Chapter 2
Provisions concerning the Brazilian Benefits

Article 17
Totalization and Rules of Calculation

1. If a person is not eligible to a benefit under the legislation of Brazil for not having accumulated sufficient periods of coverage according to that legislation, the periods of coverage under the legislation of Japan will also be taken into account to determine that person's eligibility. In order to apply the foregoing, the competent institution of Brazil shall:

(a) calculate the theoretical amount of the benefit that would be paid if all the periods of coverage had been completed under the legislation of Brazil;

(b) on the basis of that theoretical amount, then calculate the actual amount of the benefit payable according to the ratio between the duration of the periods of coverage completed under the legislation of Brazil and the total duration of the periods of coverage under the legislation of both Contracting States. However, if that total duration exceeds the minimum period necessary to establish eligibility to the benefit under the legislation of Brazil, that total duration shall be considered as equal to that minimum period.

2. The theoretical amount of the benefit referred to in paragraph 1(a) of this Article shall not, under any circumstances, be inferior to the minimum amount guaranteed by the legislation of Brazil.

3. If a person is eligible to a benefit under the legislation of Brazil without the application of paragraph 1 of this Article, the competent institution of Brazil shall determine the amount of the benefit to be paid based exclusively on the periods of coverage completed by that person under the legislation of Brazil.

PART IV
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 18
Administrative Collaboration

1. The competent authorities of both Contracting States shall:

(a) agree on the administrative measures necessary for the implementation of this Agreement;

(b) designate liaison agencies for the implementation of this Agreement; and

(c) communicate to each other, as soon as possible, all information about changes to their respective legislation insofar as those changes affect the implementation of this Agreement.

2. The competent authorities and competent institutions of both Contracting States, within the scope of their respective authorities, shall provide any assistance necessary for the implementation of this Agreement. This assistance shall be provided free of charge.

Article 19
Charges or Fees and Legalization

1. Insofar as the legislation and other relevant laws and regulations of a Contracting State contain provisions on an exemption or reduction of administrative charges or consular fees for documents to be submitted under the legislation of that Contracting State, those provisions shall also apply to documents to be submitted in the application of this Agreement and the legislation of the other Contracting State.

2. Documents which are presented for the purpose of this Agreement and the legislation of a Contracting State shall not require legalization or any other similar formality by diplomatic or consular authorities.

Article 20
Communication

1. In implementing this Agreement, the competent authorities and competent institutions of both Contracting States may communicate directly in Japanese or Portuguese language with each other and with any concerned person wherever the person may reside.

2. In implementing this Agreement, the competent authorities and competent institutions of a Contracting State may not reject applications or any other documents for the reason that they are written in the language of the other Contracting State.