

ARTICLE 20

Examination of Proposals

Every proposal is subject to the following procedure:

A period of six months is allowed to Administrations to examine the proposal and to communicate their observations, if any, to the International Bureau. Amendments are not admitted. The answers are collected by the International Bureau, and communicated to the Administrations, with an invitation to declare themselves for or against. Administrations which have not notified their vote within a period of six months are considered as abstaining. The periods quoted above are calculated from the date of the circulars from the International Bureau.

If the proposal concerns an Agreement, its Detailed Regulations or the Final Protocol of either, only the Administrations which have adhered to that Agreement may take part in the procedure indicated above.

ARTICLE 21

Conditions of Approval

1.—In order to become binding, the proposals must obtain:

(a) a unanimous vote if they involve the addition of new provisions or the modification of the provisions of Parts I and II, or of Articles 33 to 37, 54 to 59, 61 to 63, 65 to 68, 70 to 82 of the Convention, of any of the articles of its Final Protocol and of Articles 101, 105, 116, 161, 171, and 192 of its Detailed Regulations;

(b) a two thirds vote if they involve a modification of the provisions other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph;

(c) a simple majority if they affect the interpretation of the provisions of the Convention, of its Final Protocol and its Detailed Regulations, except in the case of disagreement to be submitted to arbitration as provided for by Article II.

2.—The conditions to be fulfilled for the approval of proposals concerning the Agreements are fixed by the Agreements themselves.

ARTICLE 22

Notification of Decisions

Additions to and modifications of the Convention, the Agreements and the Final Protocols of these Acts are sanctioned by a diplomatic declaration, which the Government of the Swiss Confederation undertakes to prepare and forward at the request of the International Bureau to the Governments of the contracting countries.

Additions to and modifications of the Detailed Regulations and their Final Protocols are drawn up and notified to the Administrations by the International Bureau. The same applies to the interpretations referred to under Article 21, § 1, (c).

ARTICLE 23

Execution of Decisions

No addition or modification adopted comes into force until at least three months after its notification.