

**ARTICLE 16:  
ACCESSION**

- 16.1 This Agreement shall be open for accession by any State that agrees to contribute a minimum of one basic unit to the Space Segment, and is prepared to assume the responsibilities of a Party pursuant to this Agreement.
- 16.2 Where a State is to accede to this Agreement and assume responsibility for the contribution of a basic unit of the existing Space Segment, either as described in Article 3.1 or as enhanced pursuant to Article 3.2, it shall do so in agreement with the Party currently providing that basic unit and in consultation with the other Parties.
- 16.3 Where a State is to accede to this Agreement and assume responsibility for the contribution of an additional basic unit which itself constitutes an enhancement of the Space Segment, it shall do so with the agreement of all Parties following a decision of the Council pursuant to Article 3.2 that such enhancement is required.
- 16.4 Where the requirements of Article 16.2 or 16.3, as appropriate, have been satisfied and the State so notified, such State may accede by depositing its instrument of accession with the Depositary.
- 16.5 This Agreement shall enter into force for the acceding State on the date of deposit of the instrument of accession with the Depositary.

**ARTICLE 17:  
WITHDRAWAL**

- 17.1 A Party may withdraw from this Agreement.
- 17.2 A Party intending to withdraw shall notify the Depositary to that effect. Such withdrawal shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of notification by the Depositary, or at a later date to be agreed by the Parties.
- 17.3 A Party intending to withdraw from this Agreement shall endeavour to ensure continuity of its existing contribution to the Space Segment and, in that respect, shall consult with the other Parties to determine adjustments in their respective responsibilities.