thereafter, the amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of the amendment.

~~Article 24 – Adoption and amendment of annexes~~

Article 25 - Decision Making

Each Party to this Instrument shall have one vote.

Article 26 - Signature

This Instrument shall be opened for signature at [city], [country], by all States States and by regional economic integration organizations [from [--] to [--], at the United Nations Headquarters in New York [from [--] to [--].

Article 27 - Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Instrument shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States and by regional economic integration organizations. It shall be open for accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations from the day after the date on which the Instrument is closed for signature. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.
2. Any regional economic integration organization that becomes a Party to this Convention without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under the Convention. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose member States is a Party to this Convention, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Convention. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Convention concurrently.
3. In its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence in respect of the matters governed by this Convention. Any such organization shall also inform the Depositary, who shall in turn inform the Parties, of any relevant modification of the extent of its competence.
4. Each State or regional economic integration organization is encouraged to transmit to the secretariat at the time of its ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the instrument information on its measures to implement the Instrument.

Article 28 - Entry into force

1. This Instrument shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the ninety-seventh instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Instrument or accedes thereto after the deposit of the ninety-seventh instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Instrument shall enter into force on the hundred-and-twentieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organizations of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
3. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organizations shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of that organization.

Article 29 - Reservations

No reservations or exceptions may be made to this Instrument, unless expressly permitted by other articles of this Instrument.

Article 30 - Withdrawal

1. At any time after three years from the date on which this Instrument has entered into force for a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Instrument by giving written notification to the Depository.
2. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the Depository of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal.

Article 31 - Depository

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be the Depository of this Instrument.

Article 32 - Authentic Texts

The original of this Instrument, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Depository.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Instrument.