

*Article 23.*

(1) Nothing in the present Agreement shall prejudice the right of any Contracting Government, in the event of loss or accidental destruction of a vessel, before the vessel in question has become over-age, to replace such vessel by a vessel of the same category or sub-category as soon as the particulars of the new vessel mentioned in Article 12 (b) shall have reached the other Contracting Governments.

(2) The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall also govern the immediate replacement, in such circumstances, of a light surface vessel of sub-category (b) exceeding 8,000 tons (8,128 metric tons) standard displacement, or of a light surface vessel of sub-category (a), before the vessel in question has become over-age, by a light surface vessel of the same sub-category of any standard displacement up to 10,000 tons (10,160 metric tons).

*Article 24.*

(1) If any Contracting Government should become engaged in war, such Contracting Government may, if it considers the naval requirements of its defence are materially affected, suspend, in so far as it is concerned, any or all of the obligations of the present Agreement, provided that such Contracting Government shall promptly notify the other Contracting Governments that the circumstances require such suspension, and shall specify the obligations it is considered necessary to suspend.

(2) The other Contracting Governments shall in such case promptly examine the situation thus presented with a view to deciding on the obligations of the present Agreement, if any, which they may deem it necessary to suspend; and each of them may in consequence suspend, in so far as it is concerned, any or all of the obligations of the present Agreement, provided that notice is promptly given to the other Contracting Governments effecting the suspension under the preceding paragraph of the obligations which it is considered necessary to suspend.

(3) On the cessation of hostilities, the Contracting Governments shall consult together with a view to fixing a date upon which the obligations of the Agreement which have been suspended shall again become operative, and to agreeing upon any amendments in the present Agreement which may be considered necessary.

*Article 25.*

(1) In the event of any vessel not in conformity with the limitations and restrictions as to standard displacement and armament prescribed by Articles 4, 5 and 7 of the present Agreement being authorised, constructed or acquired by a Government not a party to the present Agreement, each Contracting Government reserves the right to depart if, and to the extent to which, it considers such departures necessary in order to meet the requirements of its national security—

(a) During the remaining period of the Agreement, from the limitations and restrictions of Articles 3, 4, 5, 6 (1) and 7; and

(b) During the current year, from its Annual Programmes of construction and declarations of acquisition.

This right shall be exercised in accordance with the following provisions:—

(2) Any Contracting Government who considers it necessary that such right should be exercised, shall notify the other Contracting Governments to that effect, stating precisely the nature and extent of the proposed departures and the reasons therefore.

(3) The Contracting Governments shall thereupon consult together and endeavour to reach an agreement with a view to reducing to a minimum the extent of the departures which may be made.