

N° 2903.

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ALBANIE,  
RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE,  
BELGIQUE, COLOMBIE,  
RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE,  
etc.

Convention internationale relative à  
la création à Paris d'un office  
international de chimie, et règle-  
ment y annexé. Signés à Paris, le  
29 octobre 1927.

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ALBANIA,  
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC,  
BELGIUM, COLOMBIA,  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, etc.

International Convention for the  
Creation in Paris of an Inter-  
national Office of Chemistry,  
and Regulations annexed thereto.  
Signed at Paris, October 29,  
1927.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.No. 2903. — INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION<sup>2</sup> FOR THE CREATION  
IN PARIS OF AN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF CHEMISTRY.  
SIGNED AT PARIS, OCTOBER 29, 1927.

*French official text communicated by the President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic. The registration of this Convention took place March 1st, 1932.*

*Article 1.*

THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES undertake to found and maintain an International Office of Chemistry, the seat of which shall be in Paris.

*Article 2.*

The objects of the International Office of Chemistry shall be :

- (1) To study, in the general interest, questions relating to the international organization of documentary information ;
- (2) To establish co-operation between bodies already in existence or to be set up in the various countries for the collection of documentary information on chemistry ;
- (3) To encourage and facilitate the exchange and loan of documentary material relating to pure and applied chemistry among Public Administrative Departments, Parliaments, Universities, research Institutes, Documentary intelligence offices, Libraries Museums and learned Societies or professional bodies, with a view to disseminating such scientific, technical and economic information as may be useful to the countries which are members.

<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

<sup>2</sup> *Deposit of ratifications in Paris :*

ALBANIE . . . . .	}	December 12, 1931.	
BELGIUM . . . . .			
FRANCE . . . . .			
MOROCCO . . . . .			
POLAND . . . . .			
ROUMANIA . . . . .			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA . . . . .			
TUNIS . . . . .			
PORTUGAL . . . . .			January 11, 1932.

The Convention came into force December 12, 1931.

*Article 3.*

The Office shall be independent of the authorities of the country in which it is established.

It shall correspond direct with the Government administrative and technical authorities responsible, in the various countries, for examining and settling questions connected with its objects.

*Article 4.*

The Governments shall notify the Office of the steps which they take to ensure the application of international Conventions that may be established in regard to chemistry and the industries derived therefrom.

The Office shall suggest any amendments that it may be desirable to introduce in the provisions of such conventions.

*Article 5.*

Colonies may, on the application of the State to which they belong, become members of the Office.

*Article 6.*

The Office shall work under the authority and supervision of a permanent Committee consisting of delegates of the contracting countries. The composition and functions of this permanent Committee and the organisation and powers of the Office are laid down in the rules annexed to the present agreement of which the said rules shall be considered an integral part.

*Article 7.*

The annual expenditure on the working and upkeep of the International Offices shall be met by contributions from the contracting countries, as provided in the rules annexed to the present Convention.

*Article 8.*

The sums representing the share to be contributed by each of the contracting countries shall be paid to the Office at the beginning of each year.

*Article 9.*

Governments which have not signed the present agreement shall be permitted, at their request, to accede thereto. The French Government shall be notified of their accession through the diplomatic channel, and shall itself duly notify the other contracting Governments. Accession shall involve an obligation to contribute towards the expenses of the Office in the manner laid down in Article 7.

*Article 10.*

The High Contracting Parties reserve the right to introduce in the present Convention, by joint agreement, any changes that experience may show to be necessary. They shall be entitled

to conclude separate special agreements among themselves in regard to information on pure and applied chemistry, provided that such agreements are not inconsistent with the provisions of the present Convention.

*Article 11.*

The present agreement shall be for a period of six years. On the expiry of that period, it shall remain in force for further periods of six years between countries which have not given notice, two years previous to the expiry of any such period, of their intention to withdraw.

*Article 12.*

The Protocol of signature of the present Convention shall remain open until May 1, 1928. The Convention shall be ratified by the respective Governments. It shall come into force as soon as seven of the signatory countries have deposited their instruments of ratification.

Each Government shall, as soon as possible, communicate its instruments of ratification to the French Government, which shall notify the other signatory countries.

The instruments of ratification shall be deposited in the Archives of the French Government.

Done at Paris, October 29, 1927, in one copy, which shall remain in the Archives of the French Government, and certified copies of which shall be sent to the Contracting Powers through diplomatic channels.

*For Albania :* Malik bey LIBOHAVA.

*For the Argentine Republic :* M. SAUBIDET.

*For Belgium :* M. E. DE GAIFFIER.

*For Colombia :* M. Vasquez COBO.

*For the Dominican Republic :* M. W.-A. ORTIZ.

*For France :* M. L. PINEAU.

*For Greece :* M. C. ZENGHELIS.

*For Luxemburg :* M. P. MEDINGER.

