CONVENTION on Social Security between the Kingdom of Belgium and the State of Israel

(Entry into force 01 June 2017, published 12 October 2017)

The government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the government of the State of Israel,

wishing to arrange the mutual relations between the two Parties in the field of social security, have decided to conclude a convention for this purpose and have agreed as follows:

PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Definitions

- 1. For the implementation of this Convention:
 - (a) The term "Belgium" means: the Kingdom of Belgium; the term "Israel" means: the State of Israel.
 - (b) The term "national" means:
 as regards Belgium: a person with Belgian
 nationality;
 - as regards Israel: a person with Israeli nationality.
 - (c) The term "legislation" means: the laws and regulations specified in article 2.
 - (d) The term "competent authority" means: as regards Belgium: the Ministers, each to the extent that he is responsible for the implementation of the legislation specified in paragraph 1 A of article 2;
 - as regards Israel: the Minister responsible for the implementation of the legislation in paragraph 1 B of article 2.
 - (e) The term "institution" means: the institution, the organization or the authority responsible in full or in part for the implementation of the laws specified in paragraph 1 of article 2.
 - (f) The term "insurance period" means: any period recognized as such in the legislation this period was

completed under, as well as any period recognized as equivalent to an insurance period under this legislation.

- (g) The term "benefit" means: any benefit in kind or in cash provided for by the legislation of each of the contracting Parties, including any supplements or increases applicable to them under the laws specified in article 2.
- (h) The term "family benefits" means: as regards Belgium: periodical cash benefits granted exclusively by reference to the number and the age of the children, excluding other supplements. as regards Israel: children's benefits granted according to the legislation of Israel.
- (i) The term "family member" means: any person defined or recognized as a family member or designated as a member of the household by the legislation under which the benefits are provided.
- (j) The term "survivor" means: any person defined or recognized as such by the legislation under which the benefits are provided.
- (k) The term "stateless person" means: any person defined as a stateless person in article 1 of the Convention relating to the status of stateless persons, dated September 28, 1954.
- (1) The term "refugee" means: any person recognized as having the status of refugee in application of the Convention relating to the status of refugees dated July 28, 1951, as well as to the additional protocol to that Convention dated January 31, 1967.

- (m) The term "personal data" means: any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity.
- 2. Any term not defined in paragraph 1 of this article shall have the meaning assigned to it in the applicable legislation.

Article 2 <u>Legislative scope</u>

- 1. This Convention shall apply:
 - A. as regards Belgium, to the laws concerning:
 - a) accidents at work and occupational diseases;
 - b) retirement and survivors' pensions for salaried persons and self-employed persons;
 - c) the invalidity insurance for salaried persons, sailors of the merchant marine, mine workers and self-employed persons;
 - d) family benefits for salaried persons and selfemployed persons,
 - and, as regards Part II only, to the laws concerning:
 - e) the social security for salaried persons;

- f) the social security for self-employed persons;
- B. as regards Israel, to the National Insurance Law, (Consolidated Version) 5755 1995, as far as it applies to the following branches of insurance:
 - a) old age and survivors' insurance;
 - b) invalidity insurance;
 - c) work injury insurance;
 - d) children's insurance,

and, as regards Part II only, to the National Insurance Law, (Consolidated Version) 5755 - 1995.

2. This Convention shall also apply to all acts or regulations which will amend or extend the legislation specified in paragraph 1 of this article.

It shall apply to any act or regulation which will extend the existing schemes to new categories of beneficiaries, unless, in this respect, the contracting Party which has amended its legislation does notify the other contracting Party of its objections within six months of the official publication of the said acts.

This Convention shall not apply to acts or regulations that establish a new social security branch, unless the competent authorities of the contracting Parties agree on this application.

