

*Article 26*

*Becoming Party to the Treaty*

(1) [Eligibility] The following entities may sign and, subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and Article 28(1) and (3), become party to this Treaty:

- (i) any State member of the Organization in respect of which marks may be registered with its own Office;
- (ii) any intergovernmental organization which maintains an Office in which marks may be registered with effect in the territory in which the constituting treaty of the intergovernmental organization applies, in all its Member States or in those of its Member States which are designated for such purpose in the relevant application, provided that all the Member States of the intergovernmental organization are members of the Organization;
- (iii) any State member of the Organization in respect of which marks may be registered only through the Office of another specified State that is a member of the Organization;
- (iv) any State member of the Organization in respect of which marks may be registered only through the Office maintained by an intergovernmental organization of which that State is a member;
- (v) any State member of the Organization in respect of which marks may be registered only through an Office common to a group of States members of the Organization.

(2) [Ratification or Accession] Any entity referred to in paragraph (1) may deposit

- (i) an instrument of ratification, if it has signed this Treaty,
- (ii) an instrument of accession, if it has not signed this Treaty.

(3) [Effective Date of Deposit] The effective date of the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession shall be,

- (i) in the case of a State referred to in paragraph (1)(i), the date on which the instrument of that State is deposited;
- (ii) in the case of an intergovernmental organization, the date on which the instrument of that intergovernmental organization is deposited;
- (iii) in the case of a State referred to in paragraph (1)(iii), the date on which the following condition is fulfilled: the instrument of that State has been deposited and the instrument of the other, specified State has been deposited;
- (iv) in the case of a State referred to in paragraph (1)(iv), the date applicable under item (ii), above;