

2. Any dispute which is not so settled shall be referred by the Parties to the dispute to the Harmonized System Committee which shall thereupon consider the dispute and make recommendations for its settlement.
3. If the Harmonized System Committee is unable to settle the dispute, it shall refer the matter to the Council which shall make recommendations in conformity with Article III (e) of the Convention establishing the Council.
4. The Parties to the dispute may agree in advance to accept the recommendations of the Committee or the Council as binding.

Article 11

Eligibility to become a Contracting Party

The following are eligible to become Contracting Parties to this Convention :

- (a) Member States of the Council;
- (b) Customs or Economic Unions to which competence has been transferred to enter into treaties in respect of some or all of the matters governed by this Convention; and
- (c) Any other State to which an invitation to that effect has been addressed by the Secretary General at the direction of the Council.

Article 12

Procedure for becoming a Contracting Party

1. Any eligible State or Customs or Economic Union may become a Contracting Party to this Convention :
 - (a) by signing it without reservation of ratification;
 - (b) by depositing an instrument of ratification after having signed the Convention subject to ratification; or
 - (c) by acceding to it after the Convention has ceased to be open for signature.
2. This Convention shall be open for signature until 31 December 1986 at the Headquarters of the Council in Brussels by the States and Customs or Economic Unions referred to in Article 11. Thereafter, it shall be open for their accession.
3. The instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary General.

Article 13

Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first of January which falls at least twelve months but not more than twenty-four months after a minimum of seventeen States or Customs or Economic Unions referred to in Article 11 above have signed it without reservation of ratification or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession, but not before 1 January 1987.