Personal scope

Unless otherwise specified, this Convention shall apply:

- (a) to all persons who are or have been subject to the legislation of either of the contracting Parties, and who are:
 - (i) nationals of one of the contracting Parties,

 - (iii) nationals of a third State with whom both contracting Parties are linked through a Convention on social Security,
 - (iv) stateless persons or refugees recognized by either of the contracting Parties,

and to any other person in regard to the rights they derive from the person described above;

(b) to family members and survivors of persons who have been subject to the legislation of either of the two contracting Parties, regardless of the latter persons' nationality, if the family members or survivors are nationals of either of the contracting Parties, of one of the member states of the European Union or of a State with whom both contracting Parties are linked through a Convention on social Security, or stateless persons or refugees recognized by either of the contracting Parties.

Equality of treatment

Unless otherwise specified in this Convention, the persons referred to in article 3, while residing in the territory of a contracting Party, shall be subject to the obligations and shall benefit from the legislation of the contracting Party under the same conditions as nationals of that Party.

Article 5

Export of benefits

- 1. Unless otherwise specified in this Convention, benefits in cash in respect of invalidity, old-age, survivors', accidents at work and occupational diseases acquired under the legislation of either of the contracting Parties cannot be subject to any reduction or modification owing to the fact that the beneficiary stays or resides in the territory of the other contracting Party.
- 2. The old-age and survivors' benefits and the benefits in respect of accidents at work and occupational diseases due from either of the contracting Parties are paid to nationals of the other Party residing in the territory of a third country, under the same conditions as if they were nationals of the former Party residing in the territory of this third country.

Article 6

Reduction or Suspension Clauses

The reduction or suspension clauses provided for in the legislation of one Contracting Party, in case one benefit

coincides with other social security benefits or with other incomes owing to a professional activity, shall be applied to the beneficiaries, even if these benefits were acquired by virtue of a scheme of the other Contracting Party, or if the related professional activities are exercised in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

However, this provision shall not apply when benefits of the same nature, calculated in proportion to the duration of insurance periods fulfilled in both Contracting Parties, coincide.

PART II

PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Article 7

General provisions

- 1. Subject to articles 8 to 10, the applicable legislation is determined according to the following provisions:
 - a) unless otherwise provided in this Convention, a person who works as an employee or a self-employed person in the territory of a contracting Party shall, with respect to that employment or self-employment, be subject only to the legislation of that contracting Party, regardless of the Party in which the employer has its registered office and regardless of the Party in which the self-employed person has its residence;
 - b) a person who works as an employee on board a ship that flies the flag of a Contracting Party, shall be subject to the legislation of the Contracting Party in which he has his residence;
 - a person who works as an employee or as a selfemployed person on board a ship that flies the flag

of a third country, is subject to the Israeli legislation if his employer has its registered office in Israel and if the person concerned resides in Israel;

c) persons who are members of the traveling or flying personnel of an undertaking which, for hire or reward or on its own account, operates international transport services for passengers or goods by rail, road or air and has its registered office in the territory of a contracting Party shall be subject to the legislation of the latter Party.

If, however, the enterprise has a branch or permanent representation in the territory of the other contracting Party, the salaried persons employed by that branch or representation shall be subject to the legislation of the contracting Party in the territory in which it is located.

- 2. A person who exercises a self-employed professional activity in the territory of both contracting Parties shall only be subject to the legislation of the contracting Party in which territory he has his habitual residence. For the purpose of determining the amount of income to be taken into account for the contributions to be charged under the legislation of this contracting Party, the professional income as a self-employed person acquired in the territories of both Parties shall be taken into account.
- 3. In case of simultaneous exercise of a self-employed professional activity in Belgium and an employed professional activity in Israel, the activity exercised in Israel shall be assimilated to an employed professional activity exercised in Belgium, in order to determine the obligations resulting from the Belgian legislation concerning the social status of self-employed persons.

4. The person who exercises simultaneously a salaried activity in the territory of both Contracting Parties shall only be subject to the legislation Contracting Party in which territory he has his habitual residence. For the purpose of determining the amount of the incomes to be taken into account for the contributions to be charged under the legislation of this Contracting Party, the professional incomes as a salaried person acquired in the territories of both Parties shall into account, in accordance with their be taken respective legislation.

