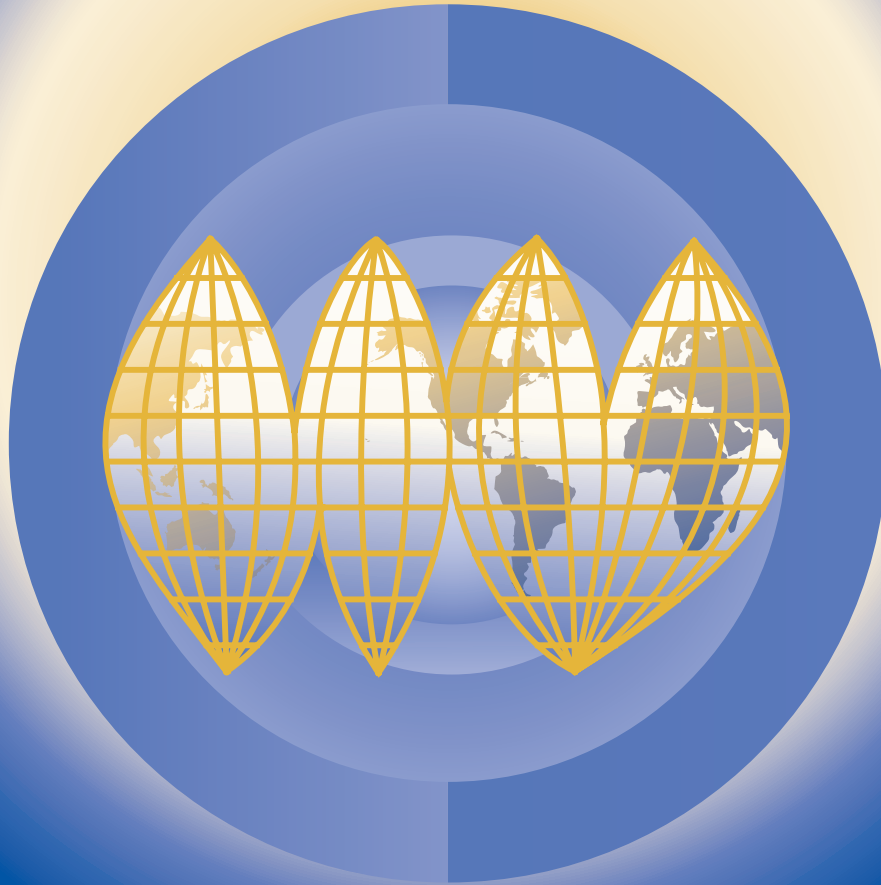


Multilateral Treaty Framework:
An Invitation to Universal Participation

**2008 Treaty Event:
Towards Universal Participation and Implementation
Dignity and Justice for All of Us**



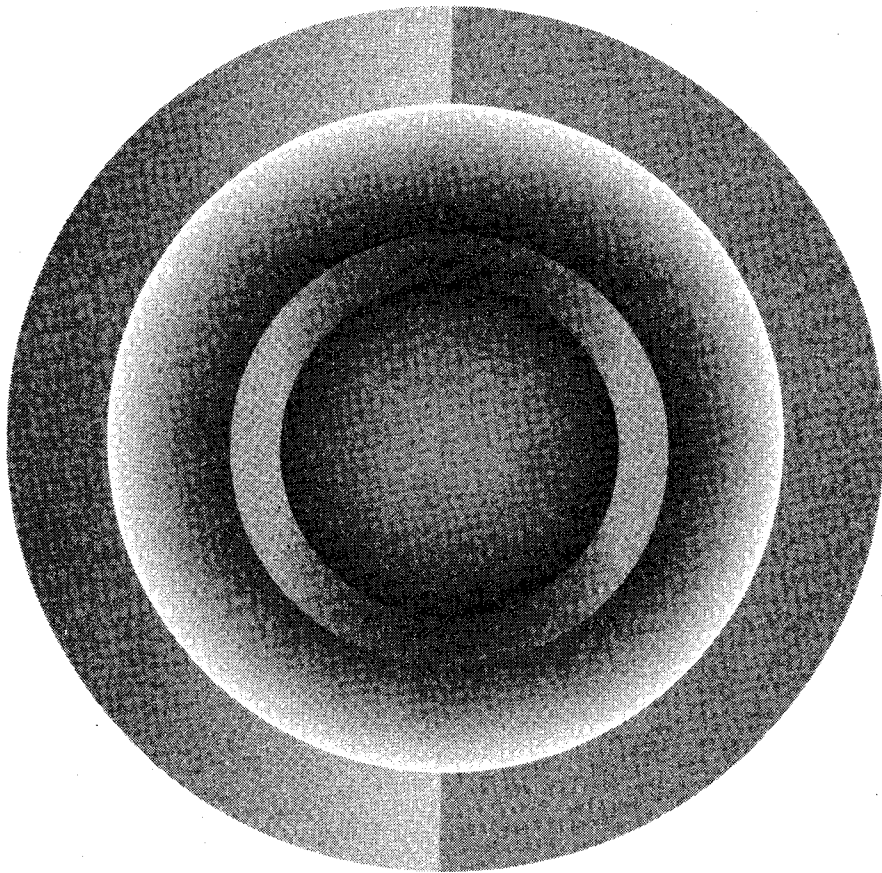
**Treaty Event
23-25 and 29-30 September 2008
United Nations Headquarters**



United Nations

**Multilateral Treaty Framework:
An Invitation to Universal Participation**

**2008 Treaty Event:
Towards Universal Participation
and Implementation
Dignity and Justice for All of Us**



**Treaty Event
23-25 and 29-30 September 2008
United Nations Headquarters**



**United Nations
New York, 2008**

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The Secretary-General's Letter to Heads of State and Government



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

28 March 2008

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the forthcoming annual treaty event of the United Nations that will be held from 23 to 25 and on 29 and 30 September 2008 in the treaty signing area in the General Assembly Building in New York.

The “2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and Justice for All of Us” will coincide with the general debate of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly. This occasion provides a distinct opportunity for States to demonstrate their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations.

I wish to extend this invitation to you to make use of the event by signing and ratifying or acceding to those treaties deposited with me to which your country is not party already.

This year’s event will highlight treaties associated with the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Year of Planet Earth, the International Year of Sanitation and the International Polar Year.

Earlier this year I drew your attention to the importance I give to delivering results, both within the United Nations itself and among the Member States. The treaty event will give you the opportunity to reach the goal of universal participation in a number of treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and work towards “dignity and justice for all of us”.

In line with the International Year of Planet Earth, the International Year of Sanitation and the International Polar Year, we emphasize in the highlighted treaties the reinforcement of the relationship between climate goals and development goals. Safe drinking water and basic sanitation will help us to reach the goal of global health.

By highlighting certain transport and trade treaties, the 2008 Treaty Event will also provide an opportunity to draw attention to the special needs of landlocked developing countries recognized in the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries.

This event will additionally highlight treaties that address disarmament, non-proliferation and penal matters as well as privileges and immunities and the safety of United Nations and associated personnel.

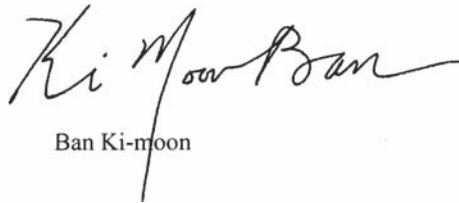
Attached for your consideration is the list of highlighted treaties. The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will be publishing a booklet entitled *2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and Justice for All of Us*, summarizing the objectives and key provisions of these treaties. I emphasize, of course, that the event may be used to sign and ratify or accede to any other treaty of which I am the depositary.

In addition to undertaking actions to participate in the international treaty framework, States may also need to take adequate measures to implement the relevant treaty obligations within their domestic jurisdictions. To deliver results for a more just world, we will continue to work with Member States to build capacity in the rule of law, and offer expertise and technical assistance where needed.

I would like to request that you inform me by 1 September 2008 of your intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the treaties of which I am the depositary during the 2008 Treaty Event so that the necessary arrangements can be made by the Secretariat. There will be facilities to accommodate the media.

As I mentioned in my statement to regional groups of Member States in January 2008, “[g]lobal threats in the twenty-first century spare no one. They require us to advance the global common good by securing global public goods”. Please join us in September at the treaty event to move towards universal participation in and implementation of the multilateral treaty framework.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Ban Ki-moon

*Procedural Information Provided by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs to
Permanent Representatives in New York*



HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE: LA41TR/221/1

9 April 2008

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's letter of invitation addressed to Heads of State and Government to participate in this year's treaty event entitled "2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and Justice for All of Us". This year's treaty event will be held from 23 to 25 and on 29 and 30 September 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York during the general debate of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly. The treaty event will highlight treaties deposited with the Secretary-General that directly affect human rights, the environment, development, sanitation, transit, customs and trade, and the protection of United Nations personnel.

States are encouraged to utilize the occasion of the 2008 Treaty Event to demonstrate their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations. It is emphasized that the event may be used to sign and ratify or accede to any treaty for which the Secretary-General acts as depositary.

It is noted that, consistent with the rules of international law and the practice of the Secretary-General as depositary of multilateral treaties, a Head of State or Government or a Foreign Minister does not require full powers to execute a treaty action in person. Furthermore, full powers are not required in cases where an instrument conferring general full powers has been issued to a designated person and has been deposited with the Secretary-General in advance.

However, where an action, such as a signature, relating to a treaty deposited with the Secretary-General is to be undertaken by a person other than the Head of State or Government or the Foreign Minister, duly executed full powers are necessary.

The Secretary-General's requirements for a valid instrument of full powers must include the following:

- Title of the treaty;
- Full name and title of the person duly authorized to sign the treaty concerned (in the case of signature) or the relevant instrument (in the case of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession);
- Date and place of signature; and
- Signature of the Head of State, Head of Government or Foreign Minister.

Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession must also be issued and signed by one of the above three authorities, and should include all declarations and reservations related thereto. Full powers and instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession should be submitted for verification to the Treaty Section well in advance of the intended date of the relevant treaty action. Further information on full powers and instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession can be obtained from the *Treaty Handbook* and the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties* (ST/LEG/7/Rev.1). These documents are also available in the United Nations Treaty Collection at the web site (<http://untreaty.un.org>).

Information on the status of treaties deposited with the Secretary-General may be obtained from the above mentioned website.

The Secretary-General in his letter requested advice on the nature of any assistance that may be required by a State in order to undertake treaty actions or to give internal effect to the relevant treaty obligations. In this connection, I draw your attention to the web site containing information on legal technical assistance available within the United Nations system (see <http://www.un.org/law/technical/technical.htm>). Also, in April 2008, the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will conduct a seminar in English and French at Headquarters on treaty law and practice, which is customized to meet the needs of government officials in relation to the participation in treaties deposited with the Secretary-General (including signatures, full powers, deposit of instruments) and the registration of treaties.



Advice before **1 September 2008** on your Government's intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General would assist us in making the necessary arrangements, including appropriate media coverage. I am attaching a list of all multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General to enable a more comprehensive review of your country's participation in these multilateral treaties. It is requested that appointments be made by contacting the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs (telephone: (212) 963-5047; fax: (212) 963-3693; or e-mail: treaty@un.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Michel".

Nicolas Michel
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
The Legal Counsel

Foreword

The International Year of Sanitation, 2008, has been set by the UN General Assembly to help put this global crisis at the forefront of the international agenda. “An estimated 42,000 people die every week from diseases related to low water quality and an absence of adequate sanitation. This situation is unacceptable,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in his message at the launch of the International Year of Sanitation. I am pleased to note that the United Nations treaty event in September this year features sanitation and water in its highlighted themes and I urge all States to invest in sanitation so as to provide people with greater health, dignity and development.

Though more than 1.2 billion people worldwide have gained access to improved sanitation between 1990 and 2004, an estimated 2.6 billion people – including 980 million children – have lagged behind. It is vital that progress is accelerated in order to meet the Millennium Development Goal target to reduce by half the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation, such as simple latrines, by 2015.

The year includes major regional conferences on sanitation as part of capacity building initiatives, including one that will focus on school sanitation. It encourages public and private partnerships, to help tap into the comparative strengths of each sector to accelerate progress, advocate and raise awareness on sanitation, leverage additional funding, and develop country-level road maps.

This booklet and the treaty event this year highlight a wide-range of international agreements deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Among them are those which bear in one way or another, on the goals of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008 - better hygiene, household sanitation arrangements and wastewater treatment.

I specifically draw your attention to agreements on international and transboundary watercourses, but more in general, the multilateral treaty framework provides a way for countries to participate in and implement the Millennium Development Goal on sanitation and clean water, as well as other important development goals.

