

- (a) to contract;
- (b) to acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property;
- (c) to institute and defend legal proceedings.

2. The Agency, its property and assets, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except insofar as in any particular case the Agency has expressly waived its immunity.

3. (a) The premises of the Agency's headquarters shall be inviolable.
- (b) The property and assets of the Agency, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action, except with the consent of the President of the Agency.
- (c) The local authorities may enter the premises of the Agency's headquarters in the event of a fire.
- (d) The Agency shall not allow its headquarters to be used as a refuge for persons seeking to avoid arrest, or the service or execution of legal process.

4. The archives of the Agency, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, shall be inviolable wherever located.

5. Without being restricted by financial controls, regulations or moratoria of any kind, the Agency may:

- (a) hold funds or currency of any kind and operate accounts in any currency;
- (b) transfer its funds or currency from one country to another or within Canada, and convert any currency held by the Agency into any other currency.

In exercising its rights under this section, the Agency shall pay due regard to any representations made by the Government of Canada, insofar as it is considered that effect can be given to such representations without detriment to its interests.

6. The Agency, its assets, income and other property shall be:

- (a) exempt from all direct taxes. However, the exemption shall not extend to taxes that are no more than charges for public utility services;
- (b) exempt from customs duties and prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports in respect of articles imported or exported by the Agency for its official use. It is understood that articles imported under such exemption shall not be sold in Canada except under conditions agreed with the Government of Canada;
- (c) exempt from all import, export and sales prohibitions and restrictions, and from customs duties and excise, with respect to its publications, including audio-visual material.