Article 8

Special provisions

- 1. An employed person who, being in the service of an enterprise with an office on which he normally depends in the territory of one of the contracting Parties, is posted by this enterprise in the territory of the other contracting Party to work on its account, shall be, just like his family members who accompany him, subject to the legislation of the former Party, as if he continues to be employed in his territory on the condition that the foreseeable duration of his work does not exceed twenty-four months and that he is not sent to replace another person whose posting period has come to an end.
 - 2. Paragraph 1 b) of article 7 does not apply to persons not normally employed at sea who work in the territorial waters or in a harbour of one of the contracting Parties.

 Depending on the case, either paragraph 1 a) of article 7 or paragraph 1 of this article applies.

3. If the detachment referred to in paragraph 1 of this article continues beyond twenty-four months, the competent authorities of the two contracting Parties or the competent institutions designated by these competent authorities may agree that the employee remains subject only to the legislation of the first contracting Party.

Article 9

Civil servants, members of diplomatic missions and consular posts

- 1. Civil servants and equivalent personnel are subject to the legislation of the contracting Party whose administration employs them. These persons, as well as their family members are, for this purpose, considered to be residing in this contracting Party, even if they are in the territory of the other contracting Party.
- 2. a) Nationals of a contracting Party sent by the government of this contracting Party to the territory of the other contracting Party as members of a diplomatic mission or a consular post are subject to the legislation of the former contracting Party.
 - b) Persons engaged by a diplomatic mission or a consular post of one of the contracting Parties in the territory of the other contracting Party are subject to the legislation of the latter contracting Party.

However, persons who are nationals of the former contracting Party and who opted, before entry into force of this Convention, on the basis of the Convention on Social Security between the Kingdom of Belgium and the State of Israel signed in Brussels on 5 July 1971, for the legislation of this contracting

Party to be applied, will remain subject to this legislation.

- c) When the diplomatic mission or the consular post of one of the contracting Parties employs persons who, pursuant to subparagraph b), are subject to the legislation of the other contracting Party, the mission or post takes into account the obligations imposed on the employers under the legislation of this contracting Party.
- d) The provisions in subparagraphs b) and c) also apply by analogy to persons employed in private service of a person specified in subparagraph a).
- e) The provisions of this paragraph also apply to the family members of the persons referred to in subparagraphs a) to d), living at home, unless they work as an employee or a self-employed.
- f) The provisions of subparagraphs a) to d) neither apply to honorary members of a consular post nor to persons employed in private service of these persons.

Article 10 Derogations

In the interest of certain insured persons or certain categories of insured persons, as regards Belgium the competent authorities and as regards Israel the competent institution can, subject to mutual agreement in writing, specify derogations to the provisions of articles 7 to 9 provided that the affected persons shall be subject to the legislation of one of the Contracting Parties.

PART III

PROVISIONS CONCERNING BENEFITS

Chapter 1

Accidents at work and occupational diseases

Article 11

A person who, due to an accident at work or an occupational disease, is entitled to benefits in kind in accordance with the legislation of a contracting Party, receives benefits in kind when he stays or resides in the territory of the other contracting Party.

The benefits in kind are provided on behalf of the competent institutions by the institution where the person stays or resides, in accordance with the provisions it administers; the period during which benefits may be granted is, however, determined by the legislation of the competent Party.

Article 12

- 1. The real amount of the benefits in kind provided by virtue of article 11 is reimbursed by the competent institution to the institution who has provided these benefits, in accordance with the procedure determined in the Administrative Arrangement.
- 2. The competent authorities or competent institution designated by these competent authorities may, in common agreement, waive in full or in part the reimbursement

referred to in paragraph 1 or provide for another method of reimbursement.

Article 13

If the legislation of a contracting Party provides explicitly or by implication that accidents at work or occupational diseases which have occurred previously shall be taken into consideration in order to assess the degree of incapacity, accidents at work and occupational diseases which have occurred previously under the legislation of the other contracting Party shall be considered as having occurred under the legislation of the former Party.