*For Morocco :* M. J. LIOUVILLE.

*For Mexico,* M. Daniel VELEZ.

*For the Principality of Monaco :* M. C. BELLANDO DE CASTRO.

*For Paraguay :* M. CABALLERO.

*For Peru :* M. MIMBELLA, M. Ramon-E. RIBEYRO.

*For Poland :* M. Alfred CHLAPOWSKI.

*For Portugal :* General AQUILES MACHADO.

*For Roumania :* M. MINOVICI.

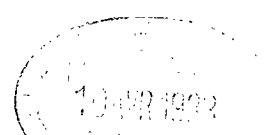
*For the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes :* M. TOMITCH.

*For Czechoslovakia :* M. S. OSUSKY.

*For Tunis :* M. GEOFFROY ST-HILAIRE.

*For Turkey :* M. A. FETHY.

*For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :* M. N. KOURNAKOF, M. P. DOBOF,  
M. G. LACHKEVITCH.



## RULES

## OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF CHEMISTRY.

*Article 1.*

The Permanent Committee set up under Article 6 of the Convention shall consist of representatives appointed by the participant States or Colonies, there being one such representative for each State or Colony.

*Article 2.*

The Committee shall elect by secret ballot from among its members, for a period of three years, a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.

The appointment of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen shall be notified to the Governments of the participant countries.

The Committee may not hold a further election until three months after all the members shall have been duly notified.

*Article 3.*

The Committee shall meet at least once a year, at the seat of the International Office, on the convocation of its Chairman.

The Committee's decisions shall be by a majority vote. In the case of an equal number of votes, the Chairman shall have the casting vote. The Committee's decisions shall not be valid unless at least half plus one of the members of the Committee are present.

Subject to this condition, members who are absent shall be entitled to delegate their voting rights to the member's present, who shall sit as proxies for them.

To each State or Colony shall be allocated a number of votes based on the category under which it is registered as regards its contribution towards the expenses of the Office (see Article 12).

*Article 4.*

The Committee may set up a Permanent Commission.

*Article 5.*

In the interval between sessions, the Committee shall have the right to carry on its discussions by correspondence.

In that case, decisions shall not be valid unless all the members of the Committee have been asked to express an opinion and replies have been received from at least half the members plus one.

*Article 6.*

The Committee shall be responsible for administering the work of the International Office of Chemistry set up under Article 1 of the Convention.

The International Office shall be established in premises specially set apart for its use.

*Article 7.*

The French Government shall, at the Committee's request, take the necessary steps with a view to the Office being recognised as a public utility concern and shall exempt from Customs duty all documents, material and products for its use.

*Article 8.*

The work of the Office shall be done by a paid staff, including a director and such assistants recruited in different countries as the work of the Office may necessitate.

The Director shall be appointed by the Committee.

*Article 9.*

The Director of the Office shall sit on the Permanent Committee in an advisory capacity and shall act as secretary of that Committee.

*Article 10.*

The Committee, on the basis of proposals of the Director of the Office, shall establish the annual budget.

The budget shall be communicated each year to the Governments of the High Contracting Parties in a special financial report.

*Article 11.*

The Director of the Office shall send to the Committee before each session :

(1) A financial report on the accounts for the preceding financial year of which he shall be given discharge after audit,

(2) A general report on the work of the Office and the results achieved since the previous session.

(3) A general programme of future work.

The Chairman of the Committee for his part shall send to the Governments of all the High Contracting Parties an annual report on the administrative and financial position of the Office, with estimates of expenditure for the next financial year and a table showing the respective contributions due by the Contracting States.

*Article 12.*

The scale of contributions referred to in Article 7 of the Convention shall be established on the basis of population, in conformity with the following table :

Category	Population in millions	Number of votes	Units of contribution
1	Over 30	6	25
2	From 20 to 30	5	20
3	From 15 to 20	4	15
4	From 10 to 15	3	10
5	From 5 to 10	2	5
6	Under 5	1	3

The Committee may by a three-quarters majority allow exceptions to this scale, in the case of countries which are in a special position owing to the depreciation of their currency or the relative size of their budgets.

The unit of contribution shall be fixed at one thousand gold francs.

Any country may make a contribution higher than would correspond to its population figure.

*Article 13.*

A sum shall be set aside out of the annual resources for the constitution of a reserve fund. The total of this reserve may not exceed the amount of the annual budget.

*Article 14.*

The members of the Committee may receive a travelling allowance out of the funds allocated for the work of the Office. They may also receive a token for each meeting at which they are present.

*Article 15.*

The Committee shall fix a sum to be set aside annually out of its budget towards the constitution of retiring pensions for the staff of the Office.

*Article 16.*

The present rules shall possess the same force and validity as the Convention to which they are annexed.

Done at Paris, October 29, 1927, in a single copy, which shall remain in the Archives of the French Government, and certified copies of which shall be sent to the contracting Powers through diplomatic channel.

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