

CHAPTER VII FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Article 23. The Member States shall contribute to the maintenance of the Institute through annual quotas established by the Board, in accordance with the system for calculating quotas of the Organization of American States.

Article 24. A Member State that is in arrears in the payment of its quotas for more than two complete fiscal years shall have its right to vote suspended in the Board and the Committee. However, the Board or the Committee may permit the Member State to vote if it considers that the failure to pay is due to circumstances beyond the control of that state.

Article 25. The Institute, *ad referendum* to the Committee, and through the Director General, may accept special contributions, legacies, bequests, or grants, provided that they are compatible with the nature, purposes, and standards of the Institute.

CHAPTER VIII LEGAL CAPACITY, PRIVILEGES, AND IMMUNITIES

Article 26. The Institute shall enjoy, in the territory of each of its Member States, the legal capacity, privileges, and immunities necessary for the exercise of its functions and the accomplishment of its purposes.

Article 27. The representatives of the Member States at the meetings of the Board and of the Committee, as well as the Director General, shall enjoy the privileges and immunities corresponding to their positions and necessary for the independent performance of their duties.

Article 28. The juridical status of the Institute and the privileges and immunities that should be granted to it and to its personnel shall be determined in accordance with a multilateral agreement to be concluded among the Member States of the Organization of American States, or, when it is deemed necessary, in agreements concluded on a bilateral basis by the Institute with its Member States.

Article 29. In order to carry out its purposes, and in accordance with the laws in force in the Member States, the Institute may enter into and carry out contracts or agreements; hold funds, real property, movable property, and livestock; and purchase, sell, lease, improve, or operate any goods or property.

CHAPTER IX HEADQUARTERS AND LANGUAGES

Article 30. The Institute shall have its headquarters in San José, Costa Rica, and may establish offices for purposes of technical cooperation in the Member States. The central office of the General Directorate shall be located in the headquarters of the Institute.

Article 31. The official languages of the Institute shall be English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.