

Article XVIII

Submitting Claims, Notices or Appeals

1. Any claim, notice or appeal concerning the determination or payment 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 an authority or institution of that Party, but which is presented within the same period to an authority or institution of the other Party, shall be treated as if it had been presented to the competent authority or institution of the first Party.
2. A claim for a benefit under the legislation of a Party shall be deemed to be a claim for the corresponding benefit under the legislation of the other Party, provided that the applicant:
 - (a) requests that it be considered an application under the legislation of the other Party, or
 - (b) provides information at the time of application indicating that creditable periods have been completed under the legislation of the other Party.
3. In any case to which paragraph 1 or 2 applies, the authority or institution to which the claim, notice or appeal has been submitted shall transmit it without delay to the authority or institution of the other Party.

Article XIX

Payment of Benefits

1. The competent institution of a Party may discharge its obligations under this Agreement in the currency of that Party.
2. Benefits shall be paid to beneficiaries free from any deduction for administrative expenses that may be incurred in paying the benefits.

Article XX

Resolution of Difficulties

1. The competent authorities of the Parties shall resolve, to the extent possible, any difficulties which arise in interpreting or applying this Agreement according to its spirit and fundamental principles.