

Article 12

SIGNATURE

1. This Convention shall be open for signature at _____ from _____ to _____ by States and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States which have competence in respect to the negotiation, conclusion, and application of international agreements in matters covered by this Convention.

Article 13

RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE, OR APPROVAL

1. This Convention and any protocol thereto shall be subject to ratification, acceptance, or approval by States and by regional economic integration organizations which have competence in respect to the negotiation, conclusion and application of international agreements in matters covered by the instrument concerned. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, or approval shall be deposited with the Depositary.

2. Any organization referred to in paragraph 1 which becomes a Contracting Party to this Convention or any protocol thereto without its Member States shall be bound by all the obligations under the Convention or the protocol as the case may be. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose Member States is a Contracting Party to the Convention or relevant protocol, the organization and its Member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of those obligations. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Convention or relevant protocol concurrently.

3. In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, or approval, the organizations referred to in paragraph 1 shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Convention or the relevant protocol. These organizations shall also inform the Depositary or any substantial modification in the extent of their competence.

4. In matters within their competence, the organizations referred to in paragraph 1 shall exercise their right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States which are Contracting Parties to the Convention or the relevant protocol. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs, and vice versa.

Article 14

ACCESSION

1. This Convention and any protocol thereto shall be open for accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations which have competence in respect to the negotiation, conclusion, and application of international agreements in matters covered by the instrument concerned from the date on which the Convention or the protocol concerned is closed for signature. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.

2. In their instruments of accession, the organizations referred to in paragraph 1 shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Convention or the relevant protocol. These organizations shall also inform the Depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence.

3. The provisions of article 13, paragraphs 2 and 4, shall apply to regional economic integration organizations which accede to this Convention or any protocol thereto.

To insert in an appropriate article of the Convention: "Except as provided in Article 13 paragraph 4 each Party to the Convention or to any Protocol shall have one vote."