

(ii) The membership of a consuming country which produces from its own domestic mines a substantial proportion of the tin it consumes shall with the consent of the country be based on its imports of tin.

(c) In its instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession or in its notification of intention to ratify, approve or accept this Agreement, each Contracting Government may state the category of participating countries to which it considers that it should belong.

(d) At the first meeting of the Council after the entry into force of the Agreement, the Council shall take the decisions necessary for the application of this article by a majority of votes cast by the participating countries listed in annex A and by a majority of votes cast by the participating countries listed in annex B, the votes being counted separately and voting rights being in conformity with annexes A and B to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5

Change of category

(a) Where the position of a participating country has changed from that of a consuming to that of a producing country, or *vice versa*, the Council shall, on the request of that country or on its own initiative with the country's consent, consider the new position and determine the tonnages or percentages applicable.

(b) The Council shall determine the date when the tonnages and/or percentages, as the case shall require, which it has arrived at under paragraph (a) of this article shall come into effect.

(c) From the date of coming into effect determined by the Council under paragraph (b) the Contracting Government shall cease to hold any of the rights and privileges in, or to be bound by any of the obligations under, this Agreement which pertain to countries in its previous category and shall acquire all the rights and privileges in, and shall be bound by all of the obligations under, this Agreement which pertain to countries in its new category:

Provided that:

(i) If the change of category is from a producing country to a consuming country, the country which has changed shall nevertheless retain its rights to the refund at the termination of this Agreement of its share in the liquidation of the buffer stock in accordance with articles 30, 31 and 32; and

(ii) If the change of category is from a consuming country to a producing country, the conditions laid down by the Council for the country which has changed shall be equitable as between the country and the other producing countries already participating in the Agreement.

CHAPTER IV

ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 6

The International Tin Council

(a) The International Tin Council (hereinafter called the Council), established by the previous International Tin Agreements, shall continue in being