

3. (1) The parties decide, by mutual agreement, whether the arbitration shall be entrusted to individuals or to Governments or Administrations; in the absence of agreement it is referred to Governments.

(2) If arbitration is to be entrusted to individuals, the arbitrators must not be of the nationality of any of the parties concerned in the dispute.

(3) If arbitration is to be entrusted to Governments or Administrations, these must be chosen from among the parties to the agreement of which the application has given rise to the dispute.

4. The party which appeals to arbitration is regarded as the plaintiff. It chooses an arbitrator and notifies its choice to the opposite party. The defendant must then choose a second arbitrator within a period of two months from the receipt of the notification from the plaintiff.

5. If there are more than two parties, each group of plaintiffs or defendants proceeds to choose one arbitrator in accordance with the procedure indicated in section 4.

6. The two arbitrators thus chosen agree upon an umpire who, if the arbitrators are individuals and not Governments or Administrations, may not be of the nationality of any of the arbitrators or of any of the parties. If the arbitrators cannot agree upon the choice of an umpire, each arbitrator proposes an umpire not concerned in the difference. Lots are then drawn between the proposed umpires. The drawing of lots is performed by the Bureau of the Union.

7. Finally the parties in disagreement have the option of having their dispute settled by a single arbitrator. In that case, either they agree upon the choice of the arbitrator or else an arbitrator is chosen in accordance with the method indicated in section 6.

8. The arbitrators are free to settle the procedure to be followed.

9. Each party bears its own costs of the investigation of the dispute. The costs of arbitration are shared equally between the parties concerned.

## ARTICLE 16

### International Consultative Committees

1. Consultative committees may be set up with a view to study questions relating to the telecommunication services.

2. The number, composition, functions and working arrangements of these committees are defined in the Regulations annexed to the present Convention.

## ARTICLE 17

### Bureau of the Union

1. A central office, entitled Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union, functions in the conditions set out below:—