

within the framework of special historical, constitutional or economic bilateral relationships.

Article XIII

Amendment of the Agreement

1. Without prejudice to the amendment of the Schedules of this Agreement which may be effected only in accordance with Articles IV and VII of this Agreement, this Agreement may be amended at any time by the unanimous agreement of all the Parties. The text of any amendment proposed by a Party shall be submitted to the Director who shall transmit it to the Parties.
2. If three or more Parties request a meeting to discuss the proposed amendment the Director shall call such a meeting.

Article XIV

Acceptance, accession and entry into force

Acceptance and accession

1. This Agreement shall be open for acceptance by signature subject to ratification or by accession by the Governments of Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa.[1]
2. Any Government which from time to time becomes a member of the Forum may apply to become a Party by submitting a request for accession to this Agreement to the Director who shall notify all the Parties. A Government may accede to this Agreement after receipt of an invitation to do so issued by the Director with the approval of all the Parties.
3. Acceptance of or accession to this Agreement shall not be taken as extending the rights and obligations set forth in this Agreement to fully self-governing countries freely associated with the accepting or acceding Government, or to territories named by the accepting or acceding Government for whose international relations that Government is responsible.
4. Instruments signifying acceptance or accession shall be deposited with the Director.
5. This Agreement shall enter into force when either the Government of Australia or the Government of New Zealand and the Government of a Forum Island country have accepted it.[2] For each other Government it shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of acceptance of, or accession to, this Agreement by that Government.[3]