

**XIV. CONVENTION ON THE SERVICE ABROAD OF JUDICIAL AND  
EXTRAJUDICIAL DOCUMENTS IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS**

*(Concluded November 15, 1965)*

The States signatory to the present Convention,

DESIRING to create appropriate means to ensure that judicial and extrajudicial documents to be served abroad shall be brought to the notice of the addressee in sufficient time,

DESIRING to improve the organisation of mutual judicial assistance for that purpose by simplifying and expediting the procedure,

HAVE RESOLVED to conclude a Convention to this effect and have agreed upon the following provisions:

**ARTICLE 1**

The present Convention shall apply in all cases, in civil or commercial matters, where there is occasion to transmit a judicial or extrajudicial document for service abroad.

This Convention shall not apply where the address of the person to be served with the document is not known.

**CHAPTER I — JUDICIAL DOCUMENTS**

**ARTICLE 2**

Each contracting State shall designate a Central Authority which will undertake to receive requests for service coming from other contracting States and to proceed in conformity with the provisions of articles 3 to 6.

Each State shall organise the Central Authority in conformity with its own law.

**ARTICLE 3**

The authority or judicial officer competent under the law of the State in which the documents originate shall forward to the Central Authority of the State addressed a request conforming to the model annexed to the present Convention, without any requirement of legalisation or other equivalent formality.

The document to be served or a copy thereof shall be annexed to the request. The request and the document shall both be furnished in duplicate.