

**PART I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**ARTICLE I**  
***Definitions***

1. For the purposes of this Agreement:

“benefit” means, as regards a Party, any cash benefit, pension or allowance for which provision is made in the legislation of that Party and includes any supplements or increases applicable to such a cash benefit, pension or allowance; however, for the purposes of Articles VIII, IX and X, “benefit” does not include a grant payable under the legislation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines;

“competent authority” means, as regards Canada, the Minister or Ministers responsible for the application of the legislation of Canada; and, as regards Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Minister responsible for the subject of National Insurance;

“competent institution” means, as regards Canada, the competent authority; and, as regards Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the National Insurance Board;

“creditable period” means, as regards a Party, a period of contributions, whether paid or credited, or a period of residence used to acquire the right to a benefit under the legislation of that Party; as regards Canada, it also means a period during which a disability pension is payable under the *Canada Pension Plan*;

“legislation” means, as regards a Party, the laws and regulations specified in Article II(1) with respect to that Party.

2. Any term not defined in this Article has the meaning assigned to it in the applicable legislation.