Chapter 3
Provisions concerning Swedish Benefits

Article 17
Special Provisions concerning Totalization

1. Article 13 shall not apply to the basic requirement of three years of residence in Sweden for entitlement to guarantee pension, sickness compensation in the form of guarantee compensation and activity compensation in the form of guarantee compensation.

2. When establishing entitlement to sickness compensation or activity compensation, coverage under the legislation of Japan shall be considered as coverage under the legislation of Sweden.

3. In applying Article 13, the competent institution of Sweden shall credit a period of coverage of a year for twelve months of periods of coverage under the legislation of Japan and certified as such by the competent institutions of Japan. Periods of coverage to be credited by the competent institution of Sweden shall not include periods that are already credited as periods of coverage under the legislation of Sweden.

4. If a person is not eligible for a benefit under the legislation of Sweden on the basis of the periods of coverage under the legislation of both Contracting States, totalized as provided in Article 13, the eligibility of that person for that benefit shall be determined by totalizing these periods and periods of coverage completed under the legislation of a third state, with which Sweden is bound by social security agreements or equivalent coordination instruments on social security which provide for the totalization of periods for that person.

Article 18
Calculation of the Amount of Benefits

1. When calculating the amount of income-based pension in the form of supplementary pension to be paid in accordance with Article 13 or paragraph 4 of Article 17, only periods of coverage completed under the legislation of Sweden shall be taken into account.

2. When calculating the amount of income-related sickness compensation and income-related activity compensation, only income earned during periods when the legislation of Sweden was applicable shall be taken into account.

PART IV
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 19
Administrative Collaboration

1. The competent authorities of both Contracting States shall:

(a) agree on the administrative measures necessary for the implementation of this Agreement, including the exchange of statistics;

(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 20
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 21
Languages of Communication

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