

**CONVENTION
on the Legal Status, Privileges, and Immunities of
Intergovernmental Economic Organizations
Acting in Certain Areas of Cooperation**

The States Parties to the present Convention,

seeking to contribute to the expansion of the activity of intergovernmental economic organizations acting in certain areas of cooperation thus assisting in the consolidation of friendly relations among the States that are members of such organizations,

have agreed as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

**Article I
Terminology**

For the purposes of the present Convention

- a) "intergovernmental economic organization acting in certain areas of cooperation" (hereinafter referred to as the "Organization") means an international organization uniting States as its members and established under an international treaty to coordinate the activity of its members concerning cooperation in certain areas of economy, science and technology;
- b) "host State" means a State in whose territory the Organization or its body is located or a meeting of its body is convened;
- c) "premises of the Organization" means buildings or part of buildings and the land ancillary thereto used by the Organization with the consent of the host State;
- d) "representative body" means a body of the Organization consisting of representatives of the member States;
- e) "representatives of States" means representatives of the member States in the representative bodies of the Organization, members of delegations sent by the member States of the Organization to attend meetings of such bodies as well as observers;
- f) "officers" means staff members of the Organization qualified as officers as decided by the Organization's representative body and included in the list presented by the Organization to the host State of the Organization and its bodies, and other member States of the Organization;
- g) "chief officer of the Organization" means the head of the administrative and executive body of the Organization appointed by its representative body empowered as set forth in the constituent instruments of the Organization;
- h) "observers" means representatives of States, which are non-members of the Organization, participating, on the invitation of the Organization, in meetings of its bodies or other meetings or conferences convened by the Organization.

**Article II
Scope of application**

This convention shall apply to Organizations

- a) all of whose members are States Parties to this Convention or
- b) all of whose members decide to be subject hereto or
- c) whose constituent instruments provide for such Organizations being subject hereto.

II. ORGANIZATION

Article III

International legal personality of the Organization

When implementing the provisions of the Article II the States Parties shall note that the privileges and immunities specified herein shall be granted to Organizations, which have international legal personality arising out of their constituent instruments in general and which, in such capacity, may conclude international agreements and act in international relations in a scope required for the performance of their functions and attainment of their goals as set forth in such instruments and as decided by their competent representative bodies.

Article IV

Domestic legal personality of the Organization

1. The Organization shall be a legal entity.
2. The Organization shall have a legal capacity required for the performance of the functions it is entrusted with and, *inter alia*, may
 - a) conclude agreements;
 - b) purchase, lease or alienate property;
 - c) appear before a court of law.

Article V

Inviolability of premises, archives, and documents

The Premises of the Organization as well as its archives and documents, including official correspondence wherever they may be, shall be inviolable.

Article VI

Immunity from jurisdiction

The property and archives of the Organization shall be immune from any form of administrative or judicial intervention except when the Organization itself waives the immunity in a particular case.

Article VII

Exemption from taxes and charges

1. The Organization and its premises shall be exempt from direct taxes and other mandatory payments or charges, both national and local, except for payments for utilities or other similar services.
2. The Organization shall be exempt from customs duties and limitations on the import and export of articles for official use.

Article VIII

Exemption from financial control

Financial activities of the Organization shall be exempt from control by central or local authorities in the host State.

Article IX
Postal and Telecommunications Benefits

The Organization shall enjoy on the territory of each member State of the Organization no less favourable conditions in relation to priority and rates for the use of international telephone, telegraph and postal services than those enjoyed in these States by diplomatic missions.

Article X
Printed matters

The Organization shall, subject to the laws effective in the host State of the Organization and the Organization's goals and functions, have the right to publish and distribute printed matters as provided for in the constituent instruments of the Organization or resolutions of its competent representative body.

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF STATES

Article XI
Privileges and immunities

1. Representatives of States shall enjoy
 - a) immunity from personal arrest or detention as well as from the jurisdiction of judicial or administrative institutions with respect to any acts they may perform in their capacity as representatives;
 - b) inviolability of official correspondence and documents;
 - c) exemption from customs duties or charges (except for warehouse or transportation charges) on articles destined for personal use or official use by delegations of States;
 - d) exemption from customs inspection of personal baggage in the absence of serious reasons to assume that such baggage contains articles prohibited for import or export or if their import or export is regulated by quarantine rules in the State party concerned;
 - e) exemption from direct taxes and duties with respect to the salaries paid to them by the sending State;
 - f) exemption from personal services.
2. Clauses e) and f) in section 1 of this Article shall apply to a representative's family members accompanying such representative unless they are citizens of the State concerned, which is a party to this Convention, or unless they are permanent residents of such State.
3. The representatives of States in the principal representative body of the Organization shall, in addition to the privileges and immunities specified in section 1 of the present Article, enjoy privileges and immunities granted to diplomatic representatives in the State concerned.
4. Sections 1 and 3 of this Article shall not apply to relations between organs of a State and representatives of this State.

