

## ARTICLE XIX

*Disputes and Complaints*

1. Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement which is not settled by negotiation and any complaint that any exporting or importing country has failed to fulfil its obligations under this Agreement, shall, at the request of any exporting or importing country party to the dispute or making the complaint, be referred to the Council which shall make a decision on the matter.

2. No exporting or importing country shall be found to have committed a breach of this Agreement except by a majority of the votes held by the exporting countries and a majority of the votes held by the importing countries. Any finding that an exporting or importing country is in breach of this Agreement shall specify the nature of the breach and, if the breach involves default by that country in its guaranteed quantities, the extent of such default.

3. If the Council finds that an exporting country or an importing country has committed a breach of this Agreement, it may, by a majority of the votes held by the exporting countries and a majority of the votes held by the importing countries, deprive the country concerned of its voting rights until it fulfils its obligations or expel that country from the Agreement.

4. If any exporting or importing country is deprived of its votes under this Article, the votes shall be redistributed as provided in paragraph 14 of Article XIII. If any exporting or importing country is found in default of the whole or part of its guaranteed quantities or is expelled from this Agreement, the remaining guaranteed quantities shall be adjusted as provided in Article IX.

## PART 5—FINAL PROVISIONS

## ARTICLE XX

*Signature, Acceptance, and Entry into Force*

1. This Agreement shall be open for signature in Washington until April 15, 1949, by the Governments of the countries listed in Annex A and Annex B to Article III.

2. This agreement shall be subject to acceptance by signatory Governments in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of this Article, instruments of acceptance shall be deposited with the Government of the United States of America not later than July 1, 1949.

3. Provided that the Governments of countries listed in Annex A to Article III responsible for not less than seventy per cent of the guaranteed purchases and the Govern-

ments of countries listed in Annex B to Article III responsible for not less than eighty per cent of the guaranteed sales have accepted this Agreement by July 1, 1949, Parts 1, 3, 4, and 5 of the Agreement shall enter into force on July 1, 1949, between those Governments which have accepted it. The Council shall fix a date which shall not be later than September 1, 1949, on which Part 2 of this Agreement shall enter into force between those Governments which have accepted it.

4. Any signatory Government which has not accepted this Agreement by July 1, 1949, may be granted by the Council an extension of time after that date for depositing its instrument of acceptance. Parts 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this Agreement shall enter into force for that Government on the date of the deposit of its instrument of acceptance, and Part 2 of the Agreement shall enter into force for that Government on the date fixed under paragraph 3 of this Article for the entry into force of that Part.

5. The Government of the United States of America will notify all signatory Governments of each signature and acceptance of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE XXI

*Accession*

The Council may, by two-thirds of the votes cast by the exporting countries and two-thirds of the votes cast by the importing countries, approve accession to this Agreement by any Government not already a party to it and prescribe conditions for such accession. Accession shall be effected by depositing an instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America, which will notify all signatory and acceding Governments of each such accession.

## ARTICLE XXII

*Duration, Amendment, Withdrawal and Termination*

1. This Agreement shall remain in force until July 31, 1953.

2. The Council shall, not later than July 31, 1952, communicate to the exporting and importing countries its recommendations regarding the renewal of this Agreement.

3. If circumstances arise which, in the opinion of the Council, affect or threaten to affect adversely the operation of this Agreement, the Council may, by a majority of the votes held by the exporting countries and a majority of the votes held by the importing countries, recommend an amendment of this Agreement to the exporting and importing countries.