

PART I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1

Definitions

1. For the purposes of this Agreement,
 - (a) “benefit” means any cash benefit, pension or allowance for which provision is made in the legislation of either Party and includes any supplements or increases applicable to such a cash benefit, pension or allowance;
 - (b) “competent authority” means, in relation to a Party, the Minister or Ministers responsible for the application of the social security legislation in all or part of the territory of that Party;
 - (c) “competent institution” means, in relation to Italy, an institution charged with the application of the legislation described in Article 2(1)(a), and, in relation to Canada, the competent authority;
 - (d) “creditable period” means a period of contributions or residence used to acquire the right to a benefit under the legislation of either Party; it also means, in relation to Italy, a period deemed to be a period of contributions by the legislation of Italy, and, in relation to Canada, a period during which a disability pension is payable under the *Canada Pension Plan*;
 - (e) “government employment” means, in relation to Italy, employment of a person by a public agency, and, in relation to Canada, employment as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Armed Forces of Canada, employment of any person by the Government of Canada or the government or a municipal corporation of any province and includes any employment as may be so designated by the competent authority of either Party;
 - (f) “Government of Canada” means the Government in its capacity as representative of Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada and represented by the Minister of Employment and Immigration; and
 - (g) “legislation” means, in relation to Italy, the laws, regulations and other legislative enactments regarding the social security schemes and branches specified in Article 2(1)(a), and, in relation to Canada, the laws and regulations specified in Article 2(1)(b).