Article XII
Waiver of immunity

The privileges and immunities specified in Article XI of the present Convention shall be granted to the persons concerned exclusively in official interests. Each State may waive the immunity of its representative in all cases when, in the opinion of this State, such immunity obstructs the course of justice and can be renounced without detriment to the purposes for which it was granted.

IV. OFFICERS

Article XIII Privileges and immunities

1. Officers:

- a) shall be exempt from judicial or administrative responsibility in respect to any acts, which they may perform in their capacity as officers;
- b) shall be exempt from personal services;
- c) shall be exempt from direct taxes or duties in respect to their salaries or other reimbursement paid by the Organization;
- d) shall be exempt from customs duties or charges (except for warehouse or transportation charges) on articles destined for personal use, including articles intended for their establishment on the first entry in the country which is the seat of the Organization or its bodies, and from obtaining permission to export such articles on their departure from the country concerned. Articles imported by officers may be alienated in the country which is the seat of the Organization or its bodies in accordance with the procedure established in this country.

2. Subsections b) and d) in section 1 hereof shall apply as appropriate to the members of the families of officers forming part of their household unless they are citizens of the country which is the seat of the Organization or its bodies, or have their permanent residence in this country.

3. The Chief officer of the Organization shall, in addition to the privileges and immunities specified in section 1 of the present Article, enjoy privileges and immunities granted in the State concerned to diplomatic representatives.

4. Subsections b), c), and d) of section 1 of this Article shall not apply to relations between officers and organs of the State of which they are citizens or in which they have their permanent residence.

Article XIV Waiver of immunity

The privileges and immunities specified in Article XIII of the present Convention shall only be granted to officers for the purposes of the Organization and for the sake of independent performance of their official functions. The Chief officer shall have the right and the obligation to waive the immunity granted to any officer of the Organization when, in his opinion, such immunity obstructs the course of justice and can be renounced without detriment to the interests of the Organization. In relation to the Chief officer of the Organization immunity may be waived by the representative body that appointed such Chief Officer.

V. GENERAL

Article XV Assistance to Representatives of States and Officers

1. Any State, which is a party to this Convention, shall accord to representatives of States in the Organization's bodies, delegations of States at meetings of the Organization's bodies or other meetings or conferences convened by the Organization as well as officers necessary facilities for the performance of their functions. Specifically, a host State shall assist in providing such individuals with official and living premises, medical care and other social and utility

services pursuant to the procedure established in this State.

2. Section 1 of this Article shall not apply to representatives of States or officers who are citizens of a host State or permanently reside in this State.

Article XVI
Respect for laws of States

The Organization and persons who enjoy the privileges and immunities provided for in this Convention shall respect the laws of any State, which is a party hereto and on whose territory they are located.

VI. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article XVII
Signing of the Convention

This Convention shall be open for signature until December 31, 1981.

Article XVIII
Accession

After the date specified in Article XVII, this Convention shall be open for accession by any State. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the depositary.

Article XIX
Ratification

This Convention shall be subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the depositary.

Article XX
Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the sixth instrument of ratification or accession is deposited.

2. For each State depositing its instrument of ratification or accession after the sixth instrument of ratification or accession had been deposited, this Convention shall take effect on the sixtieth day after such State deposits its instrument of ratification or accession.

Article XXI
Amendments

1. This Convention may only be amended if agreed by all States parties to this Convention. Amendments may be proposed by any State party hereto. Such proposals shall be presented to the depositary.

2. Any amendments hereto shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force after the last instrument of ratification by the States parties to this Convention is deposited with the depositary.

Article XXII
Effective term

The present Convention shall remain in force for an indefinite period.

Article XXIII
Denunciation

1. Any State may denounce this Convention by giving notice thereof to the depositary.
2. Denunciation shall take effect twelve months after receipt of such notice by the depositary.
3. In the event that the obligation to grant the Organization immunities and privileges specified herein is assumed by States, which are members of such Organization, proceeding from its constituent instruments or resolutions, denunciation hereof shall not affect the effect of such obligation.

Article XXIV
Depositary

The original of this Convention shall be deposited with the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which shall act as the depositary hereof.

Done at Budapest this 5th day of 1980 in the Russian language without copies.