

# Convention relating to International Exhibitions

Paris, November 22, 1928

(Translation.)

The undersigned, plenipotentiaries of the Governments hereinafter enumerated, having met in conference at Paris from November 12 to 22, 1928, have by common consent and subject to ratification, agreed as follows:—

## Section I.—Definitions

### ARTICLE 1

The provisions of the present convention apply only to international exhibitions which are official or officially recognized.

The expression "official or officially recognized international exhibitions" shall be deemed to include every display, whatever its designation, to which foreign countries are invited through the diplomatic channel, which is not generally held periodically, of which the principal object is to demonstrate the progress of different countries in one or several branches of production, and in which, as regards admission, no distinction in principle is made between buyers and visitors.

The provisions of the said convention do not apply to the following:—

1. Exhibitions having a duration of less than three weeks;
2. Scientific exhibitions organized on the occasion of international congresses, provided that their duration does not exceed the period mentioned in 1;
3. Exhibitions of the fine arts;
4. Exhibitions organized by one country in another country on the invitation of the latter.

The contracting countries agree to withhold State patronage, subsidies, and the privileges provided for in Sections III, IV and V below, from international exhibitions to which the present convention applies, and which do not comply with the conditions therein provided.

### ARTICLE 2

Any exhibition which includes the products of more than one branch of human activity, or which is organized with a view to demonstrating the progress achieved in the whole of a given sphere of activity (such as hygiene, applied arts, modern comfort, colonial development, etc.), shall be deemed to be a general exhibition.

Any exhibition which is concerned with only one applied science (electricity, optics, chemistry, etc.), one industry (textiles, founding, graphic arts, etc.), one raw material (leathers and skins, silk, nickel, etc.), or one elementary necessity (heating, food, transport, etc.), shall be deemed to be a special exhibition.

The International Bureau, provided for in article 10, shall draw up a classification of exhibitions to serve as a guide as to the trades and products which may, in accordance with the preceding paragraph, figure in a special exhibition. This classification may be revised annually.