Article 14

- 1. When a person who has contracted an occupational disease has, under the legislation of both contracting Parties, pursued an activity which by its nature is likely to cause that disease, the benefits that he or his survivors may claim shall be awarded exclusively in accordance with the legislation of the Party under which the activity was last pursued and subject to the fact that the person concerned satisfies the conditions of this legislation, taking into account, where appropriate, the provisions of paragraph 3.
- 2. However, if he is not entitled to benefits in accordance with the legislation of the contracting State under which the activity was last pursued, the application will be transmitted by the institution of this State to the competent institution of the other contracting State, which will examine the application under his legislation.
- 3. If, under the legislation of a contracting Party, the granting of benefits in respect of an occupational disease

is subject to the condition that the disease in question was first diagnosed within its territory, such condition shall be deemed to be satisfied if the disease was first diagnosed in the territory of the other contracting Party.

Article 15

In the event of aggravation of an occupational disease, if a person who has received or is receiving benefits under the legislation of either of the contracting Parties asserts rights to benefits under the legislation of the other contracting Party for an occupational disease of the same nature, the following rules shall apply:

- a) if the person concerned has not been engaged in the territory of the latter Party in an occupation likely to cause or to aggravate the disease in question, the competent institution of the former Party shall be bound to meet the costs of the benefits under the provisions of the legislation which it administers, taking into account the aggravation;
- b) if the person concerned has pursued such an activity in the territory of the latter Party, the competent institution of the former Party shall be bound to meet the costs of the benefits under the provisions of the legislation which it administers without taking the aggravation into account; the competent institution of the second Party shall grant a supplement to the person concerned, the amount of which shall be determined by the legislation of this Party and shall be equal to the difference between the amount of the benefit due after the aggravation and the amount of the benefit which would have been due prior to the aggravation.

As regards Israel, vocational training and subsistence allowances for widows and orphans are payable to persons designated in article 3, only if they reside in Israel and for as long as they are actually present in Israel.

Chapter 2

Old-age and survivors' benefits

SECTION 1

Provisions concerning Belgian benefits

Article 17

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, for the acquisition, retention or recovery of the right to benefits, the insurance periods and the equivalent periods completed pursuant to the Israeli legislation concerning pensions are totalized, when necessary and to the extent that they do not overlap, with the insurance periods completed pursuant to the Belgian legislation.

When two periods recognized as periods equivalent to an insurance period coincide, only the period completed in the Party where the person concerned has worked before this period shall be taken into consideration.

2. If the Belgian legislation subordinates the granting of certain benefits to the condition that the insurance periods are to be completed in a given occupation, only insurance periods completed or recognized as equivalent in the same occupation in Israel shall be totalized for admission to entitlement to these benefits.

3. If the Belgian legislation subordinates the granting of certain benefits to the condition that the insurance periods are to be completed in a determined occupation, and when these periods did not result in entitlement to the said benefits, the said periods shall be considered valid for the liquidation of the benefits provided for in the general scheme of salaried persons.

Article 18

1. If a person is entitled to benefits under the Belgian legislation without necessarily proceeding to totalization, the Belgian institution shall calculate the benefit entitlement directly on the basis of the insurance periods completed in Belgium and only under the Belgian legislation.

This institution shall also calculate the amount of the benefit that would be obtained by applying the rules specified in paragraph 2 a) and b). Only the higher of these two amounts shall be taken into consideration.

- 2. If a person is entitled to a benefit by virtue of the Belgian legislation, with his right being created solely taking the totalization of the insurance periods into account pursuant to article 17, the following rules apply:
 - a) the Belgian institution shall calculate the theoretical amount of the benefit due as if all the insurance periods completed according to the two contracting Parties' legislations were exclusively completed under the legislation it applies;
 - b) the Belgian institution shall then calculate the amount due, on the basis of the amount specified under a), in proportion to the duration of the

insurance periods under its legislation, in relation to the duration of all insurance periods accounted under a).

