

ARTICLE 14

The subjects or citizens of one Contracting Party shall enjoy in the territories (to which the Convention applies) of the other Contracting Party a perfect equality of treatment as regards free judicial assistance for poor persons and imprisonment for debt, and, provided that they are resident in any such territory, shall not be compelled to give security for costs in any case where a subject or citizen of such other Contracting Party would not be so compelled.

IV.—General Provisions

ARTICLE 15

Any difficulties which may arise in connection with the operation of this Convention shall be settled through the diplomatic channel.

ARTICLE 16

The present Convention, of which the English and German* texts are equally authentic, shall be subject to ratification. Ratifications shall be exchanged at Berlin and the Convention shall come into force one month after the date on which ratifications are exchanged, and shall remain in force for three years after the date of its coming into force. In case neither of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice to the other six months before the expiration of the period of three years of his intention to terminate the Convention, it shall remain in force until the expiration of six months from the day on which either of the Contracting Parties shall have given such notice.

ARTICLE 17

(a) The present Convention shall not apply *ipso facto* to Scotland or Northern Ireland, nor to any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies or Protectorates nor to any territories under his suzerainty, nor to any mandated areas administered by his Government in Great Britain, but His Britannic Majesty may at any time, by a notification given through His Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin, extend the operation of this Convention to any of the above-mentioned territories.

(b) Such notification shall state the date on which such extension shall come into force, the authorities in the territory concerned to whom judicial and extrajudicial documents and "Letters of Request" are to be transmitted, and the language in which communications to such authorities and translations should be made. The date of the coming into force of any such extension shall not be less than one month from the date of such notification.

(c) Either of the Contracting Parties may, at any time after the expiry of three years from the coming into force of the extension of this Convention to any of the territories referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article, terminate such extension on giving six months' previous notice.

ARTICLE 18

(a) His Britannic Majesty may at any time, by a notification given through his Ambassador at Berlin, accede to the present Convention in respect of any of his self-governing Dominions or India. The provisions of Article 17 (b) shall be applicable to any such notification. Any such accession shall take effect one month after the date of its notification.

(b) After the expiry of a period of three years from the date of the coming into force of any accession under paragraph (a) of this Article, either of the Contracting Parties may, by giving six months' notice, terminate the application of the Convention to any country in respect of which such notification of accession has been given. In the absence of such notice, the termination of the Convention under Article 16 shall not affect its application to any such country.

* Not printed.