3. An amendment to the present Protocol, other than an amendment to its Annex, shall be adopted by consensus of the representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol, and shall enter into force for the Contracting Parties to the Protocol which have accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date on which two-thirds of those Contracting Parties have deposited with the depositary their instruments of acceptance of the amendment. The amendment shall enter into force for any other Contracting Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Contracting Party deposits its instrument of acceptance of the amendment.

#### ARTICLE 7

## Settlement of Disputes

If a dispute arises between two or more Contracting Parties to the present Protocol as to its interpretation or application, they shall seek a solution by negotiation or by any other method of dispute settlement acceptable to the parties to the dispute.

### ARTICLE 8

#### Signature

- 1. The present Protocol shall be open for signature at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 28 September 1984 until 5 October 1984 inclusive, then at the Head-quarters of the United Nations in New York until 4 April 1985, by the member States of the Economic Commission for Europe as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe, pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations, constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic commission for Europe, which have competence in respect of the negotiation, conclusion and application of international agreements in matters covered by the present Protocol, provided that the States and organizations concerned are parties to the Convention.
- 2. In matters within their competence, such regional economic integration organizations shall, on their own behalf, exercise the rights and fulfill the responsibilities which the present Protocol attributes to their member States. In such cases, the member States of these organizations shall not be entitled to exercise such rights individually.

#### ARTICLE 9

# Ratification, Acceptance, Approval and Accession

- 1. The present Protocol shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories.
- 2. The present Protocol shall be open for accession as from 5 October 1984 by the States and Organizations referred to in Article 8, paragraph 1.