

*CHAPTER IV*  
*FINAL PROVISIONS*

*Article 27*

*Becoming Party to This Act*

- (1) *[Eligibility]* Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and Article 28,
- (i) any State member of the Organization may sign and become party to this Act;
  - (ii) any intergovernmental organization which maintains an Office in which protection of industrial designs may be obtained with effect in the territory in which the constituting treaty of the intergovernmental organization applies may sign and become party to this Act, provided that at least one of the member States of the intergovernmental organization is a member of the Organization and provided that such Office is not the subject of a notification under Article 19.
- (2) *[Ratification or Accession]* Any State or intergovernmental organization referred to in paragraph (1) may deposit
- (i) an instrument of ratification if it has signed this Act, or
  - (ii) an instrument of accession if it has not signed this Act.
- (3) *[Effective Date of Deposit]* (a) Subject to subparagraphs (b) to (d), the effective date of the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession shall be the date on which that instrument is deposited.
- (b) The effective date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession of any State in respect of which protection of industrial designs may be obtained only through the Office maintained by an intergovernmental organization of which that State is a member shall be the date on which the instrument of that intergovernmental organization is deposited if that date is later than the date on which the instrument of the said State has been deposited.
  - (c) The effective date of the deposit of any instrument of ratification or accession containing or accompanied by the notification referred to in Article 19 shall be the date on which the last of the instruments of the States members of the group of States having made the said notification is deposited.