

credentials committee that may be set up under the rules of procedure of the Council.

3. A Member authorized by another Member to cast the votes held by the authorizing Member under article 11 shall cast such votes as authorized and in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

### ARTICLE 13

#### *Decisions of the Council*

1. All decisions of the Council shall be taken and all recommendations shall be made by distributed simple majority vote, unless this Agreement provides for a special vote.

2. In arriving at the number of votes necessary for any decision of the Council, votes of Members abstaining shall not be reckoned. Where a Member avails itself of the provisions of article 12, paragraph 2, and its votes are cast at a meeting of the Council, such Member shall, for the purposes of paragraph 1 of this article, be considered as present and voting.

3. All decisions of the Council under this Agreement shall be binding upon Members.

### ARTICLE 14

#### *Co-operation with other organizations*

1. The Council shall make whatever arrangements are appropriate for consultation or co-operation with the United Nations and its organs, in particular UNCTAD, and with the Food and Agriculture Organization and such other specialized agencies of the United Nations and intergovernmental organizations as may be appropriate.

2. The Council, bearing in mind the particular role of UNCTAD in international commodity trade, shall as appropriate keep UNCTAD informed of its activities and programmes of work.

3. The Council may also make whatever arrangements are appropriate for maintaining effective contact with international organizations of sugar producers, traders and manufacturers.

### ARTICLE 15

#### *Admission of observers*

1. The Council may invite any non-member State to attend any of its meetings as an observer.

2. The Council may also invite any of the organizations referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, to attend any of its meetings as an observer.