

the interpretation or application of this Constitution, including its annexes, that is not settled by negotiation shall be referred to the Board unless the parties concerned agree on another mode of settlement. If the dispute is of particular concern to a Member not represented on the Board, that Member shall be entitled to be represented in accordance with rules to be adopted by the Board.

(b) If the dispute is not settled pursuant to paragraph 1 (a) to the satisfaction of any party to the dispute, that party may refer the matter; either, (i) if the parties so agree:

(A) to the International Court of Justice; or

(B) to an arbitral tribunal;

or, (ii) otherwise, to a conciliation commission.

The rules concerning the procedures and operation of the arbitral tribunal and of the conciliation commission are laid down in Annex III to this Constitution.

2. The Conference and the Board are separately empowered, subject to authorization from the General Assembly of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on any legal question arising within the scope of the Organization's activities.

### Article 23

#### *Amendments*

1. At any time after the second regular session of the Conference any Member may propose amendments to this Constitution. Texts of proposed amendments shall be promptly communicated by the Director-General to all Members and shall not be considered by the Conference until ninety days after the dispatch of such communication.

2. Except as specified in paragraphs, an amendment shall come into force and be binding on all Members when:

(a) It is recommended by the Board to the Conference;

(b) It is approved by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of all Members; and

(c) Two-thirds of the Members have deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the amendment with the Depositary.

3. An amendment relating to Article 6, 9, 10, 13, 14 or 23 or to Annex II shall come into force and be binding on all Members when:

(a) It is recommended by the Board to the Conference by a two-thirds majority of all members of the Board;

(b) It is approved by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of all Members; and

(c) Three-fourths of the Members have deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the amendment with the Depositary.

### Article 24

#### *Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession*

1. This Constitution shall be open for signature by all States specified in subparagraph (a) of Article 3, until 7 October 1979 at the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria and subsequently at United Nations Headquarters in New York until the date this Constitution enters into force.

2. This Constitution shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of such States shall be deposited with the Depositary.

3. After the entry into force of this Constitution in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 25, States specified in subparagraph (a) of Article 3 that have not signed this Constitution, as well as States approved for membership pursuant to subparagraph (b) of that Article, may accede to this Constitution by depositing instruments of accession.

### Article 25

#### *Entry into force*

1. This Constitution shall enter into force when at least eighty States that had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval notify the Depositary that they have agreed, after consultations among themselves, that this Constitution shall enter into force.

2. This Constitution shall enter into force:

(a) For States that participated in the notification referred to in paragraph 1, on the date of the entry into force of this Constitution;

(b) For States that had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval before the entry into force of this Constitution but did not participate in the notification referred to in paragraph 1, on such later date on which they notify the Depositary that this Constitution shall enter into force for them;

(c) For States that deposit instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession subsequent to the entry into force of this Constitution, on the date of such deposit.

### Article 26

#### *Transitional arrangements*

1. The Depositary shall convene the first session of the Conference, to be held within three months following the entry into force of this Constitution.

2. The rules and regulations governing the organization established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI) shall govern the Organization and its organs until such time as the latter may adopt new provisions.

### Article 27

#### *Reservations*

No reservations may be made in respect of this Constitution.

### Article 28

#### *Depositary*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be the Depositary of this Constitution.

2. In addition to notifying the States concerned, the Depositary shall notify the Director-General of all matters affecting this Constitution.

### Article 29

#### *Authentic texts*

This Constitution shall be authentic in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

### ANNEX I

#### *Lists of States*

1. If a State that is not listed in any of the lists below becomes a Member, the Conference shall decide, after appropriate consultations, in which of those lists it is to be included.

2. The Conference may at any time, after appropriate consultations, change the classification of a Member as listed below.