

Article XVII

Temporary suspension of rights

- A. Any Member of the Agency which is in arrears with its financial contributions to the Agency shall have no right to vote if its arrears reach or exceed the amount of its contributions for the two preceding years. However, the Assembly may permit this Member to vote if it is convinced that the non-payment is due to circumstances beyond the Member's control.
- B. A Member which has persistently violated the provisions of this Statute or of any agreement entered into by it pursuant to this Statute may be suspended from the exercise of the privileges and rights of membership by the Assembly acting by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting upon recommendation of the Council.

Article XVIII

Seat of the Agency

The seat of the Agency shall be determined by the Assembly at its first session.

Article XIX

Signature, ratification, entry into force and accession

- A. This Statute shall be open for signature at the Founding Conference by all States that are members of the United Nations and regional intergovernmental economic integration organisations as defined in Article VI paragraph A. It shall remain open for signature until the date this Statute enters into force.
- B. For States and regional intergovernmental economic integration organisations as defined in Article VI paragraph A having not signed this Statute, this Statute shall be open for accession after their membership has been approved by the Assembly in accordance with Article VI paragraph B number 2.
- C. Consent to be bound by this Statute shall be expressed by depositing an instrument of ratification or accession with the Depositary. Ratification of or accession to this Statute shall be effected by States in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.
- D. This Statute shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit of the twenty-fifth instrument of ratification.