

3. The Requested State shall inform the Requesting State without delay if it decides not to comply in whole or in part with a request for assistance or to postpone execution of the request and shall provide reasons for so doing.
4. Before refusing a request or postponing its execution, the Requested State shall consider whether assistance may be granted subject to such conditions as it deems necessary. If the Requesting State accepts assistance subject to these conditions, it shall comply with them.

PART II - SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 4

Locating and Identifying Persons and Objects

The competent authorities in the Requested State shall make best efforts to ascertain the location and identity of persons and objects specified in the request.

ARTICLE 5

Service of Documents

1. The Requested State shall serve any document transmitted to it for this purpose by the Requesting State.
2. The Requesting State shall transmit the request for service of a document relating to a reply or to an appearance in the Requesting State within a reasonable time before the date provided for the reply or the appearance.
3. The Requested State shall transmit proof of service where possible in the form requested by the Requesting State.

ARTICLE 6

Provision of Information, Documents, Files and Objects

1. The Requested State shall provide copies of the information, documents and records in the possession of government departments and public authorities that are available to the public.
2. The Requested State shall provide the information, documents, records and objects in the possession of government departments and public authorities that are not available to the public, to the same extent and under the same conditions as it would make them available to its own law enforcement or judicial authorities.
3. The Requested State may provide certified true copies of any record or document unless the Requesting State expressly requests the originals.
4. Original records, documents or objects provided to the Requesting State shall be returned to the Requested State, upon request, as soon as possible.