

prohibit, by measures of domestic legislation or police, the circulation, representation, or exhibition of any works or productions in regard to which the competent authority may find it necessary to exercise that right.

Article 18.

The present Convention shall apply to all works which at the moment of its coming into force have not yet fallen into the public domain in the country of origin through the expiration of the term of protection.

If, however, through the expiration of the term of protection which was previously granted, a work has fallen into the public domain of the country where protection is claimed, that work shall not be protected anew in that country.

The application of this principle shall take effect according to the stipulations contained in special Conventions existing, or to be concluded, to that effect between countries of the Union. In the absence of such stipulations, the respective countries shall regulate, each in so far as it is concerned, the manner in which the said principle is to be applied.

The above provisions shall apply equally in case of new accessions to the Union, and also in the event of the term of protection being extended by the application of Article 7.

Article 19.

The provisions of the present Convention shall not prevent a claim being made for the application of any wider provisions which may be made by the legislation of a country of the Union in favour of foreigners in general.

Article 20.

The Governments of the countries of the Union reserve to themselves the right to enter into special arrangements between each other, provided always that such arrangements confer upon authors more extended rights than those granted by the Union, or embody other stipulations not contrary to the present Convention. The provisions of existing arrangements which answer to the above-mentioned conditions shall remain applicable.

Article 21.

The International Office established under the name of the "Office of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works" shall be maintained.

That Office is placed under the high authority of the Government of the Swiss Confederation, which regulates its organization and supervises its working.

The official language of the Office shall be French.

Article 22.

The International Office collects every kind of information relative to the protection of the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works. It arranges and publishes such information. It undertakes the study of questions of general interest concerning the Union, and by the aid of documents placed at its disposal by the different Administrations, edits a periodical publication in the French language on the questions which concern the objects of the Union. The Governments of the countries of the Union reserve to themselves the power to authorize by common accord the publication by the Office of an edition in one or more other languages, if experience should show this to be requisite.

The International Office will always hold itself at the disposal of members of the Union with the view to furnish them with any special information which they may require relative to the protection of literary and artistic works.

The Director of the International Office shall make an annual Report on his Administration, which shall be communicated to all the members of the Union.

Article 23.

The expenses of the Office of the International Union shall be shared by the contracting States. Until a fresh arrangement be made they cannot exceed the sum of 60,000 francs a year. This sum may be increased, if necessary, by the simple decision of one of the Conferences provided for in Article 24.

The share of the total expense to be paid by each country shall be determined by the division of the contracting and acceding countries into six classes, each of which shall contribute in the proportion of a certain number of units, viz. :—

1st class	..	..	..	..	25 units.
2nd	..	..	..	..	20 "
3rd	..	..	..	..	15 "
4th	..	..	..	..	10 "
5th	..	..	..	..	5 "
6th	..	..	..	..	3 "

These coefficients are multiplied by the number of countries of each class, and the total product thus obtained

gives the number of units by which the total expenses is to be divided. The quotient gives the amount of the unit of expense.

Each country shall declare, at the time of its accession, in which of the said classes it desires to be placed.

The Swiss Administration prepares the Budget of the Office, superintends its expenditure, makes the necessary advances, and draws up the annual account which shall be communicated to all the other Administrations.

Article 24.

The present Convention may be submitted to revisions in order to introduce therein amendments calculated to perfect the system of the Union.

Questions of this kind, as well as those which are of interest to the Union in other respects, shall be considered in Conferences to be held successively in the countries of the Union by delegates of the said countries. The Administration of the country where a Conference is to meet prepares, with the assistance of the International Office, the programme of the Conference. The Director of the Office shall attend at the sittings of the Conferences, and shall take part in the discussions without the right to vote.

No alteration in the present Convention shall be binding on the Union except by the unanimous consent of the countries composing it.

Article 25.

States outside the Union which make provision for the legal protection of the rights forming the object of the present Convention may accede thereto on request to that effect.

Such accession shall be notified in writing to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, who will communicate it to all the other countries of the Union.

Such accession shall imply full adhesion to all the clauses and admission to all the advantages provided by the present Convention. It may, nevertheless, contain an indication of the provisions of the Convention of the 9th September, 1886, or of the Additional Act of the 4th May, 1896, which they may judge necessary to substitute, provisionally at least, for the corresponding provisions of the present Convention.

Article 26.

Contracting countries shall have the right to accede to the present Convention at any time for their Colonies or foreign possessions.

They may do this either by a general Declaration comprising in the accession all their Colonies or possessions, or by specially naming those comprised therein, or by simply indicating those which are excluded.

Such Declaration shall be notified in writing to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, who will communicate it to all the other countries of the Union.

Article 27.

The present Convention shall replace, in regard to the relations between the Contracting States, the Convention of Berne of the 9th September, 1886, including the Additional Article and the Final Protocol of the same date, as well as the Additional Act and the Interpretative Declaration of the 4th May, 1896. These instruments shall remain in force in regard to relations with States which do not ratify the present Convention.

The Signatory States of the present Convention may declare at the exchange of ratifications that they desire to remain bound, as regards any specific point, by the provisions of the Conventions which they have previously signed.

Article 28.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Berlin not later than the 1st July, 1910.

Each Contracting Party shall, as regards the exchange of ratifications, deliver a single instrument, which shall be deposited with those of the other countries in the archives of the Government of the Swiss Confederation. Each party shall receive in return a copy of the *procès-verbal* of the exchange of ratifications signed by the Plenipotentiaries who took part.

Article 29.

The present Convention shall be put in force three months after the exchange of ratifications, and shall remain in force for an indefinite period until the termination of a year from the day on which it may have been denounced.

Such denunciation shall be made to the Government of the Swiss Confederation. It shall only take effect in regard to the country making it, the Convention remaining in full force and effect for the other countries of the Union.