

Under its provisions any Member may withdraw from the Organization at any time after three years from the day of the entry into force of the Charter. Such withdrawal will become effective upon the expiration of six months from the day on which written notice of such withdrawal is received by the Director General. It can be seen, therefore, that a Member could give such notice after two and a half years following the entry into force of the Charter and its withdrawal from the Organization would take effect three years from the day of the entry into force of the Charter.

It should be noted that there are other provisions in the Charter under which Members may withdraw from the Organization on relatively short notice. Those other provisions, the main ones of which are listed below, are exceptions to this general withdrawal Article. In the following cases a Member's withdrawal, after written notice to the Organization, becomes effective generally after sixty days:

<u>ARTICLE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u>
Article 17, 4(e)	Reduction of Tariffs and Elimination of Preferences.	A Member is free to withdraw after tariff concessions are withheld from it as a result of that Member's failure to become a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.
Article 95, 4	Reference (of differences) to the Conference	A Member may withdraw following a decision by the Conference or after the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice has been delivered.
Article 100, 3	Amendments	A Member may withdraw when not accepting an amendment which alters its obligations.
Annex N	Special Amendment to Chapter VIII.	Similarly, a Member may withdraw if not accepting an amendment which alters his obligations.

As can be seen, "emergency" withdrawal is permitted only in very few cases and under serious circumstances.

Paragraph 3 of this Article provides that the Charter may be terminated at any time by agreement of three-fourths of the Members of the Organization. This provision was taken without change from the Geneva draft. It is the only case in the Charter where a three-fourths majority is required. As can be appreciated, only an overwhelming desire on the part of the Members to terminate the Charter could bring about action under this provision.

Article 103 - Entry into Force and Registration. Acceptance of the Charter by Governments is provided for through the procedure of the deposit of instruments of acceptance with the Secretary-General of the United Nations rather than the procedure of signature.