

## ARTICLE VIII

*Other Provisions*1. *Entry into force*

- (a) This Protocol shall enter into force, for those participants having accepted it, on 14 May 1973. For participants accepting this Protocol after that date, it shall be effective from the date of their acceptance.
- (b) The validity of contracts entered into before the date of entry into force of this Protocol is not affected by this Protocol.

2. *Duration*

This Protocol shall remain in force for one year. The duration of this Protocol shall be extended for further periods of one year at a time, unless the Management Committee, at least eighty days prior to each date of expiry, decides otherwise.

3. *Amendment*

The provisions of this Protocol may be amended by the Management Committee established in terms of Article VII.

4. *Acceptance*

- (a) This Protocol is open for acceptance, by signature or otherwise, to governments (including the competent authorities of the European Communities) members of the United States or of one of its specialized agencies.
- (b) This Protocol shall be deposited with the Director-General to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof and a notification of each acceptance thereof to each participant to the Protocol.

5. *Withdrawal*

Any government (including the competent authorities of the European Communities) may withdraw from this Protocol upon the expiration of sixty days from the day on which written notice of such withdrawal is received by the Director-General to the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

DONE at Geneva this second day of April one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three, in a single copy, in the English and French languages, both texts being authentic.