

(3) The Contracting Parties shall lay down the rules of procedure for their meetings. Decisions of the Contracting Parties shall be taken by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Contracting Parties present at the meeting and voting.

(4) The contracting Parties shall not take a decision on any matter unless more than half of them are present.

#### *Article XVIII*

(1) Any dispute between Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention shall so far as possible be settled by negotiation between them.

(2) Any dispute which is not settled by negotiation shall be referred by the Contracting Parties in dispute to the Contracting Parties, meeting in conformity with Article 17 of the present Convention, which shall thereupon consider the dispute and make recommendations for its settlement.

(3) The Contracting Parties in dispute may agree in advance to accept the recommendations of the Contracting Parties as binding.

#### *Article XIX*

(1) Any State Member of the Council and any State Member of the United Nations or its specialised agencies may become a Contracting Party to the present Convention:

- (a) by signing it without reservation of ratification;
- (b) by depositing an instrument of ratification after signing it subject to ratification; or
- (c) by acceding to it.

(2) The present Convention shall be open until 30th June 1969, for signature at the Headquarters of the Council in Brussels, by the States referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. Thereafter, it shall be open for their accession.

(3) Any State, not being a Member of the Organisations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, to which an invitation to that effect has been addressed by the Secretary General of the Council at the request of the Contracting Parties, may become a Contracting Party to the present Convention by acceding thereto after its entry into force.

(4) The instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council.

#### *Article XX*

(1) The present Convention shall enter into force three months after five of the States referred to in paragraph 1 of Article XIX thereof have signed it without reservation of ratification or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession.

(2) For any State signing without reservation of ratification, ratifying or acceding to the present Convention after five States have signed it without reservation of ratification or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession, the present Convention shall enter into force three months after the said State has signed without reservation of ratification or deposited its instrument of ratification or accession.