

5. The arbitral tribunal shall determine its own rules of procedure.

## ARTICLE 16

### Understandings with Provinces of Canada

The competent authorities of Japan and a province of Canada may conclude understandings concerning any social security matter within provincial jurisdiction in Canada insofar as those understandings are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 17

### Headings

The headings of Articles of this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 18

### Transitional Provisions

1. This Agreement shall not establish any entitlement to benefits for any period prior to its entry into force or, as regards Canada, to a lump-sum death benefit under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the person died prior to its entry into force.
2. In the implementation of this Agreement, periods of coverage and periods of residence in Canada completed and other relevant events occurring before its entry into force shall be taken into account.
3. In applying paragraph 2 or 4 of Article 5, in the case of persons whose detachment or self-employment referred to in those paragraphs commenced prior to the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the period of such detachment or self-employment shall be considered to begin on the date of entry into force of this Agreement.
4. Decisions made before the entry into force of this Agreement shall not affect any rights to be established by virtue of this Agreement.