

2. Each of the two Contracting Parties may appoint additional persons on the basis of their competence in matters submitted for deliberation by the Commission, including representatives from Canadian provinces and territories.

## ARTICLE 2

The Commission shall, in accordance with the law of each Contracting Party, be competent to:

- (a) consider problems related to the consular elements of cases pertaining to family matters, with a view to facilitating their resolution. These cases shall include those involving persons of Canadian or Egyptian nationality, and/or persons of dual Canadian and Egyptian nationality. For the purpose of this Agreement, the above-mentioned cases shall not include matters pertaining to visas or immigration, except as provided for in Article 2(c);
- (b) ensure respect for the right of a child who is separated from one or both parents to maintain personal relations and direct contact with both parents on a regular basis, except if it is contrary to the child's best interests;
- (c) ensure respect for the rights of access of a parent who is not entitled to custody of the child. The Commission could, in this context, support applications for visas and exit permits from a parent who does not have custody of a child;
- (d) follow the progress of individual cases with a view to providing timely status reports to the concerned authorities of both Contracting Parties;
- (e) promote awareness and cooperation between the interested public authorities of both Contracting Parties with respect to these cases;
- (f) receive and exchange information and documents related to these cases and facilitate the transmission of such information and documents to the competent authorities of either Contracting Party as required.

## ARTICLE 3

Where appropriate, the Commission may make recommendations to the appropriate authorities to assist in the implementation of any private agreement between the individuals involved in a specific case.

## ARTICLE 4

The creation of the Commission shall not replace or preclude any other means of communication and consideration of consular elements of cases pertaining to family matters between the Contracting Parties.

## ARTICLE 5

The creation of the Commission shall not preclude the resolution of these cases through other means.