

Article XV – Interpretation and Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Convention, if not settled by the Commission, shall be referred to a committee composed of one member appointed by each of the parties to the dispute, and in addition an independent chairperson chosen by the members of the committee. The recommendations of such a committee, while not binding in character, shall become the basis for renewed consideration by the parties concerned of the matter out of which the disagreement arose. If as the result of this procedure the dispute is not settled, it shall be referred to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the Statute of the Court, unless the parties to the dispute agree to another method of settlement.

Article XVI – Withdrawal

1. Any Member Nation of the Commission may give notice of withdrawal from the Commission at any time after the expiry of one year from the date of its acceptance of this Convention. Such notice of withdrawal shall take effect six months after the date of its receipt by the Director-General of the Organization, who shall inform all Member Nations of the Commission, all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations of such receipt.

2. A Member Nation of the Commission that is responsible for the international relations of more than one territory shall, giving notice of its own withdrawal from the Commission, state to which territory or territories the withdrawal is to apply. In the absence of such a declaration, the withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member Nation of the Commission is responsible. A Member Nation of the Commission may give notice of withdrawal with respect to one or more of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Any Member Nation of the Commission that gives notice of withdrawal from the Organization shall be deemed to have simultaneously withdrawn from the Commission, and this withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Nation concerned is responsible, with the exception of Associate Members.

Article XVII – Termination

This Convention shall be considered terminated if and when the number of Member Nations of the Commission falls below 6 unless the remaining Member Nations of the Commission unanimously decide otherwise, subject to the approval of the Conference of the Organization. The Director-General of the Organization shall inform all Member Nations of the Commission, all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations of such termination.

Article XVIII – Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force as soon as twelve Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization have become parties to it by the deposit of an instrument of acceptance in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII, paragraph 1 of this Convention.