Your participation in the 2008 Treaty Event is a valuable contribution, since signing, ratifying or acceding to agreements is an excellent way of taking action and reinforcing the legal framework in this area. As I have noted in the past, improved sanitation leads to lower child mortality, better maternal health, fewer deaths from waterborne diseases, fewer girls dropping out of school and more women playing an active role in their communities. Every dollar spent on sanitation is a dollar spent on at least five other Millennium Development Goals. I encourage governments to participate in the treaty event this year and become party to those treaties as a way to energize efforts towards meeting the goal on safe drinking water and basic sanitation.



H.R.H. Prince Willem-Alexander, the Prince of Orange
Chair of the UN Secretary-General’s Advisory Board
on Water and Sanitation

Preface

As we commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the theme of the 2008 Treaty Event “Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and justice for all of us” constitutes an excellent opportunity to reflect upon the developments that took place in the sphere of international human rights protection during the past sixty years.

At the time of its adoption in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights represented the first global allegiance to a world upholding human rights applicable to everyone without any discrimination. This ambitious and bold undertaking incorporated both an inspiring vision for the international community and a commitment to the rule of law, peace and human dignity.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the symbol of the indivisibility and universality of all human rights, has been the vitalizing source for the development of a comprehensive system of legally binding conventions. Today, over sixty international human rights treaties, including the most recently adopted International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, aim at the protection of all human rights. The growing international acceptance of the mandatory nature of essential human rights norms is reflected by the fact that every State has ratified at least one of the nine core international human rights treaties, while 80 percent of member States have ratified four or more.

Yet, the human rights of many individuals continue to be violated on a daily basis in all parts of the world. The objective of achieving universal acceptance of all human rights treaties, and in particular those contained in the current compilation, must be accompanied by a firm commitment to their implementation at the national level; otherwise human rights cannot become a living reality.

I welcome enthusiastically the publication of this compilation as well as this treaty event. I hope that world leaders present will take this opportunity to show the vitality of their commitment to the protection of human rights worldwide. Real political will is required to achieve, State by State, the goal of universal ratification and implementation of the human rights multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General. The universal applicability of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which have been developed further in numerous conventions, needs to be reaffirmed today in order to attend to the increasing chasm between the deprived and defenceless and the rich and powerful. In 2008, let us celebrate the foundation of the international human rights protection system through the revitalization of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by striving to make it a reality for each and everyone.



Louise Arbour
United Nations High Commissioner for
Human Rights

*Summaries and Status (as at 26 March 2008) of the Highlighted Multilateral
Treaties Featured in the 2008 Treaty Event*

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide *(New York, 9 December 1948)*

OBJECTIVES

Genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity in all periods of history. The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the Convention) confirms that genocide is a crime under international law, whether committed in peacetime or during war. The objective of the Convention is to establish effective measures for the prevention and punishment of such crimes.

KEY PROVISIONS

In the Convention, genocide means any act committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. The Convention applies to the crimes of genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide, attempt to commit genocide and complicity in genocide. Persons committing these crimes are subject to punishment, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.

Persons charged with genocide offences are to be tried by a tribunal of the State in the territory where the act was committed or by an international penal tribunal that has jurisdiction with respect to the Parties that have accepted its jurisdiction.

Parties are obliged to establish jurisdiction over the offences described and make the offences punishable by appropriate penalties. The offences referred to in the Convention are not considered to be political crimes for the purpose of extradition; they are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties in accordance with domestic laws and treaties in force.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 12 January 1951 (article XIII).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by Signatories. The Convention is open to accession by any Member of the United Nations and any non-Member State to which an invitation to accede has been addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (article XI).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations at least six months before the expiration of the current successive five year period (article XIV).

CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

New York, 9 December 1948

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 12 January 1951, in accordance with article XIII.
REGISTRATION: 12 January 1951, No. 1021.
STATUS: Signatories: 41. Parties: 141.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 78, p. 277.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		22 Mar 1956 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea .		31 Jan 1989 a
Albania.....		12 May 1955 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo		31 May 1962 d
Algeria		31 Oct 1963 a	Denmark.....	28 Sep 1949	15 Jun 1951
Andorra.....		22 Sep 2006 a	Dominican Republic ...	11 Dec 1948	
Antigua and Barbuda ..		25 Oct 1988 d	Ecuador	11 Dec 1948	21 Dec 1949
Argentina		5 Jun 1956 a	Egypt.....	12 Dec 1948	8 Feb 1952
Armenia		23 Jun 1993 a	El Salvador.....	27 Apr 1949	28 Sep 1950
Australia.....	11 Dec 1948	8 Jul 1949	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Austria		19 Mar 1958 a	Ethiopia.....	11 Dec 1948	1 Jul 1949
Azerbaijan.....		16 Aug 1996 a	Fiji		11 Jan 1973 d
Bahamas.....		5 Aug 1975 d	Finland		18 Dec 1959 a
Bahrain.....		27 Mar 1990 a	France.....	11 Dec 1948	14 Oct 1950
Bangladesh.....		5 Oct 1998 a	Gabon.....		21 Jan 1983 a
Barbados		14 Jan 1980 a	Gambia.....		29 Dec 1978 a
Belarus	16 Dec 1949	11 Aug 1954	Georgia.....		11 Oct 1993 a
Belgium	12 Dec 1949	5 Sep 1951	Germany		24 Nov 1954 a
Belize		10 Mar 1998 a	Ghana		24 Dec 1958 a
Bolivia	11 Dec 1948	14 Jun 2005	Greece	29 Dec 1949	8 Dec 1954
Bosnia and Herzegovina		29 Dec 1992 d	Guatemala	22 Jun 1949	13 Jan 1950
Brazil	11 Dec 1948	15 Apr 1952	Guinea.....		7 Sep 2000 a
Bulgaria		21 Jul 1950 a	Haiti	11 Dec 1948	14 Oct 1950
Burkina Faso.....		14 Sep 1965 a	Honduras.....	22 Apr 1949	5 Mar 1952
Burundi		6 Jan 1997 a	Hungary		7 Jan 1952 a
Cambodia.....		14 Oct 1950 a	Iceland.....	14 May 1949	29 Aug 1949
Canada	28 Nov 1949	3 Sep 1952	India	29 Nov 1949	27 Aug 1959
Chile.....	11 Dec 1948	3 Jun 1953	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	8 Dec 1949	14 Aug 1956
China	20 Jul 1949	19 Jul 1951	Iraq.....		20 Jan 1959 a
Colombia.....	12 Aug 1949	27 Oct 1959	Ireland.....		22 Jun 1976 a
Comoros.....		27 Sep 2004 a	Israel	17 Aug 1949	9 Mar 1950
Costa Rica.....		14 Oct 1950 a	Italy		4 Jun 1952 a
Côte d'Ivoire		18 Dec 1995 a	Jamaica.....		23 Sep 1968 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Jordan.....		3 Apr 1950 a
Cuba	28 Dec 1949	4 Mar 1953	Kazakhstan.....		26 Aug 1998 a
Cyprus		29 Mar 1982 a			
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d			

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Kuwait		7 Mar 1995 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov 1981 a
Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Sep 1997 a	Saudi Arabia		13 Jul 1950 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		8 Dec 1950 a	Senegal.....		4 Aug 1983 a
Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a	Serbia		12 Mar 2001 a
Lebanon	30 Dec 1949	17 Dec 1953	Seychelles		5 May 1992 a
Lesotho		29 Nov 1974 a	Singapore		18 Aug 1995 a
Liberia.....	11 Dec 1948	9 Jun 1950	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May 1989 a	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Liechtenstein.....		24 Mar 1994 a	South Africa.....		10 Dec 1998 a
Lithuania		1 Feb 1996 a	Spain		13 Sep 1968 a
Luxembourg.....		7 Oct 1981 a	Sri Lanka.....		12 Oct 1950 a
Malaysia.....		20 Dec 1994 a	Sudan		13 Oct 2003 a
Maldives		24 Apr 1984 a	Sweden.....	30 Dec 1949	27 May 1952
Mali.....		16 Jul 1974 a	Switzerland		7 Sep 2000 a
Mexico	14 Dec 1948	22 Jul 1952	Syrian Arab Republic..		25 Jun 1955 a
Moldova		26 Jan 1993 a	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		18 Jan 1994 d
Monaco		30 Mar 1950 a	Togo		24 May 1984 a
Mongolia.....		5 Jan 1967 a	Tonga		16 Feb 1972 a
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	Trinidad and Tobago...		13 Dec 2002 a
Morocco		24 Jan 1958 a	Tunisia		29 Nov 1956 a
Mozambique		18 Apr 1983 a	Turkey.....		31 Jul 1950 a
Myanmar	30 Dec 1949	14 Mar 1956	Uganda.....		14 Nov 1995 a
Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a	Ukraine.....	16 Dec 1949	15 Nov 1954
Nepal.....		17 Jan 1969 a	United Arab Emirates .		11 Nov 2005 a
Netherlands		20 Jun 1966 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		30 Jan 1970 a
New Zealand	25 Nov 1949	28 Dec 1978	United Republic of Tanzania		5 Apr 1984 a
Nicaragua.....		29 Jan 1952 a	United States of America.....	11 Dec 1948	25 Nov 1988
Norway	11 Dec 1948	22 Jul 1949	Uruguay	11 Dec 1948	11 Jul 1967
Pakistan.....	11 Dec 1948	12 Oct 1957	Uzbekistan		9 Sep 1999 a
Panama.....	11 Dec 1948	11 Jan 1950	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....		12 Jul 1960 a
Papua New Guinea.....		27 Jan 1982 a	Viet Nam		9 Jun 1981 a
Paraguay	11 Dec 1948	3 Oct 2001	Yemen		6 Apr 1989 a
Peru.....	11 Dec 1948	24 Feb 1960	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Philippines	11 Dec 1948	7 Jul 1950			
Poland		14 Nov 1950 a			
Portugal		9 Feb 1999 a			
Republic of Korea.....		14 Oct 1950 a			
Romania.....		2 Nov 1950 a			
Russian Federation.....	16 Dec 1949	3 May 1954			
Rwanda.....		16 Apr 1975 a			

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

(New York, 7 March 1966)

OBJECTIVES

The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (the Convention) defines and condemns racial discrimination and commits States to change national laws and policies which create or perpetuate racial discrimination. It was the first human rights instrument to establish an international monitoring system and was also revolutionary in its provision of national measures towards the advancement of specific racial or ethnic groups.

One of the main objectives of the Convention is to promote racial equality. As such, the Convention not only aims to achieve *de jure* racial equality but also *de facto* equality, which allows the various ethnic, racial and national groups to enjoy the same social development.

Furthermore, the Convention recognizes that certain racial or ethnic groups may need special protection or may need to be assisted by special measures in order to achieve adequate development. The Convention provides that such special measures shall not be considered racial discrimination so long as they are not continued after the objectives for which they were taken have been achieved.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention defines the concept of racial discrimination, covering what is sometimes called indirect discrimination or unjustifiable disparate impact. The Convention shall not apply to distinctions, exclusions, restrictions or preferences made by a Party between citizens and non-citizens.

Other important provisions include imperative stipulations obliging Parties to adopt legislation to criminalize and punish the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, acts of violence against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin and assistance in such activities.

The Convention contains a non-exhaustive long list of rights and freedoms in the enjoyment of which racial discrimination shall be prohibited and eliminated. The list includes certain rights not expressly contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, such as the right to inherit and the right of access to any place or service intended for use by the general public. It also includes rights in regard to which racial discrimination is prohibited, such as the right to work, the right to join trade unions and the right to housing.

In order to monitor and review actions taken by Parties to fulfil their obligations, the Convention established the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which was the first body created by the United Nations to monitor the implementation by Parties of a human rights treaty. Its mandate is to review the legal, judicial, administrative and other steps taken by individual Parties to fulfil their obligations to combat racial discrimination. The Convention establishes three procedures to facilitate CERD's review. The first is the requirement that all Parties to the Convention submit periodic reports to the Committee. The second procedure provides for State-to-State complaints and the third permits an individual or a group of persons, who claim to be victims of racial discrimination, to lodge a complaint against the Party allegedly responsible. This may be done only if the Party concerned has declared, under the Convention, that it recognizes the competence of CERD to receive such complaints.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 4 January 1969 (article 19).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a Party to the Convention. It is subject to ratification and is open to accession by any State subject to the same conditions for signature (articles 17 and 18).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by that Party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention (article 14).

RESERVATIONS

At the time of ratification or accession, any State may make reservations that are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention. Any Party making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by a communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 20).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 21).

