

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **Exemption from Fees and Certification of Documents**

1. Where the legislation of a Contracting State provides that any document which is submitted to the competent authority or agency of that Contracting State shall be exempted, wholly or partly, from fees or charges, including consular and administrative fees, the exemption shall also apply to corresponding documents which are submitted to the competent authority or agency of the other Contracting State in the application of this Agreement.
2. Documents and certificates which are presented for purposes of this Agreement shall be exempted from requirements for authentication by diplomatic or consular authorities.
3. Copies of documents which are certified as true and exact copies by an agency of one Contracting State shall be accepted as true and exact copies by an agency of the other Contracting State, without further certification. The agency of each Contracting State shall be the final judge of the probative value of the evidence submitted to it from whatever sources.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **Language of Communications**

1. The competent authorities and agencies of the Contracting States may correspond directly with each other and with any person, wherever that person may reside, whenever it is necessary to do so for the application of this Agreement or the legislation to which this Agreement applies. The correspondence may be in any official language of either Contracting State.
2. An application or document may not be rejected by a competent authority or agency of a Contracting State solely because it is in an official language of the other Contracting State.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **Submitting Claims, Notices or Appeals**

1. Any claim, notice or appeal concerning the determination or payment of a benefit under the legislation of a Contracting State which should, for the purposes of that legislation, have been presented within a prescribed period to a competent authority or agency of that Contracting State, but which is presented within the same period to an authority or agency of the other Contracting State, shall be treated as if it had been presented to the competent authority or agency of the first Contracting State.