

ARTICLE 12

Languages of Communication

1. The competent authorities and competent institutions of the Parties may communicate directly with each other and with any concerned person wherever the person may reside whenever it is necessary for the administration of this Agreement. The communication may be in the respective languages of the Parties.

2. In implementing this Agreement, the competent authorities and competent institutions of one Party may not reject applications or any other documents for the reason that they are written in the language of the other Party.

ARTICLE 13

Applications, Appeals and Declarations

1. When a written application for benefits, an appeal or any other declaration under the legislation of one Party is submitted to a competent authority or competent institution of the other Party which is competent to receive similar applications, appeals or declarations under the legislation of that other Party, that application, appeal or declaration shall be deemed to be submitted on the same date to the competent authority or competent institution of the first Party and shall be dealt with according to the procedure and legislation of the first Party.

2. In any case to which this Article applies, the competent authority or competent institution of one Party to which the application for benefits, appeal or any other declaration has been submitted shall transmit it without delay to the competent authority or competent institution of the other Party.

ARTICLE 14

Payment of Benefits

Payments of benefits under this Agreement may be made in the currency of either Party.