

Article 49

Member countries may establish supplementary rules on trade policy regulating, among other matters, the application of non-tariff restrictions, a system of origin, the adoption of safeguard clauses, export promotion systems and border traffic.

Article 50

No provision under the present Treaty shall be interpreted as precluding the adoption and observance of measures regarding:

- (a) Protection of public morality;
- (b) Implementation of security laws and regulations;
- (c) Regulation of imports and exports of arms, munitions, and other war materials and, under exceptional circumstances, all other military equipment;
- (d) Protection of human, animal and plant life and health;
- (e) Imports and exports of gold and silver in bullion form;
- (f) Protection of national treasures of artistic, historical or archaeological value; and
- (g) Exportation, use and consumption of nuclear materials, radioactive products or any other material used for the development and exploitation of nuclear energy.

Article 51

Products imported and exported by any member country shall have the right to free transit throughout the territory of the other member countries, and be exclusively subject to payment of charges normally applicable for services rendered.

CHAPTER VIII

Legal status, immunities and privileges

Article 52

The Association shall be endowed of complete legal status and specially of the capacity:

- (a) To contract;
- (b) To acquire such movable and immovable property indispensable to carry out its objectives and to dispose of it;
- (c) To file suits; and
- (d) To keep funds in any currency and effect the necessary transfers.

Article 53

Representatives and other diplomatic officers of member countries accredited before the Association, as well as international officers and advisers of the Association, shall be endowed of diplomatic immunities and privileges and such other rights necessary for exercising their duties within the territory of member countries.

Member countries hereby pledge themselves to draw up within the shortest possible term an agreement aimed at regulating the contents of the preceding paragraph, wherein such privileges and immunities shall be defined.

The Association shall draw up an agreement with the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay in order to determine the privileges and immunities to which the Association, its bodies and its international officers and advisers shall be entitled.

Article 54

The legal status of the Latin American Free Trade Association established by the Montevideo Treaty signed on 18 February 1960 shall continue, in all its effects, within the Latin American Integration Association. Therefore, from the date when the present Treaty enters into force, the rights and obligations of the Latin American Free Trade Association shall correspond to the Latin American Integration Association.

CHAPTER IX

Final provisions

Article 55

The present Treaty may not be signed with reservations, neither may these be received on the occasion of its ratification or accession.

Article 56

The present Treaty shall be ratified by the signatory countries at the earliest possible term.

Article 57

The present Treaty shall enter into force 30 days after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification as regards the first three countries to ratify it. Concerning the other signatories, it shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the deposit of the respective instrument of ratification and in the order in which such ratifications are deposited.

Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, which shall report the date of deposit to the Governments of the signatory States of the present Treaty, as well as to those which have adhered thereto.

The Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay shall notify the date of enforcement of the present Treaty to the Government of each one of the signatory States.

Article 58

Upon its entry into force, the present Treaty shall remain open for accession to those Latin American countries which may so request. Acceptance of such accessions shall be adopted by the Council.

The Treaty shall enter into force for the adherent country 30 days after the date of its admission.

Adherent countries shall on that date put in force the commitments resulting from the regional tariff preference as well as the regional scope agreements concluded prior to the date of their accession.

Article 59

The present Treaty provisions shall not affect the rights and obligations resulting from agreements signed by any of the signatory countries prior to the date of their enforcement.