

3. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the consultations shall be considered terminated 30 days after they have been requested, and the Parties' obligations under this Article shall then be deemed to have been fulfilled.

ARTICLE V LIMITATIONS ON COMPLIANCE

1. The Requested State may deny assistance to the extent that

- a) the request is not made in conformity with the provisions of this Treaty; or
- b) execution of the request is contrary to its public interest, as determined by its Central Authority.

2. The Requested State may postpone assistance if execution of the request would interfere with an ongoing investigation or prosecution in the Requested State.

3. Before denying or postponing assistance pursuant to this Article, the Requested State, through its Central Authority,

- a) shall promptly inform the Requesting State of the reason for considering denial or postponement; and
- b) shall consult with the Requesting State to determine whether assistance may be given subject to such terms and conditions as the Requested State deems necessary.

4. If the Requesting State accepts assistance subject to the terms and conditions referred to in paragraph 3(b), it shall comply with said terms and conditions.

ARTICLE VI REQUESTS

1. Requests shall be made by the Central Authority of the Requesting State directly to the Central Authority of the Requested State.

2. Requests shall be made in writing where compulsory process is required in the Requested State or where otherwise required by the Requested State. In urgent circumstances, such requests may be made orally, but shall be confirmed in writing forthwith.