

ARTICLE 43

Disputes

(a) Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of any participating country, be referred to the Council for decision.

(b) Where a dispute has been referred to the Council in accordance with this article a majority of participating countries or any participating countries holding not less than one-third of the votes in the Council may require the Council, after full discussion, to seek the opinion of the advisory panel referred to in paragraph (c) of this article on the issues in dispute before giving its decision.

(c) (i) Unless the Council, by a unanimous decision of votes cast, agrees otherwise, the panel shall consist of:

Two persons, one having wide experience in matters of the kind in dispute and the other having legal standing and experience, nominated by the producing countries;

Two such persons nominated by the consuming countries; and
A chairman selected unanimously by the four persons mentioned above or, if they fail to agree, by the Executive Chairman.

(ii) Persons appointed to the advisory panel shall act in their personal capacity and without instructions from any Government.

(iii) The expenses of the advisory panel shall be paid by the Council.

(d) The opinion of the advisory panel and the reasons therefor shall be submitted to the Council which, after considering all the relevant information, shall decide the dispute.

CHAPTER XIV

FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 44

Signature

This Agreement shall be open for signature in London with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as the depositary Government) from 1 July 1970 to 29 January 1971 inclusive, on behalf of countries participating in the Third International Tin Agreement and on behalf of Governments of independent States represented at the United Nations Tin Conference, 1970.

ARTICLE 45

Ratification, approval, acceptance

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification, approval or acceptance by the signatory Governments in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures. Instruments of ratification, approval or acceptance shall be deposited with the depositary Government.

ARTICLE 46

Definitive entry into force

(a) This Agreement shall, for the Governments which have deposited instruments of ratification, approval or acceptance, enter into force definitively