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION*New York, 7 March 1966*

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4 January 1969, in accordance with article 19.
REGISTRATION: 12 March 1969, No. 9464.
STATUS: Signatories: 86. Parties: 174.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, p. 195.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2106 (XX) of 21 December 1965.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		6 Jul 1983 a	Chile.....	3 Oct 1966	20 Oct 1971
Albania.....		11 May 1994 a	China.....		
Algeria.....	9 Dec 1966	14 Feb 1972	Colombia.....	23 Mar 1967	2 Sep 1981
Andorra.....	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Comoros.....	22 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2004
Antigua and Barbuda ..		25 Oct 1988 d	Congo.....		11 Jul 1988 a
Argentina.....	13 Jul 1967	2 Oct 1968	Costa Rica.....	14 Mar 1966	16 Jan 1967
Armenia.....		23 Jun 1993 a	Côte d'Ivoire.....		4 Jan 1973 a
Australia.....	13 Oct 1966	30 Sep 1975	Croatia.....		12 Oct 1992 d
Austria.....	22 Jul 1969	9 May 1972	Cuba.....	7 Jun 1966	15 Feb 1972
Azerbaijan.....		16 Aug 1996 a	Cyprus.....	12 Dec 1966	21 Apr 1967
Bahamas.....		5 Aug 1975 d	Czech Republic.....		22 Feb 1993 d
Bahrain.....		27 Mar 1990 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		21 Apr 1976 a
Bangladesh.....		11 Jun 1979 a	Denmark.....	21 Jun 1966	9 Dec 1971
Barbados.....		8 Nov 1972 a	Djibouti.....	14 Jun 2006	
Belarus.....	7 Mar 1966	8 Apr 1969	Dominican Republic ...		25 May 1983 a
Belgium.....	17 Aug 1967	7 Aug 1975	Ecuador.....		22 Sep 1966 a
Belize.....	6 Sep 2000	14 Nov 2001	Egypt.....	28 Sep 1966	
Benin.....	2 Feb 1967	30 Nov 2001	El Salvador.....		30 Nov 1979 a
Bhutan.....	26 Mar 1973		Equatorial Guinea.....		8 Oct 2002 a
Bolivia.....	7 Jun 1966	22 Sep 1970	Eritrea.....		31 Jul 2001 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		16 Jul 1993 d	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Botswana.....		20 Feb 1974 a	Ethiopia.....		23 Jun 1976 a
Brazil.....	7 Mar 1966	27 Mar 1968	Fiji.....		11 Jan 1973 d
Bulgaria.....	1 Jun 1966	8 Aug 1966	Finland.....	6 Oct 1966	14 Jul 1970
Burkina Faso.....		18 Jul 1974 a	France.....		28 Jul 1971 a
Burundi.....	1 Feb 1967	27 Oct 1977	Gabon.....	20 Sep 1966	29 Feb 1980
Cambodia.....	12 Apr 1966	28 Nov 1983	Gambia.....		29 Dec 1978 a
Cameroon.....	12 Dec 1966	24 Jun 1971	Georgia.....		2 Jun 1999 a
Canada.....	24 Aug 1966	14 Oct 1970	Germany.....	10 Feb 1967	16 May 1969
Cape Verde.....		3 Oct 1979 a	Ghana.....	8 Sep 1966	8 Sep 1966
Central African Republic.....	7 Mar 1966	16 Mar 1971	Greece.....	7 Mar 1966	18 Jun 1970
Chad.....		17 Aug 1977 a	Grenada.....	17 Dec 1981	
			Guatemala.....	8 Sep 1967	18 Jan 1983

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Guinea.....	24 Mar 1966	14 Mar 1977	Mongolia.....	3 May 1966	6 Aug 1969
Guinea-Bissau.....	12 Sep 2000		Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Guyana.....	11 Dec 1968	15 Feb 1977	Morocco.....	18 Sep 1967	18 Dec 1970
Haiti	30 Oct 1972	19 Dec 1972	Mozambique		18 Apr 1983 a
Holy See	21 Nov 1966	1 May 1969	Namibia		11 Nov 1982 a
Honduras.....		10 Oct 2002 a	Nauru	12 Nov 2001	
Hungary	15 Sep 1966	4 May 1967	Nepal.....		30 Jan 1971 a
Iceland	14 Nov 1966	13 Mar 1967	Netherlands	24 Oct 1966	10 Dec 1971
India.....	2 Mar 1967	3 Dec 1968	New Zealand	25 Oct 1966	22 Nov 1972
Indonesia.....		25 Jun 1999 a	Nicaragua		15 Feb 1978 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	8 Mar 1967	29 Aug 1968	Niger	14 Mar 1966	27 Apr 1967
Iraq.....	18 Feb 1969	14 Jan 1970	Nigeria		16 Oct 1967 a
Ireland.....	21 Mar 1968	29 Dec 2000	Norway.....	21 Nov 1966	6 Aug 1970
Israel	7 Mar 1966	3 Jan 1979	Oman.....		2 Jan 2003 a
Italy.....	13 Mar 1968	5 Jan 1976	Pakistan.....	19 Sep 1966	21 Sep 1966
Jamaica	14 Aug 1966	4 Jun 1971	Panama.....	8 Dec 1966	16 Aug 1967
Japan		15 Dec 1995 a	Papua New Guinea.....		27 Jan 1982 a
Jordan.....		30 May 1974 a	Paraguay.....	13 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2003
Kazakhstan.....		26 Aug 1998 a	Peru	22 Jul 1966	29 Sep 1971
Kenya.....		13 Sep 2001 a	Philippines	7 Mar 1966	15 Sep 1967
Kuwait		15 Oct 1968 a	Poland	7 Mar 1966	5 Dec 1968
Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Sep 1997 a	Portugal		24 Aug 1982 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		22 Feb 1974 a	Qatar		22 Jul 1976 a
Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a	Republic of Korea.....	8 Aug 1978	5 Dec 1978
Lebanon		12 Nov 1971 a	Romania.....		15 Sep 1970 a
Lesotho		4 Nov 1971 a	Russian Federation.....	7 Mar 1966	4 Feb 1969
Liberia.....		5 Nov 1976 a	Rwanda		16 Apr 1975 a
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		3 Jul 1968 a	Saint Kitts and Nevis ..		13 Oct 2006 a
Liechtenstein.....		1 Mar 2000 a	Saint Lucia		14 Feb 1990 d
Lithuania.....	8 Jun 1998	10 Dec 1998	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov 1981 a
Luxembourg.....	12 Dec 1967	1 May 1978	San Marino.....	11 Dec 2001	12 Mar 2002
Madagascar.....	18 Dec 1967	7 Feb 1969	Sao Tome and Principe ..	6 Sep 2000	
Malawi.....		11 Jun 1996 a	Saudi Arabia		23 Sep 1997 a
Maldives		24 Apr 1984 a	Senegal.....	22 Jul 1968	19 Apr 1972
Mali.....		16 Jul 1974 a	Serbia		12 Mar 2001 d
Malta.....	5 Sep 1968	27 May 1971	Seychelles		7 Mar 1978 a
Mauritania.....	21 Dec 1966	13 Dec 1988	Sierra Leone	17 Nov 1966	2 Aug 1967
Mauritius.....		30 May 1972 a	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Mexico.....	1 Nov 1966	20 Feb 1975	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Moldova.....		26 Jan 1993 a	Solomon Islands.....		17 Mar 1982 d
Monaco		27 Sep 1995 a	Somalia	26 Jan 1967	26 Aug 1975
			South Africa.....	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
			Spain		13 Sep 1968 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Sri Lanka.....		18 Feb 1982 a	Uganda.....		21 Nov 1980 a
Sudan.....		21 Mar 1977 a	Ukraine.....	7 Mar 1966	7 Mar 1969
Suriname.....		15 Mar 1984 d	United Arab Emirates .		20 Jun 1974 a
Swaziland.....		7 Apr 1969 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	11 Oct 1966	7 Mar 1969
Sweden.....	5 May 1966	6 Dec 1971	United Republic of Tanzania.....		27 Oct 1972 a
Switzerland.....		29 Nov 1994 a	United States of America.....	28 Sep 1966	21 Oct 1994
Syrian Arab Republic..		21 Apr 1969 a	Uruguay.....	21 Feb 1967	30 Aug 1968
Tajikistan.....		11 Jan 1995 a	Uzbekistan.....		28 Sep 1995 a
Thailand.....		28 Jan 2003 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	21 Apr 1967	10 Oct 1967
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		18 Jan 1994 d	Viet Nam.....		9 Jun 1982 a
Timor-Leste.....		16 Apr 2003 a	Yemen.....		6 Apr 1989 a
Togo.....		1 Sep 1972 a	Zambia.....	11 Oct 1968	4 Feb 1972
Tonga.....		16 Feb 1972 a	Zimbabwe.....		13 May 1991 a
Trinidad and Tobago...	9 Jun 1967	4 Oct 1973			
Tunisia.....	12 Apr 1966	13 Jan 1967			
Turkey.....	13 Oct 1972	16 Sep 2002			
Turkmenistan.....		29 Sep 1994 a			

International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights *(New York, 16 December 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (the Covenant) are designed to ensure the protection of individuals as full persons, based on a perspective in which people can enjoy rights, freedoms and social justice simultaneously. In a world where, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), "... a fifth of the developing world's population goes hungry every night, a quarter lacks access to even a basic necessity like safe drinking water, and a third lives in a state of abject poverty at such a margin of human existence that words simply fail to describe it..." (UNDP, Human Development Report 1994, Oxford University Press, 1994, p. 2) the importance of renewed attention and commitment to the full realization of economic, social and cultural rights is self-evident.

Despite significant progress since the establishment of the United Nations in addressing problems of human deprivation, well over 1 billion people live in circumstances of extreme poverty, homelessness, hunger and malnutrition, unemployment, illiteracy and chronic ill health. More than 1.5 billion people lack access to clean drinking water and sanitation; some 500 million children do not have access to even primary education; and more than 1 billion adults cannot read and write. This massive scale of marginalization, in spite of continued global economic growth and development, raises serious questions, not only in relation to development, but also in relation to basic human rights.

Of all the basic human rights standards, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (the Covenant) provides the most important international legal framework for protecting basic human rights.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Covenant contains some of the most significant international legal provisions establishing economic, social and cultural rights, including rights relating to work in just and favourable conditions, to social protection, to an adequate standard of living, to the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, to education and to enjoyment of the benefits of cultural freedom and scientific progress. It also provides for the right of self-determination; equal rights for men and women; the right to work; the right to just and favourable conditions of work; the right to form and join trade unions; the right to social security and social insurance; protection and assistance to the family; the right to adequate standard of living; the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the right to education; the right to take part in cultural life; and the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.

Compliance by Parties with their obligations under the Covenant and the level of implementation of the rights and duties in question is monitored by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which submits annual reports on its activities to the Economic and Social Council.

The Committee works on the basis of many sources of information, including reports submitted by Parties and information from United Nations specialized agencies including the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. In addition, information is submitted from the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Centre for Human

Settlements (Habitat) and others. It also makes use of information from other United Nations treaty bodies, from national non-governmental and community-based organizations working in States, which have ratified the Covenant, from international human rights and other non-governmental organizations, and from generally available literature.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Covenant entered into force on 3 January 1976 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Covenant is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited to become a Party by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Covenant is subject to ratification and is open to accession to any State referred to above (article 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Covenant is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Covenant is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 January 1976, in accordance with article 27.
REGISTRATION: 3 January 1976, No. 14531.
STATUS: Signatories: 16. Parties: 30.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, p. 3; depositary notification C.N.781.2001.TREATIES-6 of 5 October 2001 [Proposal of correction to the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text) and C.N.7.2002.TREATIES-1 of 3 January 2002 [Rectification of the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Covenant was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		24 Jan 1983 a	Congo.....		5 Oct 1983 a
Albania.....		4 Oct 1991 a	Costa Rica.....	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968
Algeria.....	10 Dec 1968	12 Sep 1989	Côte d'Ivoire.....		26 Mar 1992 a
Angola.....		10 Jan 1992 a	Croatia.....		12 Oct 1992 d
Argentina.....	19 Feb 1968	8 Aug 1986	Cuba.....	28 Feb 2008	
Armenia.....		13 Sep 1993 a	Cyprus.....	9 Jan 1967	2 Apr 1969
Australia.....	18 Dec 1972	10 Dec 1975	Czech Republic.....		22 Feb 1993 d
Austria.....	10 Dec 1973	10 Sep 1978	Democratic People's Republic of Korea.		14 Sep 1981 a
Azerbaijan.....		13 Aug 1992 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		1 Nov 1976 a
Bahrain.....		27 Sep 2007 a	Denmark.....	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972
Bangladesh.....		5 Oct 1998 a	Djibouti.....		5 Nov 2002 a
Barbados.....		5 Jan 1973 a	Dominica.....		17 Jun 1993 a
Belarus.....	19 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973	Dominican Republic ...		4 Jan 1978 a
Belgium.....	10 Dec 1968	21 Apr 1983	Ecuador.....	29 Sep 1967	6 Mar 1969
Belize.....	6 Sep 2000		Egypt.....	4 Aug 1967	14 Jan 1982
Benin.....		12 Mar 1992 a	El Salvador.....	21 Sep 1967	30 Nov 1979
Bolivia.....		12 Aug 1982 a	Equatorial Guinea.....		25 Sep 1987 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Eritrea.....		17 Apr 2001 a
Brazil.....		24 Jan 1992 a	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Bulgaria.....	8 Oct 1968	21 Sep 1970	Ethiopia.....		11 Jun 1993 a
Burkina Faso.....		4 Jan 1999 a	Finland.....	11 Oct 1967	19 Aug 1975
Burundi.....		9 May 1990 a	France.....		4 Nov 1980 a
Cambodia.....	17 Oct 1980	26 May 1992 a	Gabon.....		21 Jan 1983 a
Cameroon.....		27 Jun 1984 a	Gambia.....		29 Dec 1978 a
Canada.....		19 May 1976 a	Georgia.....		3 May 1994 a
Cape Verde.....		6 Aug 1993 a	Germany.....	9 Oct 1968	17 Dec 1973
Central African Republic.....		8 May 1981 a	Ghana.....	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Chad.....		9 Jun 1995 a	Greece.....		16 May 1985 a
Chile.....	16 Sep 1969	10 Feb 1972	Grenada.....		6 Sep 1991 a
China.....	27 Oct 1997		Guatemala.....		19 May 1988 a
Colombia.....	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Guinea.....	28 Feb 1967	24 Jan 1978

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Guinea-Bissau.....		2 Jul	1992 a	Namibia.....		28 Nov	1994 a
Guyana.....	22 Aug 1968	15 Feb	1977	Nepal.....		14 May	1991 a
Honduras.....	19 Dec 1966	17 Feb	1981	Netherlands.....	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec	1978
Hungary.....	25 Mar 1969	17 Jan	1974	New Zealand.....	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec	1978
Iceland.....	30 Dec 1968	22 Aug	1979	Nicaragua.....		12 Mar	1980 a
India.....		10 Apr	1979 a	Niger.....		7 Mar	1986 a
Indonesia.....		23 Feb	2006 a	Nigeria.....		29 Jul	1993 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	4 Apr 1968	24 Jun	1975	Norway.....	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep	1972
Iraq.....	18 Feb 1969	25 Jan	1971	Pakistan.....	3 Nov 2004		
Ireland.....	1 Oct 1973	8 Dec	1989	Panama.....	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar	1977
Israel.....	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct	1991	Paraguay.....		10 Jun	1992 a
Italy.....	18 Jan 1967	15 Sep	1978	Peru.....	11 Aug 1977	28 Apr	1978
Jamaica.....	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct	1975	Philippines.....	19 Dec 1966	7 Jun	1974
Japan.....	30 May 1978	21 Jun	1979	Poland.....	2 Mar 1967	18 Mar	1977
Jordan.....	30 Jun 1972	28 May	1975	Portugal.....	7 Oct 1976	31 Jul	1978
Kazakhstan.....	2 Dec 2003	24 Jan	2006	Republic of Korea.....		10 Apr	1990 a
Kenya.....		1 May	1972 a	Romania.....	27 Jun 1968	9 Dec	1974
Kuwait.....		21 May	1996 a	Russian Federation.....	18 Mar 1968	16 Oct	1973
Kyrgyzstan.....		7 Oct	1994 a	Rwanda.....		16 Apr	1975 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	7 Dec 2000	13 Feb	2007	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov	1981 a
Latvia.....		14 Apr	1992 a	San Marino.....		18 Oct	1985 a
Lebanon.....		3 Nov	1972 a	Sao Tome and Principe.....	31 Oct 1995		
Lesotho.....		9 Sep	1992 a	Senegal.....	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb	1978
Liberia.....	18 Apr 1967	22 Sep	2004	Serbia.....		12 Mar	2001 d
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		15 May	1970 a	Seychelles.....		5 May	1992 a
Liechtenstein.....		10 Dec	1998 a	Sierra Leone.....		23 Aug	1996 a
Lithuania.....		20 Nov	1991 a	Slovakia.....		28 May	1993 d
Luxembourg.....	26 Nov 1974	18 Aug	1983	Slovenia.....		6 Jul	1992 d
Madagascar.....	14 Apr 1970	22 Sep	1971	Solomon Islands.....		17 Mar	1982 d
Malawi.....		22 Dec	1993 a	Somalia.....		24 Jan	1990 a
Maldives.....		19 Sep	2006 a	South Africa.....	3 Oct 1994		
Mali.....		16 Jul	1974 a	Spain.....	28 Sep 1976	27 Apr	1977
Malta.....	22 Oct 1968	13 Sep	1990	Sri Lanka.....		11 Jun	1980 a
Mauritania.....		17 Nov	2004 a	Sudan.....		18 Mar	1986 a
Mauritius.....		12 Dec	1973 a	Suriname.....		28 Dec	1976 a
Mexico.....		23 Mar	1981 a	Swaziland.....		26 Mar	2004 a
Moldova.....		26 Jan	1993 a	Sweden.....	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec	1971
Monaco.....	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug	1997	Switzerland.....		18 Jun	1992 a
Mongolia.....	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov	1974	Syrian Arab Republic..		21 Apr	1969 a
Montenegro.....		23 Oct	2006 d	Tajikistan.....		4 Jan	1999 a
Morocco.....	19 Jan 1977	3 May	1979	Thailand.....		5 Sep	1999 a
				The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		18 Jan	1994 d

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a	United States of America.....	5 Oct 1977	
Togo.....		24 May 1984 a	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Trinidad and Tobago...		8 Dec 1978 a	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Tunisia	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Turkey.....	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003	Viet Nam.....		24 Sep 1982 a
Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a	Yemen		9 Feb 1987 a
Uganda.....		21 Jan 1987 a	Zambia		10 Apr 1984 a
Ukraine	20 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976			
United Republic of Tanzania.....		11 Jun 1976 a			

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights *(New York, 16 December 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 was codified into two Covenants, which the General Assembly adopted on 16 December 1966. Together with the Optional Protocols, they constitute the “International Bill of Human Rights”. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant) is a landmark in the efforts of the international community to promote human rights. It defends the right to life and stipulates that no individual can be subjected to torture, enslavement, forced labour and arbitrary detention or be restricted from such freedoms as movement, expression and association.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Covenant is divided into six parts. Part I reaffirms the right of self-determination. Part II formulates general obligations by Parties, notably to implement the Covenant through legislative and other measures, to provide effective remedies to victims and to ensure gender equality, and it restricts the possibility of derogation. Part III spells out the classical civil and political rights, including the right to life, the prohibition of torture, the right to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of movement, the right to a fair hearing, the right to privacy, the right of thought, conscience and freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly, the right to family life, the rights of children to special protection, the right to participate in the conduct of public affairs, the over-arching right to equal treatment, before the law and the special rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. Part IV regulates the election of members of the Human Rights Committee, the State reporting procedure and the inter-State complaints mechanism. Part V stipulates that nothing in the Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and to utilize fully their natural resources. Part VI provides that the Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States and sets out the amendment procedure.

The Human Rights Committee monitors implementation by Parties in a variety of ways. Initial and periodic reports are examined by the plenary, which formulates concluding observations with concrete recommendations. In order to assist Parties in preparing reports, the Committee has formulated 28 general comments, which constitute a commentary on the provisions of the Covenant. Well in advance of the examination of a report, the Committee forwards a list of issues to the Party concerned. The list is prepared by the members and takes into consideration information received from other United Nations organs and specialized agencies as well as from non-governmental organizations.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Covenant entered into force on 23 March 1976 (article 49).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Covenant is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State Member of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited to become a Party by the General Assembly of the

United Nations. The Covenant is subject to ratification and is open to accession to any State referred to above (article 48).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may derogate from certain rights established under the Covenant for the duration of officially proclaimed public emergencies, which threaten the life of the nation. The derogation is possible to the extent strictly required by the exigencies of the situation and it cannot be made if inconsistent with other international law obligations, if it involves discrimination solely on the ground of race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin, or if it is made with regard to certain core provisions. The Secretary-General must be immediately informed of any such derogation in accordance with article 4 (3).

Parties may at any time declare that they recognize the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant (article 41).

RESERVATIONS

The Covenant is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Covenant is not subject to denunciation.

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 23 March 1976, in accordance with article 49 , for all provisions except those of article 41; 28 March 1979 for the provisions of article 41 (Human Rights Committee), in accordance with paragraph 2 of the said article 41.

REGISTRATION: 23 March 1976, No. 14668.

STATUS: Signatories: 47. Parties: 46.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 999, p. 171 and vol. 1057, p. 407 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Spanish text); depositary notification C.N.782.2001.TREATIES-6 of 5 October 2001 [Proposal of correction to the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)] and C.N.8.2002.TREATEIS-1 of 3 January 2002 [Rectification of the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Covenant was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		24 Jan 1983 a	Chad.....		9 Jun 1995 a
Albania.....		4 Oct 1991 a	Chile.....	16 Sep 1969	10 Feb 1972
Algeria.....	10 Dec 1968	12 Sep 1989	China.....	5 Oct 1998	
Andorra.....	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Colombia.....	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969
Angola.....		10 Jan 1992 a	Congo.....		5 Oct 1983 a
Argentina.....	19 Feb 1968	8 Aug 1986	Costa Rica.....	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968
Armenia.....		23 Jun 1993 a	Côte d'Ivoire.....		26 Mar 1992 a
Australia.....	18 Dec 1972	13 Aug 1980	Croatia.....		12 Oct 1992 d
Austria.....	10 Dec 1973	10 Sep 1978	Cyprus.....	19 Dec 1966	2 Apr 1969
Azerbaijan.....		13 Aug 1992 a	Czech Republic.....		22 Feb 1993 d
Bahrain.....		20 Sep 2006 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea .		14 Sep 1981 a
Bangladesh.....		6 Sep 2000 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		1 Nov 1976 a
Barbados.....		5 Jan 1973 a	Denmark.....	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972
Belarus.....	19 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973	Djibouti.....		5 Nov 2002 a
Belgium.....	10 Dec 1968	21 Apr 1983	Dominica.....		17 Jun 1993 a
Belize.....		10 Jun 1996 a	Dominican Republic ...		4 Jan 1978 a
Benin.....		12 Mar 1992 a	Ecuador.....	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969
Bolivia.....		12 Aug 1982 a	Egypt.....	4 Aug 1967	14 Jan 1982
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	El Salvador.....	21 Sep 1967	30 Nov 1979
Botswana.....	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	Equatorial Guinea.....		25 Sep 1987 a
Brazil.....		24 Jan 1992 a	Eritrea.....		22 Jan 2002 a
Bulgaria.....	8 Oct 1968	21 Sep 1970	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Burkina Faso.....		4 Jan 1999 a	Ethiopia.....		11 Jun 1993 a
Burundi.....		9 May 1990 a	Finland.....	11 Oct 1967	19 Aug 1975
Cambodia.....	17 Oct 1980	26 May 1992 a	France.....		4 Nov 1980 a
Cameroon.....		27 Jun 1984 a	Gabon.....		21 Jan 1983 a
Canada.....		19 May 1976 a	Gambia.....		22 Mar 1979 a
Cape Verde.....		6 Aug 1993 a	Georgia.....		3 May 1994 a
Central African Republic.....		8 May 1981 a	Germany.....	9 Oct 1968	17 Dec 1973

