

ARTICLE 3

The duration of any international exhibition should not exceed six months; provided always that the International Bureau may authorize, in the case of a general exhibition, a longer period which shall not in any circumstances exceed twelve months.

Section II.—*Frequency of Exhibitions*

ARTICLE 4

The frequency of international exhibitions to which the present convention applies shall be governed by the following principles:—

All general exhibitions fall into one of the two following categories:—

First category: Those in which the countries invited to participate are obliged to construct national pavilions.

Second category: Those in which such countries are not so obliged.

In the same country not more than one general exhibition of the first category may be held during any period of fifteen years, and an interval of ten years must elapse between two general exhibitions of either category.

No contracting country may participate in any general exhibition of the first category, unless an interval of at least six years has elapsed since the last general exhibition of the first category. No contracting country shall participate in any general exhibition of the second category unless an interval of two years has elapsed since the last general exhibition, or an interval of four years if the exhibition in question is of the same kind as the preceding one.

The intervals laid down in the preceding paragraph shall apply without any distinction being made between exhibitions organized by contracting countries and non-contracting countries.

More than one special exhibition of the same kind may not be held at the same time on the territories of the contracting countries. An interval of five years must elapse between two special exhibitions of the same kind in the same country. Provided always that the International Bureau may, in exceptional circumstances, reduce the last-mentioned period to not less than three years when in the opinion of the Bureau such reduction is justified by the rapid development of any particular branch of production. The same reduction may be allowed in favour of exhibitions which, by an already established custom in certain countries, are held at intervals of less than five years.

At least three months' interval must elapse between two special exhibitions of a different kind held in the same country.

The intervals provided for in the present article shall be reckoned from the date of opening of the exhibition.

ARTICLE 5

The contracting country on whose territory an exhibition to which the present convention applies is organized must, subject to article 8 below, address its invitations to foreign countries through the diplomatic channel:—

Three years in advance in the case of general exhibitions of the first category;

Two years in advance for general exhibitions of the second category;

One year in advance for special exhibitions.

No Government may itself organize or officially sponsor any participation in an international exhibition in respect of which an invitation as above provided has not been addressed to it.