

ARTICLE 50

Following Article 80 of the Supplementary Agreement, the following new Article 80A shall be added:

"Article 80A

1. Should a difference arise relating to the interpretation or application of the present Agreement, and unless a separate procedure is provided, the Parties directly concerned shall endeavour to settle the difference by consultations at the lowest appropriate level. A difference that cannot be resolved at that level may be referred to higher competent military or civil authorities for resolution.
2. (a) If the difference is not resolved in accordance with paragraph 1 within fifteen days, any Party directly concerned thereafter may request that a consultative Commission be established to recommend possible solutions to the Parties directly concerned. The consultative Commission shall be established and hold its first meeting not later than ten days following the request. The consultative Commission shall issue its final recommendations within sixty days following its first meeting.

(b) The consultative Commission shall consist of an appropriate number of members representing the Parties directly concerned. Where the Federal Republic is a party to the difference, it shall have the right to appoint as many members as are appointed by all other parties to the difference together. The consultative Commission may invite outside conciliators to advise the Commission. At the request of any of its members, the consultative Commission shall also seek the expert opinion of appropriate persons or organizations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Western European Union, or the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, whose opinion shall be provided and kept in confidence.
3. As its first order of business, the consultative Commission shall, if appropriate, recommend the adoption of interim measures to be taken by the Parties pending resolution of the difference. These interim measures shall be without prejudice to the respective positions of the Parties or to the ultimate resolution of the difference. If interim measures cannot be agreed by the consultative Commission within the prescribed time, the question of interim measures shall be referred to appropriate channels for resolution, at the ministerial level if necessary.