

2. A claim for a benefit under the legislation of a Contracting Party made after the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be deemed to be a claim for the corresponding benefit under the legislation of the other Contracting Party, provided that the applicant at the time of application provides information indicating that creditable periods have been completed under the legislation of the other Contracting Party. This shall not apply upon the request of the applicant.
3. The competent authority or institution to which a claim, notice or appeal has been submitted shall transmit it without delay to the competent authority or institution of the other Contracting Party.

### **ARTICLE 23**

#### **Payment of Benefits**

1. The competent institution of a Contracting Party shall pay benefits under this Agreement to a beneficiary who resides outside its territory in a freely convertible currency according to the legislation which it applies.
2. A competent institution of a Contracting Party shall pay benefits under this Agreement without any deduction for its administrative expenses.

### **ARTICLE 24**

#### **Questions under Dispute**

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall resolve, to the extent possible, any disputes which arise in interpreting or applying this Agreement according to its spirit and fundamental principles.

### **ARTICLE 25**

#### **Understandings with a Province of Canada**

The relevant authority of the Republic of Serbia and a province of Canada may conclude understandings concerning any social security matter within provincial jurisdiction in Canada in so far as those understandings are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement.