

tion, including the sessions of the Board, shall be met by the Contracting Parties represented on such conferences and meetings.

Article 16

1. The Organization shall operate the space segment making communications channels available to its Members and other users in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

2. The communications channels at the disposal of the Organization shall be distributed among the Members of the Organization on the basis of their needs for channels. Communications channels which are in excess of aggregate requirements of all Members of the Organization may be leased to other users.

3. Payment for the communications channels made available shall be charged according to rates established by the Board. The rates shall be fixed at the average world level calculated in gold francs.

The payment for communications services shall be made in a manner determined by the Board.

Article 17

1. Any of the Contracting Parties may denounce this Agreement by notice in writing to that effect given to the Depository Government.

The denunciation of the Agreement by such Contracting Party takes effect upon the termination of the financial year during which a period of one year expires from the date of notification of the Depository Government of the denunciation. Such Contracting Party shall pay within the period fixed by the Board the sum of contributions due for the financial year in which the denunciation becomes effective and shall also carry out all other financial obligations assumed.

2. The amount of the monetary compensation due to the Contracting Party which has denounced the Agreement shall be determined by the Board in accordance with the sum of contributions paid by that Contracting Party to the statutory fund of the Organization with due regard to physical and moral depreciation of the fixed assets. The monetary compensation shall be paid following the approval by the Board of the budget report for the financial year during which the denunciation takes effect.

Article 18

1. This Agreement may be terminated with the consent of all the Contracting Parties.

The termination of the Agreement amounts to the dissolution of the Organization.

The procedure for the dissolution of the Organization shall be determined by the Board.

2. In the event of the dissolution of the Organization its fixed assets shall be realized and the Members of the Organization shall be paid monetary compensation according to their participation in capital expenditure for the establishment of the communications system with due regard to physical and moral depreciation of the fixed assets. The available current assets, with the exception of the part intended to meet the obligations of the Organization shall be distributed among the Members of the Organization in proportion to the monetary contributions actually paid as of the date when the Organization was dissolved.

Article 19

The languages of the Organization shall be English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The extent to which language is used shall be determined by the Board depending on the actual requirements of the Organization.

Article 20

1. This Agreement is open for signing until the 31st December, 1972 in Moscow.

The Agreement shall be subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the USSR which is designated the Depository Government of this Agreement.

Article 21

The Agreement shall enter into force on the deposit of six instruments of ratification.

Article 22

1. The government of any state which did not sign this Agreement may accede to it. In that case the government shall submit to the Board of the Organization a formal statement to the effect that it shares the goals and principles of the activities of the Organization and assumes the obligations under this Agreement.

2. Instruments of accession to the Agreement shall be deposited with the Depository Government.

Article 23

For governments whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Agreement, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of the above instruments.

Article 24

Amendments to this Agreement shall come into force for each Contracting Party accepting the amendments upon their approval by two thirds of the Contracting Parties. An amendment which has come into force shall be binding on the other Contracting Parties after their acceptance of such amendment.

Article 25

1. The Depository Government of this Agreement shall inform all Contracting Parties of the date of each signature of the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification and accession, of the date of the entry into force of the Agreement and of all other notices it has received.

2. This Agreement shall be registered by the Depository Government pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 26

This Agreement, the English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depository Government. Duly certified copies of the Agreement shall be transmitted by the Depository Government to the Contracting Parties.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed this Agreement.

Done in Moscow on the 15th of November 1971.