

Article VII is as follows:

Admission to the League of States not signatories to the Covenant and not named in the Protocol hereto as States to be invited to adhere to the Covenant requires the assent of not less than two-thirds of the States represented in the Body of Delegates, and shall be limited to fully self-governing countries including Dominions and Colonies. No State shall be admitted to the League unless it is able to give effective guarantees of its sincere intention to observe its international obligations, and unless it shall conform to such principles as may be prescribed by the League in regard to its naval and military forces and armaments.

Proposed Amendment:

Membership of the League is limited to fully self-governing countries including Dominions and Colonies.

Admission to the League of States not Signatories to the Covenant and not named in the Protocol hereto requires the assent of not less than two-thirds of the States represented in the Body of Delegates.

No State shall be admitted to the League unless it has effectively demonstrated its sincere intention to observe its international obligations, and unless it conforms to such principles as may be prescribed by the League.

Reasons for Amendment: (a) Omission of unnecessary words; (b) a more direct and orderly statement.

Observations: The Article is obscure in not defining the authority which shall prescribe the principles to which the State seeking admission must conform. The intention would be clearer if the words "through the Council" were added at the end of the Article.

Article VIII is as follows:

The High Contracting Parties recognize the principle that the maintenance of peace will require the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations, having special regard to the geographical situation and circumstances of each State; and the Executive Council shall formulate plans for effecting such reduction. The Executive Council shall also determine for the consideration and action of the several governments what military equipment and armament is fair and reasonable in proportion to the scale of forces laid down in the programme of disarmament; and these limits, when adopted, shall not be exceeded without the permission of the Executive Council.

The High Contracting Parties agree that the manufacture by private enterprise of munitions and implements of war lends itself to grave objections and direct the Executive Council to advise how the evil effects attendant upon such manufacture can be prevented, due regard being had to the necessities of those countries which are not able to manufacture for themselves the munitions and implements of war necessary for their safety.