SECTION 2

Provisions concerning Israeli benefits

Article 19

- 1. Regarding persons designated in article 3 of this Convention who have been insured in Israel for at least twelve months but do not have sufficient Israeli periods of insurance for entitlement to an old age or survivors' pension, periods of insurance completed under the Belgian legislation shall be taken into account insofar as they do not overlap with Israeli periods of insurance. No account shall be taken of any insurance period completed under the legislation of the other contracting Party before 1 April 1954.
- 2. If the beneficiary or his survivor qualifies for the benefit when periods of insurance completed under the legislation of both contracting Parties are totalized, the Israeli competent institution shall determine the benefit as follows:
 - a) the Israeli benefit which is payable to a person who has completed the qualifying periods of insurance according to Israeli legislation shall be taken into account as a theoretical sum;
 - b) on the basis of the above theoretical sum the competent institution shall calculate the partial benefit payable according to the ratio between the length of Israeli periods of insurance which the person has completed under the legislation of Israel and the total of all insurance periods

completed by him under the legislation of both contracting Parties.

- 3. The right to an old age pension shall be conditional on the beneficiary having been a resident of Israel or insured in Belgium immediately before attaining the age entitling him to an old age pension.
- 4. The right to a survivors' pension shall be conditional on the beneficiary and the deceased having been residents of Israel or the deceased having been insured in Belgium at the time of death, or the deceased having received an old age pension immediately before his death.
- Vocational training and subsistence allowances for widows and orphans are payable to persons designated in article 3 only if they reside in Israel and for as long as they are actually present in Israel.

Chapter 3 Invalidity benefits

Article 20

- 1. The legislation of the contracting Party which was applicable to the person at the time that the person became invalid, shall be used to determine whether the person concerned receives an invalidity benefit. The insurance periods of both contracting Parties may be totalized where necessary for the acquisition, retention or recovery of the right to that benefit.
- 2. A person who satisfies the conditions referred to in paragraph 1 shall obtain the invalidity benefit from the competent institution of the aforementioned contracting Party, in accordance with the legislation which it administers.

A beneficiary of an invalidity benefit under the Belgian legislation is still entitled to this benefit during a temporary stay in Israel when this temporary stay has first been authorized by the Belgian institution. This authorization can, however, only be refused if the temporary stay takes place in the period during which, by virtue of the Belgian legislation, the Belgian competent institution must estimate or revise the state of invalidity.

Article 22

As regards Israel:

- a) special services for invalid persons, subsistence allowances for invalid children of an insured person, professional rehabilitation for an invalid person, vocational training and subsistence allowances for his spouse are payable to such a person as mentioned above, providing he is resident in Israel and as long as he is actually present in Israel;
- b) a person covered by this Convention who resides in Belgium and is entitled to an Israeli invalidity pension shall continue to receive the pension that he has been awarded even if there is an increase in the degree of his invalidity, as a result of an aggravation of his invalidity or the addition of a further cause of invalidity arising abroad.

Chapter 4

Common provisions to old age, survivors' and invalidity benefits

- 1. If, because of the rising cost of living, the variation of the wage levels or other adaptation causes, the old age, survivors' or invalidity benefits from one contracting Party are changed with a given percentage or amount, this percentage or amount should be directly applied to the old age, survivors' or invalidity benefits from that Party, without having to proceed to a new calculation of the oldage, survivors' or invalidity benefits from the other contracting Party.
- On the other hand, in case of modification of the rules or of the computation process in the legislation of one of the contracting Parties with regard to the establishment of the old age, survivors' or invalidity benefits, a new computation shall be performed according to article 18,19 or 20.

Chapter 5 Family benefits

Article 24

- 1. When the legislation of a contracting Party makes acquisition of the rights to benefits conditional upon completion of periods of insurance, the institution that applies this legislation shall take into account for this purpose, to the extent necessary for totalization, the periods of insurance completed under the legislation of the other contracting Party, as if it were periods of insurance completed under the legislation of the first contracting Party.
- Persons subject to the legislation of either of the contracting Parties are entitled, for the children residing in the territory of the other contracting Party,

to the family benefits provided for by the legislation of the first contracting Party.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, when a right to family benefits is granted in both contracting Parties, the Party where the child resides is considered as the competent Party granting family benefits by virtue of its legislation.

