

2. Subject to the second sentence of this paragraph, a claim for a benefit under the legislation of a Party made after the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be deemed to be a claim for the corresponding benefit under the legislation of the other Party, provided that the applicant at the time of application:

- (a) requests that it be considered an application under the legislation of the other Party, or
- (b) provides information indicating that creditable periods have been completed under the legislation of the other Party.

The preceding sentence shall not apply if the applicant requests that his or her claim to the benefit under the legislation of the other Party be delayed.

3. In any case to which paragraph 1 or 2 applies, the competent authority or competent institution to which the claim, notice or appeal has been submitted shall transmit it without delay to the competent authority or competent institution of the other Party.

ARTICLE 23

Payment of Benefits

1. The competent institution of a Party shall discharge its obligations under this Agreement in the currency of either Party.

2. Benefits shall be paid to beneficiaries free from any deduction for administrative expenses that may be incurred in paying the benefits.

3. In the event that a Party imposes currency controls or other similar measures that restrict payments, remittances or transfers of funds or financial instruments to persons who are outside its territory, that Party shall, without delay, take suitable measures to ensure the payment of any amount that must be paid in accordance with this Agreement to persons described in Article 3 who reside in the territory of the other Party.