

Article 5.

(a) In any case where documents have been served in accordance with the provisions of Article 3, the High Contracting Party, by whose Diplomatic or Consular Officer the request for service was addressed, shall repay to the other High Contracting party any charges and expenses which are payable under the law of the country of execution to the persons employed to effect service, and any charges and expenses incurred in effecting service in a special manner. These charges and expenses shall not exceed such as are usually allowed in the courts of that country.

(b) Repayment of these charges and expenses shall be claimed by the competent authority by whom the service has been effected from the Diplomatic or Consular Officer by whom the request was addressed, when sending to him the certificate provided for in Article 3 (h).

(c) Except as provided above, no fees of any description shall be payable by one High Contracting Party to the other in respect of the service of any documents.

III.—TAKING OF EVIDENCE.

Article 6.

(a) When a judicial authority in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties requires that evidence should be taken in the territory of the other High Contracting Party, such evidence may be taken, whatever the nationality of the parties or witnesses may be, in any one of the ways prescribed in Article 7 or 8.

(b) In Part III of this Convention, the expressions—

- (1) "Taking of evidence" shall be deemed to include the taking of the statements of a plaintiff, defendant, expert, or any other person on oath or otherwise; the submission to a plaintiff, defendant, expert, or any other person of any oath with regard to any legal proceedings and the production, identification, and examination of documents, samples, or other objects.
- (2) "Witness" shall be deemed to include any person from whom any evidence, as defined above, is required to be taken.
- (3) "Country of origin" shall be deemed to mean the country by whose judicial authority the evidence is required, and "country of execution," the country in which the evidence is to be taken.

Article 7.

(a) The judicial authority of the country of origin may, in accordance with the provisions of the law of his country, address himself by means of a Letter of Request to the competent authority of the country of execution, requesting such authority to take the evidence.

(b) The Letter of Request shall be drawn up in the language of the country of execution, or be accompanied by a translation into such language. Such translation shall be certified as correct by a Diplomatic or Consular Officer acting for the country of origin. The Letter of Request shall state the nature of the proceedings for which the evidence is required, giving all necessary information in regard thereto, the names of the parties thereto, and the names, descriptions, and addresses of the witnesses. They shall also either (1) be accompanied by a list of interrogatories to be put to the witness or witnesses, or, as the case may be, by a description of the documents, samples, or other objects to be produced, identified, or examined, and a translation thereof, certified as correct in the manner heretofore provided; or (2) shall request the competent authority to allow such questions to be asked *viva voce* as the parties or their representatives shall desire to ask.

(c) Letters of Request shall be transmitted—

In England by a Yugoslav Diplomatic or Consular Officer to the Senior Master of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

In Yugoslavia by a British Consular Officer to the Ministry of Justice.

In case the authority to whom any Letter of Request is transmitted is not competent to execute it, such authority shall (except in cases where execution is refused in accordance with paragraph (f) of this Article) of his own motion forward the Letter of Request to the competent authority of the country of execution.

(d) The competent authority of the country of execution shall give effect to the Letter of Request and obtain the evidence required by the use of the same compulsory measures and the same procedure as are employed in the execution of a commission or order emanating from the authorities of his own country, except that if a wish that some special procedure should be followed is expressed in the Letter of Request, such special procedure shall be followed in so far as it is not incompatible with the law of the country of execution.

(e) The Diplomatic or Consular Officer, by whom the Letter of Request is transmitted, shall, if he so desires, be informed of the date when and the place where the proceedings will take place, in order that he may inform the interested party or parties, who shall be permitted to be present in person or to be represented, if they so desire, by any representatives who are competent to appear before the courts either of the country of origin or of the country of execution.

(f) The execution of a Letter of Request which complies with the preceding provisions of this Article can only be refused—

- (1) If the authenticity of the Letter of Request is not established;
- (2) If, in the country of execution, the execution of the Letter of Request in question does not fall within the functions of the judiciary;
- (3) If the High Contracting Party in whose territory it is to be executed considers that his sovereignty or safety would be compromised thereby.

(g) In every instance where a Letter of Request is not executed by the authority to whom it is addressed, the latter will at once inform the Diplomatic or Consular Officer by whom it was transmitted, stating the grounds on which the execution of the Letter of Request has been refused, or the competent authority to whom it has been forwarded.

(h) When a Letter of Request has been executed, the competent authority to whom it was transmitted or forwarded shall send to the Diplomatic or Consular Officer by whom it was transmitted the necessary documents establishing its execution.

Article 8.

(a) The evidence may also be taken, without any request to or the intervention of the authorities of the country of execution by a Diplomatic or Consular Officer in that country acting for the country of origin appointed for this purpose by the court in that country.

(b) An officer so appointed to take evidence may request the individuals named by the court appointing him to appear before him and to give evidence. He may take all kinds of evidence which are not contrary to the law of the country of execution. The attendance and giving of evidence before any such officer shall be entirely voluntary and no measures of compulsion shall be employed.

(c) Requests to appear issued by such officer shall, unless the recipient is a national of the High Contracting Party for whose judicial authority the evidence is required, be drawn up in the language of the country of execution or be accompanied by a translation into such language.

(d) The evidence may be taken in accordance with the procedure recognized by the law of the country of origin, and the parties will have the right to be present in person or to be represented by any representatives who are competent to appear before the courts either of the country of origin or of the country of execution.

Article 9.

The fact that an attempt to take evidence by the method laid down in Article 8 has failed owing to the refusal of any witness to appear or to give evidence does not preclude a request being subsequently made in accordance with Article 7.

Article 10.

(a) Where evidence is taken in the manner provided in Article 7 the High Contracting Party, by whose judicial authority the Letter of Request was addressed, shall repay to the other High Contracting Party any expenses incurred by the competent authority of the latter in the execution of the request in respect of any charges and expenses payable to witnesses, experts, interpreters, or translators, the costs of obtaining the attendance of witnesses who have not appeared voluntarily, and the charges and expenses payable to any person whom such authority may have deputed to act, in cases where the law of the country of execution permits this to be done, and any charges and expenses incurred by reason of a special procedure being requested and followed. These expenses shall be such as are usually allowed in similar cases in the courts of the country of execution.

(b) The repayment of these expenses shall be claimed by the competent authority by whom the Letter of Request has been executed from the Diplomatic or Consular Officer by whom it was transmitted when sending to him the documents establishing its execution as provided in Article 7 (h).

(c) Except as above provided no fees of any description shall be payable by one High Contracting Party to the other in respect of the taking of evidence.