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 25

Responsibilities of the competent authorities

The competent authorities:

- a) shall take, by means of an Administrative Arrangement, the measures required to implement this Convention and shall designate the liaison institutions and the competent institutions;
- b) shall define the procedures for mutual administrative assistance, including the sharing of expenses associated with obtaining medical, administrative and other evidence required for the implementation of this Convention;
- c) shall directly communicate to each other any information concerning the measures taken for the application of this Convention;
- d) shall directly communicate to each other, as soon as possible, all changes in their legislation to the extent that these changes might affect the application of this Convention.

Administrative collaboration

- For the implementation of this Convention, the competent 1. authorities as well as the competent institutions of both contracting Parties shall lend each other their good offices as they would for the application of their own legislation. In principle, this assistance provided free of charge; however, the competent authorities or the competent institutions designated by competent authorities, may agree reimbursement of some expenses.
- 2. The benefit of the exemptions or reductions of taxes, of stamp duties or of registration or recording fees provided for by the legislation of one contracting Party in respect of certificates or other documents which must be produced for the application of the legislation of that Party shall be extended to certificates and similar documents to be produced for the application of the legislation of the other Party.
- 3. All acts and documents which must be produced for the implementation of this Convention shall be exempt from authentication by diplomatic or consular authorities.
- 4. For the implementation of this Convention, the competent authorities and institutions of the contracting Parties may communicate directly with each other as well as with any person, regardless of the residence of such persons. Such communication may be made in one of the official languages of the contracting Parties.

Exchange of personal data

- 1. Subject to paragraphs 2 to 4 and following the request of the data subject, the institutions of both Contracting Parties are authorised for the execution of this Convention to exchange personal data, including data concerning the income of the persons that the institution of a Contracting Party needs for the implementation of a legislation concerning social security.
- 2. In communicating the abovementioned data, the institution of a Contracting Party is subject to the legislation concerning the protection of privacy and personal data of this Contracting Party.
- 3. The keeping, processing and distribution of personal data by the institution of the Contracting Party to which these data have been communicated, is governed by the legislation concerning the protection of personal data of this Contracting Party.
- 4. The data referred to in the present article shall be confidential and used exclusively for the implementation of a legislation concerning social security and will only be communicated between the competent institutions and/or the competent authorities of both Contracting Parties.

Article 28

Claims, notices and appeals

Claims, notices or appeals which, according to the legislation of one of the contracting Parties, should have been submitted within a specified period to the authority, institution or jurisdiction of this Party, are acceptable if they are presented

within the same specified period to an authority, an institution or a jurisdiction of the other contracting Party. In this case, the claims, notices or appeals must be sent without delay to the authority, institution or jurisdiction of the former contracting authorities competent Party, through the or competent institutions designated by these competent authorities of the contracting Parties. The date on which these claims, notices or appeals have been submitted to an authority, an institution or a jurisdiction of the second contracting Party shall be considered to be the date of submission to the authority, institution or jurisdiction authorized to accept such claims, notices or appeals.

An application or document may not be rejected because it is written in an official language of the other contracting Party.

Article 29

Recognition of Executable decisions and documents

- 1. All executable decisions of the competent institutions or competent authorities of one of the Contracting Parties with respect to contributions and other receivables from the social security, in particular regarding the reclamation of undue paid benefits, shall be recognised by the competent institutions or competent authorities of the other Contracting Party.
- 2. Recognition may be refused only in case it contradicts the public order of the Contracting Party where the said decision or document must be executed.
- 3. The procedure of execution of irrevocable decisions and acts has to be in accordance with the legislation of the Contracting Party on the territory of which the execution

takes place governing the execution of such decisions and acts.

Article 30

Payment of benefits

The benefits paying institutions may discharge their obligations under this Convention in their national currency.

The provisions in the legislation of one of the contracting Parties with regard to exchange control may not obstruct the free transfer of financial amounts resulting from the implementation of this Convention.

Article 31

Resolution of disputes

- 1. Disputes which arise in interpreting or applying this Convention shall be resolved, to the extent possible, by the competent authorities.
- 2. Should the competent authorities be unable to resolve such disputes, pursuant to paragraph 1, the contracting Parties shall endeavor to do so by negotiations through diplomatic channels.

