

## ARTICLE 16

Countries which are not parties to the present Convention shall be allowed to accede to it upon their request.

This accession shall be notified through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, and by the latter to all the other countries.

It shall entail, as a matter of right, accession to all the clauses, and admission to all the advantages stipulated in the present Convention, and shall take effect one month after the dispatch of the notification by the Government of the Swiss Confederation to the other countries of the Union, unless a subsequent date has been indicated by the acceding country.

## ARTICLE 16bis

The contracting countries have the right of acceding to the present Convention at any time, on behalf of their Colonies, Possessions, Dependencies and Protectorates, or territories administered in virtue of a mandate from the League of Nations, or of any of them.

For this purpose they may either make a general declaration, including all their Colonies, Possessions, Dependencies and Protectorates, and the territories referred to in paragraph 1, in the accession, or may expressly name those which are included, or may confine themselves to indicating those which are excluded therefrom.

This declaration shall be notified in writing to the Government of the Swiss Confederation and by the latter to all the other countries.

Under the same conditions, the contracting countries may denounce the Convention on behalf of their Colonies, Possessions, Dependencies, and Protectorates, or the territories referred to in paragraph 1, or of any of them.

## ARTICLE 17

The carrying out of the reciprocal engagements contained in the present Convention is subject, so far as necessary, to the observance of the formalities and rules established by the constitutional laws of those of the contracting countries which are bound to procure their application which they engage to do with as little delay as possible.

## ARTICLE 17bis.

The Convention shall remain in force for an unlimited time, till the expiry of one year from the date of its denunciation.

This denunciation shall be addressed to the Government of the Swiss Confederation. It shall only affect the denouncing country, the Convention remaining in operation as regards the other contracting countries.

## ARTICLE 18

The present Act shall be ratified and the ratifications deposited at The Hague not later than the 1st May, 1928. It shall come into force between the countries which shall have ratified it, one month after that date. Nevertheless, if before that date it has been ratified by at least six countries, it shall come into force, between those countries, one month after the deposit of the sixth ratification has been notified to them by the Government of the Swiss Confederation and, in the case of countries which may ratify at a later date, one month after the notification of each of such ratifications.

This Act shall, as regards the relations between the countries which ratify it, replace the Convention of Paris of 1883, revised at Washington on the 2nd June, 1911, and the Final Protocol, which shall, however, remain in force as regards relations with the countries which shall not have ratified the present Act.