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Ghana.....	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Mexico.....		23 Mar 1981 a
Greece.....		5 May 1997 a	Moldova.....		26 Jan 1993 a
Grenada.....		6 Sep 1991 a	Monaco.....	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug 1997
Guatemala.....		5 May 1992 a	Mongolia.....	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov 1974
Guinea.....	28 Feb 1967	24 Jan 1978	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Guinea-Bissau.....	12 Sep 2000		Morocco.....	19 Jan 1977	3 May 1979
Guyana.....	22 Aug 1968	15 Feb 1977	Mozambique.....		21 Jul 1993 a
Haiti.....		6 Feb 1991 a	Namibia.....		28 Nov 1994 a
Honduras.....	19 Dec 1966	25 Aug 1997	Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001	
Hungary.....	25 Mar 1969	17 Jan 1974	Nepal.....		14 May 1991 a
Iceland.....	30 Dec 1968	22 Aug 1979	Netherlands.....	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978
India.....		10 Apr 1979 a	New Zealand.....	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978
Indonesia.....		23 Feb 2006 a	Nicaragua.....		12 Mar 1980 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	4 Apr 1968	24 Jun 1975	Niger.....		7 Mar 1986 a
Iraq.....	18 Feb 1969	25 Jan 1971	Nigeria.....		29 Jul 1993 a
Ireland.....	1 Oct 1973	8 Dec 1989	Norway.....	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972
Israel.....	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1991	Panama.....	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977
Italy.....	18 Jan 1967	15 Sep 1978	Paraguay.....		10 Jun 1992 a
Jamaica.....	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1975	Peru.....	11 Aug 1977	28 Apr 1978
Japan.....	30 May 1978	21 Jun 1979	Philippines.....	19 Dec 1966	23 Oct 1986
Jordan.....	30 Jun 1972	28 May 1975	Poland.....	2 Mar 1967	7 Nov 1991 a
Kazakhstan.....	2 Dec 2003	24 Jan 2006	Portugal.....	7 Oct 1976	15 Jun 1978
Kenya.....		1 May 1972 a	Republic of Korea.....		10 Apr 1990 a
Kuwait.....		21 May 1996 a	Romania.....	27 Jun 1968	9 Dec 1974
Kyrgyzstan.....		7 Oct 1994 a	Russian Federation.....	18 Mar 1968	16 Oct 1973
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	7 Dec 2000		Rwanda.....		16 Apr 1975 a
Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov 1981 a
Lebanon.....		3 Nov 1972 a	San Marino.....		18 Oct 1985 a
Lesotho.....		9 Sep 1992 a	Sao Tome and Principe.....	31 Oct 1995	
Liberia.....	18 Apr 1967	22 Sep 2004	Senegal.....	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		15 May 1970 a	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Liechtenstein.....		10 Dec 1998 a	Seychelles.....		5 May 1992 a
Lithuania.....		20 Nov 1991 a	Sierra Leone.....		23 Aug 1996 a
Luxembourg.....	26 Nov 1974	18 Aug 1983	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
Madagascar.....	17 Sep 1969	21 Jun 1971	Slovenia.....		6 Jul 1992 d
Malawi.....		22 Dec 1993 a	Somalia.....		24 Jan 1990 a
Maldives.....		19 Sep 2006 a	South Africa.....	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
Mali.....		16 Jul 1974 a	Spain.....	28 Sep 1976	27 Apr 1977
Malta.....		13 Sep 1990 a	Sri Lanka.....		11 Jun 1980 a
Mauritania.....		17 Nov 2004 a	Sudan.....		18 Mar 1986 a
Mauritius.....		12 Dec 1973 a	Suriname.....		28 Dec 1976 a
			Swaziland.....		26 Mar 2004 a
			Sweden.....	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Switzerland		18 Jun 1992 a	Northern Ireland		
Syrian Arab Republic..		21 Apr 1969 a	United Republic of Tanzania		11 Jun 1976 a
Tajikistan		4 Jan 1999 a	United States of America	5 Oct 1977	8 Jun 1992
Thailand		29 Oct 1996 a	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		18 Jan 1994 d	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Timor-Leste		18 Sep 2003 a	Vanuatu.....	29 Nov 2007	
Togo.....		24 May 1984 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Trinidad and Tobago...		21 Dec 1978 a	Viet Nam.....		24 Sep 1982 a
Tunisia	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969	Yemen.....		9 Feb 1987 a
Turkey.....	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003	Zambia		10 Apr 1984 a
Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Uganda.....		21 Jun 1995 a			
Ukraine	20 Mar 1968	25 Jul 1991 a			
United Kingdom of Great Britain and	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976			

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights *(New York, 16 December 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

The (first) Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Optional Protocol) provides Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant) with the option to recognize the additional competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and examine communications from individuals. It allows individuals or groups of individuals who have exhausted local remedies to petition the Committee directly about alleged violations of the Covenant by their Governments.

KEY PROVISIONS

Under the Protocol, the Committee's final decisions on the merits are akin to judgements, but are called "Views". As a direct result of the Committee's Views, Parties have commuted death sentences, released prisoners, paid compensation to victims and changed their legislation. The Committee has also established a follow-up procedure and conducts visits to Parties to assist them in the implementation of the Committee's Views.

The Committee's case law under the Protocol is increasingly quoted by national and international tribunals and has given rise to considerable interest in the academic community, since it constitutes the concretization of human rights in individual cases.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 23 March 1976 (article 9).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State which has signed the Covenant and to ratification and accession by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant (article 8).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General. The denunciation shall take effect for the Party concerned three months after the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 12).

**OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND
POLITICAL RIGHTS**

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 23 March 1976, in accordance with article 9
REGISTRATION: 23 March 1976, No. 14668.
STATUS: Signatories: 14 Parties: 106.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 999, p. 171.
Note: The Protocol was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Albania		4 Oct 2007 a	Côte d'Ivoire		5 Mar 1997 a
Algeria		12 Sep 1989 a	Denmark	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972
Andorra	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a
Angola		10 Jan 1992 a	Dominican Republic...		4 Jan 1978 a
Argentina		8 Aug 1986 a	Ecuador	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969
Armenia		23 Jun 1993 a	El Salvador	21 Sep 1967	6 Jun 1995
Australia		25 Sep 1991 a	Equatorial Guinea.....		25 Sep 1987 a
Austria	10 Dec 1973	10 Dec 1987	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Azerbaijan		27 Nov 2001 a	Finland	11 Dec 1967	19 Aug 1975
Barbados		5 Jan 1973 a	France		17 Feb 1984 a
Belarus		30 Sep 1992 a	Gambia		9 Jun 1988 a
Belgium		17 May 1994 a	Georgia		3 May 1994 a
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	Germany		25 Aug 1993 a
Bolivia		12 Aug 1982 a	Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 Mar 1995	1 Mar 1995	Greece		5 May 1997 a
Bulgaria		26 Mar 1992 a	Guatemala		28 Nov 2000 a
Burkina Faso		4 Jan 1999 a	Guinea	19 Mar 1975	17 Jun 1993
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Cameroon		27 Jun 1984 a	Guyana		5 Jan 1999 a
Canada		19 May 1976 a	Honduras	19 Dec 1966	7 Jun 2005
Cape Verde		19 May 2000 a	Hungary		7 Sep 1988 a
Central African Republic		8 May 1981 a	Iceland		22 Aug 1979 a
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Ireland		8 Dec 1989 a
Chile		27 May 1992 a	Italy	30 Apr 1976	15 Sep 1978
China			Jamaica	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1975
Colombia	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Kazakhstan	25 Sep 2007	
Congo		5 Oct 1983 a	Kyrgyzstan		7 Oct 1994 a
Costa Rica	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968	Latvia		22 Jun 1994 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1995 a	Lesotho		6 Sep 2000 a
Cyprus	19 Dec 1966	15 Apr 1992	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May 1989 a
			Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a

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<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Lithuania.....		20 Nov 1991 a	San Marino		18 Oct 1985 a
Luxembourg		18 Aug 1983 a	Sao Tome and Principe..	6 Sep 2000	
Madagascar.....	17 Sep 1969	21 Jun 1971	Senegal	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978
Malawi.....		11 Jun 1996 a	Serbia.....	12 Mar 2001 d	6 Sep 2001
Maldives		19 Sep 2006 a	Seychelles.....		5 May 1992 a
Mali		24 Oct 2001 a	Sierra Leone		23 Aug 1996 a
Malta.....		13 Sep 1990 a	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
Mauritius		12 Dec 1973 a	Slovenia.....		16 Jul 1993 a
Mexico.....		15 Mar 2002 a	Somalia.....		24 Jan 1990 a
Moldova	16 Sep 2005		South Africa		28 Aug 2002 a
Mongolia		16 Apr 1991 a	Spain.....		25 Jan 1985 a
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	Sri Lanka		3 Oct 1997 a
Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a	Suriname		28 Dec 1976 a
Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001		Sweden	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971
Nepal		14 May 1991 a	Tajikistan.....		4 Jan 1999 a
Netherlands.....	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	12 Dec 1994 d	12 Dec 1994
New Zealand.....		26 May 1989 a	Togo		30 Mar 1988 a
Nicaragua		12 Mar 1980 a	Trinidad and Tobago ..		26 May 1998 a
Niger.....		7 Mar 1986 a	Turkey	3 Feb 2004	24 Nov 2006
Norway.....	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972	Turkmenistan.....		1 May 1997 a
Panama	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977	Uganda		14 Nov 1995 a
Paraguay		10 Jan 1995 a	Ukraine.....		25 Jul 1991 a
Peru.....	11 Aug 1977	3 Oct 1980	Uruguay.....	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Philippines.....	19 Dec 1966	22 Aug 1989	Uzbekistan.....		28 Sep 1995 a
Poland.....		7 Nov 1991 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	15 Nov 1976	10 May 1978
Portugal	1 Aug 1978	3 May 1983	Zambia.....		10 Apr 1984 a
Republic of Korea		10 Apr 1990 a			
Romania		20 Jul 1993 a			
Russian Federation		1 Oct 1991 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov 1981 a			

Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty *(New York, 15 December 1989)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Second Optional Protocol) is the abolition of the death penalty.

KEY PROVISIONS

The provisions of the Second Optional Protocol apply as additional provisions to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant). The Second Optional Protocol mandates that no one within the jurisdiction of a Party shall be executed, and that each Party shall take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty within its jurisdiction. Without prejudice to the possibility of a reservation under the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, which is referred to below, this right is not subject to derogation under article 4 of the Covenant.

Parties shall include in their reports they submit to the Human Rights Committee, in accordance with article 40 of the Covenant, information on the measures that they have adopted to give effect to the Second Optional Protocol.

Declarations under article 41 of the Covenant, which relates to the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications when a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations, shall extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, unless the Party concerned has made a statement to the contrary at the time of ratification or accession.

With respect to Parties to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (first Optional Protocol), adopted on 16 December 1966, the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction shall extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, unless the Party concerned has made a statement to the contrary at the moment of ratification or accession.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Second Optional Protocol entered into force on 11 July 1991 (article 8).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Second Optional Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed the Covenant. The Second Optional Protocol is subject to ratification by any State that has ratified the Covenant or acceded to it. The Second Optional Protocol is open to accession by any State that has ratified the Covenant or acceded to it (article 7).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may make a statement at the time of ratification or accession that its declaration under article 41 of the Covenant, which relates to the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications when a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations, shall not extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol (article 4).

A Party, which has ratified or acceded to the first Optional Protocol, may make a statement at the time of ratification or accession that the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction shall not extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol (article 5).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Second Optional Protocol, except for reservations made at the time of ratification or accession that provides for the application of the death penalty in time of war pursuant to a conviction for a most serious crime of a military nature committed during wartime. A party making such a reservation shall at the time of ratification or accession communicate to the Secretary-General the relevant provisions of its national legislation applicable during wartime. In addition, the Party having made such a reservation shall notify the Secretary-General of any beginning or ending of a state of war applicable to its territory (article 2).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Second Optional Protocol is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal. The Second Optional Protocol, however, shall apply as additional provisions to the Covenant, in accordance with its article 6. The Covenant is not subject to denunciation.

**SECOND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, AIMING AT THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH
PENALTY**

New York, 15 December 1989

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 July 1991, in accordance with article 8(1)
REGISTRATION: 11 July 1991, No. 14668.
STATUS: Signatories:18 Parties:55.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series* , vol. 1642, p. 414.