Article 32

Payments that are not due

1. When the institution of a contracting Party has paid to a beneficiary of benefits, during the settlement or revision

of benefits in accordance with the Convention, a sum that exceeds the one he is entitled to, this institution may request that the institution of the other Party that must pay a corresponding benefit in favour of this beneficiary to deduct the excess amount from the outstanding arrears due to the said beneficiary. The details of implementation of this provision shall be fixed in common agreement between the Belgian and Israeli competent institutions. If the excess amount cannot not be deducted from the outstanding arrears, the provisions of paragraph 2 shall apply.

2. When the institution of one of the contracting Parties has paid to a beneficiary of benefits a sum that exceeds the one he is entitled to, this institution may, under the conditions and within the limits specified by the legislation it applies, request that the benefits paying institution of the other contracting Party in favour of this beneficiary deduct the excess amount from the sums it pays to the said beneficiary. The latter institution makes the deduction under the conditions and within the limits such a compensation is authorized by virtue of the legislation it applies, as if it were sums paid in excess by itself, and transfers the amount so deducted to the crediting institution.

Article 33

Cooperation concerning the fight against fraud

Subject to the respective legislation of each Contracting Party, alongside the implementation of general principles concerning administrative collaboration, the competent authorities will agree in an administrative arrangement on the regulations according to which they will cooperate to fight against fraud with regard to social security contributions and benefits that

cross the boundaries of a Contracting Party, and particularly with regard to the actual residence of persons, the decease of persons, the estimation of income, the calculation of contributions and the accumulation of benefits.

PART V

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 34

Events prior to the coming into force of the Convention

- 1. This Convention shall also apply to events which occurred prior to its coming into force.
- 2. This Convention shall not create any entitlement to benefits for any period prior to its coming into force.
- 3. All insurance periods completed under the legislation of one of the contracting Parties prior to the date on which this Convention comes into force shall be taken into consideration in determining entitlement to any benefit in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.
- 4. This Convention shall not apply to rights that were liquidated by the granting of a lump sum payment or the reimbursement of contributions.

Article 35

Revision, proscription, forfeiture

1. Any benefit that was not paid or that was suspended by reason of the nationality of a beneficiary or by reason of his residence outside the territory of one contracting Party, shall, upon application by that beneficiary, be paid

or restored on the date of entry into force of this Convention.

- 2. The entitlement of beneficiaries who, prior to the coming into force of this Convention, obtained the payment of a benefit may be revised upon application by those persons, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention. In no case shall such a revision result in a reduction of the prior entitlement of the beneficiaries.
- 3. If the application referred to in paragraph 1 or 2 of this article is made within two years of the entry into force of this Convention, any entitlement arising from the implementation of this Convention shall be effective from that date, and the legislation of either contracting Party concerning the forfeiture or the proscription of rights shall not be applicable to such beneficiaries.
- 4. If the application referred to in paragraph 1 or 2 of this article is made after two years following the coming into force of this Convention, the rights which are not subject to forfeiture or which are not proscribed shall be acquired from the date of the application, unless more favourable legislative provisions of the contracting Party concerned are applicable.

Article 36

<u>Duration</u>

This Convention is concluded without any limitation on its duration. It may be terminated by either contracting Party giving twelve months' notice in writing to the other Party by diplomatic note.

<u>Guarantee of rights that are acquired or in the course of acquisition</u>

In the event of termination of this Convention, any rights and payment of benefits acquired by virtue of the Convention shall be maintained. The contracting Parties shall make arrangements regarding the rights in the course of acquisition.

Article 38

Entry into force

- 1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the third month following the date of receipt of the note through which the last of both contracting Parties will have given notice by diplomatic channel to the other contracting Party that all required internal legal formalities have been accomplished.
- 2. On the date of entry into force of this Convention, the Convention on Social Security between the Kingdom of Belgium and the State of Israel, signed in Brussels on 5 July 1971, will be replaced by this Convention.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.

Done in two copies at Jerusalem on the $24^{\rm th}$ of March 2014 in Dutch, English, French and Hebrew, each text being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text will prevail.