

in accordance with the preceding paragraphs of this Article, the Council may, by majority decision, authorise a Member State to suspend its obligation under this Convention to such an extent and for such a period as the Council considers appropriate.

ARTICLE 32

The Council

1. It shall be the responsibility of the Council
 - (a) to exercise such powers and functions as are conferred upon it by this Convention,
 - (b) to supervise the application of this Convention and keep its operation under review, and
 - (c) to consider whether further action should be taken by Member States in order to promote the attainment of the objectives of the Association and to facilitate the establishment of closer links with other States, unions of States or international organisations.
 2. Each Member State shall be represented in the Council and shall have one vote.
 3. The Council may decide to set up such organs, committees and other bodies as it considers necessary to assist it in accomplishing its tasks.
 4. In exercising its responsibility under paragraph 1 of this Article, the Council may take decisions which shall be binding on all Member States and may make recommendations to Member States.
 5. Decisions and recommendations of the Council shall be made by unanimous vote, except in so far as this Convention provides otherwise. Decisions or recommendations shall be regarded as unanimous unless any Member State casts a negative vote. Decisions and recommendations which are to be made by majority vote require the affirmative vote of three 1 Member States.
 6. If the number of the Member States changes, the Council may decide to amend the number of votes required for decisions and recommendations which are to be made by majority vote.
- 1 As amended by Council Decisions No. 12 of 1972 (8th November, 1972) and No. 2 of 1995 (12th January, 1995).*

30

ARTICLE 33

Examining Committees

The Examining Committees referred to in Article 31 shall consist of persons selected for their competence and integrity, who, in the performance of their duties, shall neither seek nor receive instructions from any State, or from any authority or organisation other than the Association. They shall be appointed by the Council on such terms and conditions as it shall decide.

ARTICLE 34

Administrative arrangements of the Association

The Council shall take decisions for the following purposes:

- (a) to lay down the Rules of Procedure of the Council and of any other bodies of the Association, which may include provision that procedural questions may be decided by majority vote;
- (b) to make arrangements for the secretariat services required by the