Note: The said Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 44/128 of 15 December 1989 at the Forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and is open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York by all States having signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Albania		17 Oct 2007 a	Iceland	30 Jan 1991	2 Apr 1991
Andorra.....	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Ireland		18 Jun 1993 a
Argentina.....	20 Dec 2006		Italy	13 Feb 1990	14 Feb 1995
Australia		2 Oct 1990 a	Liberia		16 Sep 2005 a
Austria	8 Apr 1991	2 Mar 1993	Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a
Azerbaijan		22 Jan 1999 a	Lithuania	8 Sep 2000	27 Mar 2002
Belgium	12 Jul 1990	8 Dec 1998	Luxembourg	13 Feb 1990	12 Feb 1992
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	7 Sep 2000	16 Mar 2001	Malta		29 Dec 1994 a
Bulgaria	11 Mar 1999	10 Aug 1999	Mexico.....		26 Sep 2007 a
Canada		25 Nov 2005 a	Moldova		20 Sep 2006 a
Cape Verde.....		19 May 2000 a	Monaco.....		28 Mar 2000 a
Chile	15 Nov 2001		Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Colombia		5 Aug 1997 a	Mozambique.....		21 Jul 1993 a
Costa Rica	14 Feb 1990	5 Jun 1998	Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1995 a	Nepal		4 Mar 1998 a
Cyprus		10 Sep 1999 a	Netherlands	9 Aug 1990	26 Mar 1991
Czech Republic.....		15 Jun 2004 a	New Zealand	22 Feb 1990	22 Feb 1990
Denmark	13 Feb 1990	24 Feb 1994	Nicaragua	21 Feb 1990	
Djibouti.....		5 Nov 2002 a	Norway	13 Feb 1990	5 Sep 1991
Ecuador.....		23 Feb 1993 a	Panama		21 Jan 1993 a
Estonia		30 Jan 2004 a	Paraguay.....		18 Aug 2003 a
Finland.....	13 Feb 1990	4 Apr 1991	Philippines.....	20 Sep 2006	20 Nov 2007
France		2 Oct 2007 a	Poland.....	21 Mar 2000	
Georgia		22 Mar 1999 a	Portugal	13 Feb 1990	17 Oct 1990
Germany	13 Feb 1990		Romania	15 Mar 1990	27 Feb 1991
Greece.....		5 May 1997 a	San Marino.....	26 Sep 2003	17 Aug 2004
Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000		Sao Tome and Principe..	6 Sep 2000	
Honduras	10 May 1990		Serbia.....		6 Sep 2001 a
Hungary.....		24 Feb 1994 a	Seychelles.....		15 Dec 1994 a
			Slovakia.....	22 Sep 1998	22 Jun 1999

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<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Slovenia.....	14 Sep 1993	10 Mar 1994	Turkmenistan.....		11 Jan 2000 a
South Africa		28 Aug 2002 a	Ukraine.....		25 Jul 2007 a
Spain.....	23 Feb 1990	11 Apr 1991	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	31 Mar 1999	10 Dec 1999
Sweden	13 Feb 1990	11 May 1990	Uruguay.....	13 Feb 1990	21 Jan 1993
Switzerland.....		16 Jun 1994 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	7 Jun 1990	22 Feb 1993
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		26 Jan 1995 a			
Timor-Leste.....		18 Sep 2003 a			
Turkey	6 Apr 2004	2 Mar 2006			

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women *(New York, 18 December 1979)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) is the most comprehensive treaty on women's human rights, establishing legally binding obligations to end discrimination. Often described as the international bill of rights for women, the Convention provides for equality between women and men in the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Discrimination against women is to be eliminated through legal, policy and programmatic measures and through temporary special measures to accelerate women's equality, which are defined as non-discriminatory.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties are required to end all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their equality with men in political and public life with regard to nationality, education, employment, health, and economic and social benefits. Obligations are also imposed to eliminate discrimination against women in marriage and family life and to ensure that women and men are treated equally before the law. Parties are required to take account of the particular problems of women in rural areas, and their special roles in the economic survival of the family.

The Convention is the only human rights treaty to affirm the reproductive rights of women. In addition, it obliges Parties to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women in order to eliminate prejudices and customs and all other practices, which are based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women.

The Convention establishes a monitoring body – the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women – which comprises 23 independent experts. The Committee is mandated to consider reports from Parties and to make suggestions and general recommendations based on these reports. The Committee directs its suggestions to the United Nations system and its general recommendations to the Parties (article 17).

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature by all States (indefinitely). It is subject to ratification and is open for accession (article 25).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

States may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 29.1, according to which disputes among Parties relating to Multilateral Treaty

Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration, upon request of one of them, and, failing an agreement about the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 29).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention are not permitted (article 28).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

**CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST WOMEN**

New York, 18 December 1979

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 September 1981, in accordance with article 27(1)

REGISTRATION: 3 September 1981, No. 20378.

STATUS: Signatories:98 Parties:185.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, p. 13.

Note: The Convention was opened for signature at the United Nations Headquarters on 1 March 1980.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan	14 Aug 1980	5 Mar 2003	Central African Republic.....		21 Jun 1991 a
Albania		11 May 1994 a	Chad		9 Jun 1995 a
Algeria		22 May 1996 a	Chile	17 Jul 1980	7 Dec 1989
Andorra.....		15 Jan 1997 a	China	17 Jul 1980	4 Nov 1980
Angola		17 Sep 1986 a	Colombia	17 Jul 1980	19 Jan 1982
Antigua and Barbuda..		1 Aug 1989 a	Comoros		31 Oct 1994 a
Argentina.....	17 Jul 1980	15 Jul 1985	Congo	29 Jul 1980	26 Jul 1982
Armenia		13 Sep 1993 a	Cook Islands.....		11 Aug 2006 a
Australia	17 Jul 1980	28 Jul 1983	Costa Rica	17 Jul 1980	4 Apr 1986
Austria	17 Jul 1980	31 Mar 1982	Côte d'Ivoire.....	17 Jul 1980	18 Dec 1995
Azerbaijan		10 Jul 1995 a	Croatia		9 Sep 1992 d
Bahamas		6 Oct 1993 a	Cuba	6 Mar 1980	17 Jul 1980
Bahrain		18 Jun 2002 a	Cyprus		23 Jul 1985 a
Bangladesh		6 Nov 1984 a	Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d
Barbados.....	24 Jul 1980	16 Oct 1980	Democratic People's Republic of Korea.		27 Feb 2001 a
Belarus.....	17 Jul 1980	4 Feb 1981	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....	17 Jul 1980	17 Oct 1986
Belgium	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul 1985	Denmark.....	17 Jul 1980	21 Apr 1983
Belize.....	7 Mar 1990	16 May 1990	Djibouti		2 Dec 1998 a
Benin	11 Nov 1981	12 Mar 1992	Dominica	15 Sep 1980	15 Sep 1980
Bhutan	17 Jul 1980	31 Aug 1981	Dominican Republic...	17 Jul 1980	2 Sep 1982
Bolivia	30 May 1980	8 Jun 1990	Ecuador	17 Jul 1980	9 Nov 1981
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Egypt	16 Jul 1980	18 Sep 1981
Botswana		13 Aug 1996 a	El Salvador.....	14 Nov 1980	19 Aug 1981
Brazil	31 Mar 1981	1 Feb 1984	Equatorial Guinea.....		23 Oct 1984 a
Brunei Darussalam		24 May 2006 a	Eritrea.....		5 Sep 1995 a
Bulgaria	17 Jul 1980	8 Feb 1982	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Burkina Faso.....		14 Oct 1987 a	Ethiopia	8 Jul 1980	10 Sep 1981
Burundi.....	17 Jul 1980	8 Jan 1992	Fiji		28 Aug 1995 a
Cambodia.....	17 Oct 1980	15 Oct 1992 a	Finland.....	17 Jul 1980	4 Sep 1986
Cameroon	6 Jun 1983	23 Aug 1994	France.....	17 Jul 1980	14 Dec 1983
Canada.....	17 Jul 1980	10 Dec 1981	Gabon.....	17 Jul 1980	21 Jan 1983
Cape Verde.....		5 Dec 1980 a			

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	
Gambia	29 Jul 1980	16 Apr	1993	Malta		8 Mar	1991 a
Georgia		26 Oct	1994 a	Marshall Islands		2 Mar	2006 a
Germany	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul	1985	Mauritania		10 May	2001 a
Ghana	17 Jul 1980	2 Jan	1986	Mauritius		9 Jul	1984 a
Greece	2 Mar 1982	7 Jun	1983	Mexico	17 Jul 1980	23 Mar	1981
Grenada	17 Jul 1980	30 Aug	1990	Micronesia (Federated States of)		1 Sep	2004 a
Guatemala	8 Jun 1981	12 Aug	1982	Moldova		1 Jul	1994 a
Guinea	17 Jul 1980	9 Aug	1982	Monaco		18 Mar	2005 a
Guinea-Bissau	17 Jul 1980	23 Aug	1985	Mongolia	17 Jul 1980	20 Jul	1981
Guyana	17 Jul 1980	17 Jul	1980	Montenegro		23 Oct	2006 d
Haiti	17 Jul 1980	20 Jul	1981	Morocco		21 Jun	1993 a
Honduras	11 Jun 1980	3 Mar	1983	Mozambique		21 Apr	1997 a
Hungary	6 Jun 1980	22 Dec	1980	Myanmar		22 Jul	1997 a
Iceland	24 Jul 1980	18 Jun	1985	Namibia		23 Nov	1992 a
India	30 Jul 1980	9 Jul	1993	Nepal	5 Feb 1991	22 Apr	1991
Indonesia	29 Jul 1980	13 Sep	1984	Netherlands	17 Jul 1980	23 Jul	1991
Iraq		13 Aug	1986 a	New Zealand	17 Jul 1980	10 Jan	1985
Ireland		23 Dec	1985 a	Nicaragua	17 Jul 1980	27 Oct	1981
Israel	17 Jul 1980	3 Oct	1991	Niger		8 Oct	1999 a
Italy	17 Jul 1980	10 Jun	1985	Nigeria	23 Apr 1984	13 Jun	1985
Jamaica	17 Jul 1980	19 Oct	1984	Norway	17 Jul 1980	21 May	1981
Japan	17 Jul 1980	25 Jun	1985	Oman		7 Feb	2006 a
Jordan	3 Dec 1980	1 Jul	1992	Pakistan		12 Mar	1996 a
Kazakhstan		26 Aug	1998 a	Panama	26 Jun 1980	29 Oct	1981
Kenya		9 Mar	1984 a	Papua New Guinea		12 Jan	1995 a
Kiribati		17 Mar	2004 a	Paraguay		6 Apr	1987 a
Kuwait		2 Sep	1994 a	Peru	23 Jul 1981	13 Sep	1982
Kyrgyzstan		10 Feb	1997 a	Philippines	15 Jul 1980	5 Aug	1981
Lao People's Democratic Republic	17 Jul 1980	14 Aug	1981	Poland	29 May 1980	30 Jul	1980
Latvia		14 Apr	1992 a	Portugal	24 Apr 1980	30 Jul	1980
Lebanon		16 Apr	1997 a	Republic of Korea	25 May 1983	27 Dec	1984
Lesotho	17 Jul 1980	22 Aug	1995	Romania	4 Sep 1980	7 Jan	1982
Liberia		17 Jul	1984 a	Russian Federation	17 Jul 1980	23 Jan	1981
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May	1989 a	Rwanda	1 May 1980	2 Mar	1981
Liechtenstein		22 Dec	1995 a	Saint Kitts and Nevis		25 Apr	1985 a
Lithuania		18 Jan	1994 a	Saint Lucia		8 Oct	1982 a
Luxembourg	17 Jul 1980	2 Feb	1989	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		4 Aug	1981 a
Madagascar	17 Jul 1980	17 Mar	1989	Samoa		25 Sep	1992 a
Malawi		12 Mar	1987 a	San Marino	26 Sep 2003	10 Dec	2003
Malaysia		5 Jul	1995 a	Sao Tome and Principe	31 Oct 1995	3 Jun	2003
Maldives		1 Jul	1993 a	Saudi Arabia	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep	2000
Mali	5 Feb 1985	10 Sep	1985	Senegal	29 Jul 1980	5 Feb	1985
				Serbia		12 Mar	2001 d

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Seychelles.....		5 May 1992 a	Turkey		20 Dec 1985 a
Sierra Leone	21 Sep 1988	11 Nov 1988	Turkmenistan.....		1 May 1997 a
Singapore.....		5 Oct 1995 a	Tuvalu		6 Oct 1999 a
Slovakia		28 May 1993 d	Uganda	30 Jul 1980	22 Jul 1985
Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d	Ukraine.....	17 Jul 1980	12 Mar 1981
Solomon Islands		6 May 2002 a	United Arab Emirates..		6 Oct 2004 a
South Africa	29 Jan 1993	15 Dec 1995	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	22 Jul 1981	7 Apr 1986
Spain.....	17 Jul 1980	5 Jan 1984	United Republic of Tanzania	17 Jul 1980	20 Aug 1985
Sri Lanka	17 Jul 1980	5 Oct 1981	United States of America	17 Jul 1980	
Suriname.....		1 Mar 1993 a	Uruguay.....	30 Mar 1981	9 Oct 1981
Swaziland		26 Mar 2004 a	Uzbekistan.....		19 Jul 1995 a
Sweden	7 Mar 1980	2 Jul 1980	Vanuatu		8 Sep 1995 a
Switzerland.....	23 Jan 1987	27 Mar 1997	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	17 Jul 1980	2 May 1983
Syrian Arab Republic .		28 Mar 2003 a	Viet Nam	29 Jul 1980	17 Feb 1982
Tajikistan.....		26 Oct 1993 a	Yemen		30 May 1984 a
Thailand.....		9 Aug 1985 a	Zambia.....	17 Jul 1980	21 Jun 1985
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		18 Jan 1994 d	Zimbabwe.....		13 May 1991 a
Timor-Leste.....		16 Apr 2003 a			
Togo		26 Sep 1983 a			
Trinidad and Tobago ..	27 Jun 1985	12 Jan 1990			
Tunisia.....	24 Jul 1980	20 Sep 1985			

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women *(New York, 6 October 1999)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Optional Protocol) is to allow individuals or groups of individuals who have exhausted national remedies to petition the Committee directly about alleged violations of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) by their Governments. The Optional Protocol also permits the Committee to conduct inquiries into grave or systematic violations of the Convention in countries that are parties to the Convention and to the Optional Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties to the Optional Protocol undertake to make the Convention and the Protocol widely known and to facilitate access to information about the views and recommendations of the Committee. They are also required to take all-appropriate measures to ensure that individuals under their jurisdiction are not subjected to ill-treatment or intimidation when they take advantage of the Optional Protocol's procedure or provide information associated with these procedures. States which ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol may not enter reservations to its terms, but they are able to opt out of the inquiry procedure.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Optional Protocol entered into force on 22 December 2000 (article 16).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Optional Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely), by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention, and to ratification and accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention (article 15).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

At the time of signature, ratification or accession a State may declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women provided for in articles 8 and 9 (article 10).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations are not permitted (article 17).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Optional Protocol is possible at any time and it takes effect six months after the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 19).

**Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
Discrimination against Women**

New York, 6 October 1999

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22 December 2000, in accordance with article 16(1) (see paragraph 16 of Resolution A/RES/54/4)
REGISTRATION: 22 December 2000, No. 20378.
STATUS: Signatories:77 Parties:94.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series* , vol. 2131, p. 83.

Note: The Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/4 of 6 October 1999 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 15 (1), the Protocol will be open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 10 December 1999.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Albania		23 Jun 2003 a	Czech Republic	10 Dec 1999	26 Feb 2001
Andorra.....	9 Jul 2001	14 Oct 2002	Denmark.....	10 Dec 1999	31 May 2000
Angola		1 Nov 2007 a	Dominican Republic...	14 Mar 2000	10 Aug 2001
Antigua and Barbuda..		5 Jun 2006 a	Ecuador	10 Dec 1999	5 Feb 2002
Argentina	28 Feb 2000	20 Mar 2007	El Salvador.....	4 Apr 2001	
Armenia.....		14 Sep 2006 a	Finland.....	10 Dec 1999	29 Dec 2000
Austria	10 Dec 1999	6 Sep 2000	France.....	10 Dec 1999	9 Jun 2000
Azerbaijan	6 Jun 2000	1 Jun 2001	Gabon		5 Nov 2004 a
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Georgia.....		1 Aug 2002 a
Belarus.....	29 Apr 2002	3 Feb 2004	Germany.....	10 Dec 1999	15 Jan 2002
Belgium	10 Dec 1999	17 Jun 2004	Ghana	24 Feb 2000	
Belize.....		9 Dec 2002 a	Greece	10 Dec 1999	24 Jan 2002
Benin	25 May 2000		Guatemala	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Bolivia	10 Dec 1999	27 Sep 2000	Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	Hungary.....		22 Dec 2000 a
Botswana		21 Feb 2007 a	Iceland	10 Dec 1999	6 Mar 2001
Brazil	13 Mar 2001	28 Jun 2002	Indonesia	28 Feb 2000	
Bulgaria	6 Jun 2000	20 Sep 2006	Ireland	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Burkina Faso.....	16 Nov 2001	10 Oct 2005	Italy	10 Dec 1999	22 Sep 2000
Burundi.....	13 Nov 2001		Kazakhstan	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001
Cambodia	11 Nov 2001		Kyrgyzstan		22 Jul 2002 a
Cameroon		7 Jan 2005 a	Lesotho.....	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004
Canada.....		18 Oct 2002 a	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Chile	10 Dec 1999		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		18 Jun 2004 a
Colombia	10 Dec 1999	23 Jan 2007	Liechtenstein	10 Dec 1999	24 Oct 2001
Cook Islands.....		27 Nov 2007 a	Lithuania	8 Sep 2000	5 Aug 2004
Costa Rica	10 Dec 1999	20 Sep 2001	Luxembourg.....	10 Dec 1999	1 Jul 2003
Croatia	5 Jun 2000	7 Mar 2001	Madagascar	7 Sep 2000	
Cuba	17 Mar 2000		Malawi.....	7 Sep 2000	
Cyprus	8 Feb 2001	26 Apr 2002	Maldives.....		13 Mar 2006 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Mali		5 Dec 2000 a	Seychelles.....	22 Jul 2002	
Mauritius	11 Nov 2001		Sierra Leone	8 Sep 2000	
Mexico.....	10 Dec 1999	15 Mar 2002	Slovakia.....	5 Jun 2000	17 Nov 2000
Moldova		28 Feb 2006 a	Slovenia.....	10 Dec 1999	23 Sep 2004
Mongolia	7 Sep 2000	28 Mar 2002	Solomon Islands		6 May 2002 a
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	South Africa		18 Oct 2005 a
Namibia	19 May 2000	26 May 2000	Spain.....	14 Mar 2000	6 Jul 2001
Nepal	18 Dec 2001	15 Jun 2007	Sri Lanka		15 Oct 2002 a
Netherlands	10 Dec 1999	22 May 2002	Sweden	10 Dec 1999	24 Apr 2003
New Zealand	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Switzerland.....	15 Feb 2007	
Niger.....		30 Sep 2004 a	Tajikistan.....	7 Sep 2000	
Nigeria.....	8 Sep 2000	22 Nov 2004	Thailand.....	14 Jun 2000	14 Jun 2000
Norway	10 Dec 1999	5 Mar 2002	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3 Apr 2000	17 Oct 2003
Panama	9 Jun 2000	9 May 2001	Timor-Leste.....		16 Apr 2003 a
Paraguay.....	28 Dec 1999	14 May 2001	Turkey	8 Sep 2000	29 Oct 2002
Peru.....	22 Dec 2000	9 Apr 2001	Ukraine.....	7 Sep 2000	26 Sep 2003
Philippines.....	21 Mar 2000	12 Nov 2003	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..		17 Dec 2004 a
Poland.....		22 Dec 2003 a	United Republic of Tanzania		12 Jan 2006 a
Portugal	16 Feb 2000	26 Apr 2002	Uruguay.....	9 May 2000	26 Jul 2001
Republic of Korea		18 Oct 2006 a	Vanuatu		17 May 2007 a
Romania	6 Sep 2000	25 Aug 2003	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	17 Mar 2000	13 May 2002
Russian Federation	8 May 2001	28 Jul 2004			
Saint Kitts and Nevis..		20 Jan 2006 a			
San Marino		15 Sep 2005 a			
Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000				
Senegal	10 Dec 1999	26 May 2000			
Serbia.....		31 Jul 2003 a			

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment *(New York, 10 December 1984)*

OBJECTIVES

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment are particularly serious violations of human rights and, as such, are strictly condemned by international law. Based upon the recognition that such practices are outlawed, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Convention) strengthens the existing prohibition by a number of supporting measures. The Convention provides for several forms of international supervision in relation to the observance by Parties of their obligations under the Convention including the creation of an international supervisory body – the Committee against Torture – which can consider complaints from a Party or from or on behalf of individuals.

KEY PROVISIONS

The prohibition against torture is absolute and, according to the Convention, no exceptional circumstances whatsoever, including state of emergency or war or an order from a public authority, may be invoked as a justification of torture. The Convention defines “Torture” as:

“... any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions.”

Parties have the obligation to prevent and punish not only acts of torture as defined in the Convention, but also other acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, when such acts are committed by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity.

Parties have an obligation to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent acts of torture from occurring on their territories. Measures mentioned in the Convention include the prohibition and punishing by appropriate penalties of all acts of torture in domestic criminal law; education and information regarding the prohibition against torture to be fully integrated into the training of law enforcement personnel, civil or military, medical personnel, public officials and others; the systematic review by Parties of interrogation rules, instructions, methods and practices as well as of arrangements for the custody and treatment of suspects, detainees and prisoners; guarantees for the prompt and impartial investigation by competent authorities into allegations of torture; the protection of witnesses; and the possibility for victims to obtain redress and fair and adequate compensation and rehabilitation.

In addition, Parties have an obligation not to expel, return or extradite a person to another State where he or she would be in danger of being subjected to torture. An act of torture is required to be made an extraditable offence and a Party is to take measures to establish its jurisdiction over crimes of torture committed in any part of its territory by one of its nationals and when an alleged offender is present on its territory and not extradited.

In order to monitor and review actions taken by Parties to fulfil their obligations, the Committee against Torture has four procedures at its disposal. The first is the obligation for all Parties to submit periodic reports to the Committee for examination, which results in the adoption of recommendations by the Committee to the Party in question. A particular feature of the Convention is that if the Committee receives reliable information indicating that torture is being systematically practised in the territory of a Party, the Committee may decide to initiate a confidential inquiry into the situation. Such inquiry would be carried out in cooperation with the Party concerned and would include country visits. The Committee can also consider complaints from individuals who claim to be victims of a violation by a Party to the Convention. This may be done only if the Party concerned has declared that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and examine such complaints. Finally, a procedure of State-to-State complaints is provided for by the Convention, but has thus far never been resorted to.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 26 June 1987 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all States. It is subject to ratification by signatory States and is open to accession by all States (articles 25 and 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 21).

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation by a Party of the provisions of the Convention (article 22).

RESERVATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention or accession thereto, declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee against Torture provided for in article 20. Any Party having made such a reservation may, at any time, withdraw it by notification to the Secretary-General (article 28).

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention or accession thereto, declare that it does consider itself bound by article 30 (1), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention, which are not settled by negotiation, will be submitted

to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 30 (2)).

The Convention is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation becomes effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 31).

**CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR
DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT**

New York, 10 December 1984

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 26 June 1987, in accordance with article 27(1)
REGISTRATION: 26 June 1987, No. 24841.
STATUS: Signatories:80 Parties:102.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, p. 85.

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984 at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States, in accordance with its article 25.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan	4 Feb 1985	1 Apr 1987	Comoros	22 Sep 2000	
Albania		11 May 1994 a	Congo		30 Jul 2003 a
Algeria	26 Nov 1985	12 Sep 1989	Costa Rica	4 Feb 1985	11 Nov 1993
Andorra.....	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d
Antigua and Barbuda..		19 Jul 1993 a	Cuba	27 Jan 1986	17 May 1995
Argentina	4 Feb 1985	24 Sep 1986	Cyprus	9 Oct 1985	18 Jul 1991
Armenia		13 Sep 1993 a	Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d
Australia	10 Dec 1985	8 Aug 1989	Czechoslovakia.....	8 Sep 1986	7 Jul 1988
Austria	14 Mar 1985	29 Jul 1987	Côte d'Ivoire.....		18 Dec 1995 a
Azerbaijan		16 Aug 1996 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		18 Mar 1996 a
Bahrain		6 Mar 1998 a	Denmark.....	4 Feb 1985	27 May 1987
Bangladesh		5 Oct 1998 a	Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a
Belarus.....	19 Dec 1985	13 Mar 1987	Dominican Republic...	4 Feb 1985	
Belgium	4 Feb 1985	25 Jun 1999	Ecuador	4 Feb 1985	30 Mar 1988
Belize.....		17 Mar 1986 a	Egypt.....		25 Jun 1986 a
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	El Salvador		17 Jun 1996 a
Bolivia	4 Feb 1985	12 Apr 1999	Equatorial Guinea.....		8 Oct 2002 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Botswana	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	Ethiopia		14 Mar 1994 a
Brazil	23 Sep 1985	28 Sep 1989	Finland.....	4 Feb 1985	30 Aug 1989
Bulgaria	10 Jun 1986	16 Dec 1986	France.....	4 Feb 1985	18 Feb 1986
Burkina Faso.....		4 Jan 1999 a	Gabon	21 Jan 1986	8 Sep 2000
Burundi.....		18 Feb 1993 a	Gambia	23 Oct 1985	
Cambodia		15 Oct 1992 a	Georgia		26 Oct 1994 a
Cameroon		19 Dec 1986 a	Germany.....	13 Oct 1986	
Canada.....	23 Aug 1985	24 Jun 1987	Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Cape Verde.....		4 Jun 1992 a	Greece	4 Feb 1985	6 Oct 1988
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Guatemala		5 Jan 1990 a
Chile	23 Sep 1987	30 Sep 1988	Guinea	30 May 1986	10 Oct 1989
China.....	12 Dec 1986	4 Oct 1988	Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Colombia	10 Apr 1985	8 Dec 1987	Guyana	25 Jan 1988	19 May 1988

