ARTICLE 26

Exemption or Reduction of Taxes, Dues, Fees and Charges

1. Any exemption from or reduction of taxes, legal dues, consular fees and administrative charges for which provision is made in the legislation of a Party in connection with the issuing of any certificate or document required to be produced for the application of that legislation shall be extended to certificates or documents required to be produced for the application of the legislation of the other Party.

2. Any documents of an official nature required to be produced for the application of this Agreement shall be exempt from any authentication by diplomatic or consular authorities or similar formality.

ARTICLE 27

Language of Communication

1. For the application of this Agreement, the competent authorities and institutions of the Parties may communicate directly with one another in any official language of either Party.

2. Any claim which is made to a competent authority or institution of a Party in connection with the application of this Agreement shall be dealt with even if written in an official language of the other Party.

ARTICLE 28

Submitting a Claim, Notice or Appeal

1. Claims, notices and appeals concerning eligibility for, or the amount of, a benefit under the legislation of a Party which should, for the purposes of that legislation, have been presented within a prescribed period to a competent authority or institution of that Party, but which are presented within the same period to an authority or institution of the other Party, shall be treated as if they had been presented to the competent authority or institution of the first Party. The date of presentation of claims, notices and appeals to the authority or institution of the other Party shall be deemed to be the date of their presentation to the competent authority or institution of the first Party.

2. A claim for a benefit under the legislation of a Party made after the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be deemed to be a claim for the corresponding benefit under the legislation of the other Party, provided that the applicant at the time of application:

(a) requests that it be considered an application under the legislation of the other Party, or