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	
Holy See		26 Jun	2002 a	Niger.....		5 Oct	1998 a
Honduras		5 Dec	1996 a	Nigeria.....	28 Jul	1988	28 Jun 2001
Hungary.....	28 Nov 1986	15 Apr	1987	Norway.....	4 Feb	1985	9 Jul 1986
Iceland.....	4 Feb 1985	23 Oct	1996	Panama.....	22 Feb	1985	24 Aug 1987
India.....	14 Oct 1997			Paraguay.....	23 Oct	1989	12 Mar 1990
Indonesia.....	23 Oct 1985	28 Oct	1998	Peru.....	29 May	1985	7 Jul 1988
Ireland.....	28 Sep 1992	11 Apr	2002	Philippines.....			18 Jun 1986 a
Israel.....	22 Oct 1986	3 Oct	1991	Poland.....	13 Jan	1986	26 Jul 1989
Italy.....	4 Feb 1985	12 Jan	1989	Portugal.....	4 Feb	1985	9 Feb 1989
Japan.....		29 Jun	1999 a	Qatar.....			11 Jan 2000 a
Jordan.....		13 Nov	1991 a	Republic of Korea.....			9 Jan 1995 a
Kazakhstan.....		26 Aug	1998 a	Romania.....			18 Dec 1990 a
Kenya.....		21 Feb	1997 a	Russian Federation.....	10 Dec	1985	3 Mar 1987
Kuwait.....		8 Mar	1996 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....			1 Aug 2001 a
Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Sep	1997 a	San Marino.....	18 Sep	2002	27 Nov 2006
Latvia.....		14 Apr	1992 a	Sao Tome and Principe..	6 Sep	2000	
Lebanon.....		5 Oct	2000 a	Saudi Arabia.....			23 Sep 1997 a
Lesotho.....		12 Nov	2001 a	Senegal.....	4 Feb	1985	21 Aug 1986
Liberia.....		22 Sep	2004 a	Serbia.....			12 Mar 2001 d
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		16 May	1989 a	Seychelles.....			5 May 1992 a
Liechtenstein.....	27 Jun 1985	2 Nov	1990	Sierra Leone.....	18 Mar	1985	25 Apr 2001
Lithuania.....		1 Feb	1996 a	Slovakia.....			28 May 1993 d
Luxembourg.....	22 Feb 1985	29 Sep	1987	Slovenia.....			16 Jul 1993 a
Madagascar.....	1 Oct 2001	13 Dec	2005	Somalia.....			24 Jan 1990 a
Malawi.....		11 Jun	1996 a	South Africa.....	29 Jan	1993	10 Dec 1998
Maldives.....		20 Apr	2004 a	Spain.....	4 Feb	1985	21 Oct 1987
Mali.....		26 Feb	1999 a	Sri Lanka.....			3 Jan 1994 a
Malta.....		13 Sep	1990 a	Sudan.....	4 Jun	1986	
Mauritania.....		17 Nov	2004 a	Swaziland.....			26 Mar 2004 a
Mauritius.....		9 Dec	1992 a	Sweden.....	4 Feb	1985	8 Jan 1986
Mexico.....	18 Mar 1985	23 Jan	1986	Switzerland.....	4 Feb	1985	2 Dec 1986
Moldova.....		28 Nov	1995 a	Syrian Arab Republic..			19 Aug 2004 a
Monaco.....		6 Dec	1991 a	Tajikistan.....			11 Jan 1995 a
Mongolia.....		24 Jan	2002 a	Thailand.....			2 Oct 2007 a
Montenegro.....		23 Oct	2006 d	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....			12 Dec 1994 d
Morocco.....	8 Jan 1986	21 Jun	1993	Timor-Leste.....			16 Apr 2003 a
Mozambique.....		14 Sep	1999 a	Togo.....	25 Mar	1987	18 Nov 1987
Namibia.....		28 Nov	1994 a	Tunisia.....	26 Aug	1987	23 Sep 1988
Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001			Turkey.....	25 Jan	1988	2 Aug 1988
Nepal.....		14 May	1991 a	Turkmenistan.....			25 Jun 1999 a
Netherlands.....	4 Feb 1985	21 Dec	1988	Uganda.....			3 Nov 1986 a
New Zealand.....	14 Jan 1986	10 Dec	1989	Ukraine.....	27 Feb	1986	24 Feb 1987
Nicaragua.....	15 Apr 1985	5 Jul	2005				

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	15 Mar 1985	8 Dec	1988	Uzbekistan.....		28 Sep	1995 a
United States of America	18 Apr 1988	21 Oct	1994	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	15 Feb 1985	29 Jul	1991
Uruguay	4 Feb 1985	24 Oct	1986	Yemen		5 Nov	1991 a
				Zambia.....		7 Oct	1998 a

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment *(New York, 18 December 2002)*

OBJECTIVES

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Optional Protocol) establishes an international monitoring mechanism that will enable the effective implementation of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Convention). Its objective is to enhance the worldwide protection of persons deprived of liberty from torture and other cruel and degrading treatment or punishment.

KEY PROVISIONS

The system established by the Protocol emphasizes the prevention of violations of the Convention. This preventive approach consists in regular monitoring of places where persons may be deprived of their liberty through visits conducted by expert bodies. A dual system is provided for under the Protocol: 1) the creation of an international expert body (the Subcommittee on Prevention) and 2) the establishment of national preventive mechanisms by Parties. The international and national bodies will work in a complementary way: both will have a mandate to conduct regular visits to places where persons may be deprived of their liberty, described as places of detention, and make recommendations to competent authorities.

Parties undertake to receive the Subcommittee on Prevention on their territory and grant it, as well as the national bodies, access to places of detention as well as provide all relevant information to such bodies in response to requests.

The term “place of detention” is broadly defined by the Protocol. Therefore, visits by the national and international expert bodies will not be limited to prisons and police stations, but may also include pre-trial detention facilities; centers for juveniles; places of administrative detention; detention centers for migrants and asylum seekers; as well as medical and psychiatric institutions.

The Protocol contains provisions on the Subcommittee on Prevention’s membership, terms and nominations, funding, as well as its mandate. The Secretary-General is charged with providing staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Subcommittee on Prevention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 22 June 2006 (article 28).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State that is a Signatory or Party to the Convention. It is subject to ratification by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention. The Protocol shall be open to accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention (article 27).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Upon ratification or accession, Parties may make a declaration postponing the implementation of their obligations under either part III (concerning the mandate of the Subcommittee on Prevention) or part IV (concerning the national preventive mechanisms) of the Protocol. This postponement shall be valid for a maximum of three years but may be extended by the Committee against Torture for an additional two years after consultation with the Subcommittee on Prevention (article 24).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations to the Protocol are not permitted (article 30).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General, and it shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 33 (1)).

Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under the Protocol in regard to any act or situation that may occur prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective, or to the actions that the Subcommittee on Prevention has decided or may decide to take with respect to the Party concerned, nor shall denunciation prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter already under consideration by the Subcommittee prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 33 (2)).

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

New York, 18 December 2002

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22 June 2006, in accordance with article 28(1) which reads as follows: "1. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession."
REGISTRATION: 22 June 2006, No. 24841.
STATUS: Signatories: 63. Parties: 34.
TEXT: GA Resolution A/RES/57/199 of 9 January 2003.

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 18 December 2002 at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations by resolution A/RES/57/199. In accordance with article 27 (1), the Protocol was opened for signature on 4 February 2003, the first possible date, by any State that has signed the Convention. In accordance with operative paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution A/RES/57/199, the Protocol is available for signature, ratification and accession at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		1 Oct 2003 a	Guinea.....	16 Sep 2005	
Argentina.....	30 Apr 2003	15 Nov 2004	Honduras.....	8 Dec 2004	23 May 2006
Armenia.....		14 Sep 2006 a	Iceland.....	24 Sep 2003	
Austria.....	25 Sep 2003		Ireland.....	2 Oct 2007	
Azerbaijan.....	15 Sep 2005		Italy.....	20 Aug 2003	
Belgium.....	24 Oct 2005		Kazakhstan.....	25 Sep 2007	
Benin.....	24 Feb 2005	20 Sep 2006	Liberia.....		22 Sep 2004 a
Bolivia.....	22 May 2006	23 May 2006	Liechtenstein.....	24 Jun 2005	3 Nov 2006
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	7 Dec 2007		Luxembourg.....	13 Jan 2005	
Brazil.....	13 Oct 2003	12 Jan 2007	Madagascar.....	24 Sep 2003	
Burkina Faso.....	21 Sep 2005		Maldives.....	14 Sep 2005	15 Feb 2006
Cambodia.....	14 Sep 2005	30 Mar 2007	Mali.....	19 Jan 2004	12 May 2005
Chile.....	6 Jun 2005		Malta.....	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2003
Costa Rica.....	4 Feb 2003	1 Dec 2005	Mauritius.....		21 Jun 2005 a
Croatia.....	23 Sep 2003	25 Apr 2005	Mexico.....	23 Sep 2003	11 Apr 2005
Cyprus.....	26 Jul 2004		Moldova.....	16 Sep 2005	24 Jul 2006
Czech Republic.....	13 Sep 2004	10 Jul 2006	Montenegro.....	23 Oct 2006 d	
Denmark.....	26 Jun 2003	25 Jun 2004	Netherlands.....	3 Jun 2005	
Ecuador.....	24 May 2007		New Zealand.....	23 Sep 2003	14 Mar 2007
Estonia.....	21 Sep 2004	18 Dec 2006	Nicaragua.....	14 Mar 2007	
Finland.....	23 Sep 2003		Norway.....	24 Sep 2003	
France.....	16 Sep 2005		Paraguay.....	22 Sep 2004	2 Dec 2005
Gabon.....	15 Dec 2004		Peru.....		14 Sep 2006 a
Georgia.....		9 Aug 2005 a	Poland.....	5 Apr 2004	14 Sep 2005
Germany.....	20 Sep 2006		Portugal.....	15 Feb 2006	
Ghana.....	6 Nov 2006		Romania.....	24 Sep 2003	
Guatemala.....	25 Sep 2003		Senegal.....	4 Feb 2003	18 Oct 2006

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Serbia	25 Sep 2003	26 Sep 2006	Timor-Leste	16 Sep 2005	
Sierra Leone.....	26 Sep 2003		Togo	15 Sep 2005	
Slovenia		23 Jan 2007 a	Turkey	14 Sep 2005	
South Africa.....	20 Sep 2006		Ukraine.....	23 Sep 2005	19 Sep 2006
Spain	13 Apr 2005	4 Apr 2006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	26 Jun 2003	10 Dec 2003
Sweden.....	26 Jun 2003	14 Sep 2005	Uruguay	12 Jan 2004	8 Dec 2005
Switzerland	25 Jun 2004				
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	1 Sep 2006				

Convention on the Rights of the Child *(New York, 20 November 1989)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention) is the principal children's treaty encompassing a full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The Convention aims at protecting children from discrimination, neglect and abuse. It grants and provides for the implementation of rights for children both in times of peace and during armed conflict. The Convention constitutes a rallying point and a useful tool for civil society and individuals, and works for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child. In many respects, it is an innovative instrument.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention is the first legally binding international instrument which provides in a single text universally recognized norms and standards concerning the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.

The Convention emphasizes the spirit of complementary and interdependence of human rights by combining civil and political rights with economic, social and cultural rights. It calls for a holistic approach in analysis and recognizes that the enjoyment of one right cannot be separated from the enjoyment of others.

It establishes a new vision of the child, combining provisions aimed at protecting the child through positive action by the State, the parents and relevant institutions, with the recognition of the child as a holder of participatory rights and freedoms.

In so doing, it establishes rights in new areas which were not covered by previous international instruments, such as the right of the child to freely express views and have them given due weight, and the right of the child to a name and nationality from birth. In addition, the Convention establishes standards in new areas including the issue of alternative care, the rights of disabled and refugee children and the administration of juvenile justice. The need for recovery and social reintegration of a child victim of neglect, exploitation or abuse is also set forth.

The Convention acknowledges the primary role of the family and parents in the care and protection of the child, while stressing the obligation of the State to help families in carrying out this task. It calls for positive action by institutions and the State or parents.

It constitutes a useful tool for advocacy and greater awareness of the new perspective of children's rights, and attaches special importance to international cooperation and assistance as ways of achieving the effective protection of children's rights.

Four general principles are enshrined in the Convention. They express the philosophy the Convention conveys and provide guidance for national programmes of implementation. The key provisions focus on (1) non-discrimination; (2) best interests of the child; (3) right to life, survival and development; and (4) views of the child.

Article 43 of the Convention establishes the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a monitoring body of ten experts whose purpose is to examine the progress made by States Parties in implementing the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 2 September 1990 (article 49).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature indefinitely by all States and to ratification and accession (articles 46, 47 and 48).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of ratification or accession, make reservations to articles of the Convention that are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention. Any State making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General (article 51).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation becomes effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 52).

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

New York, 20 November 1989

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 2 September 1990, in accordance with article 49(1).
REGISTRATION: 2 September 1990, No. 27531.
STATUS: Signatories: 140. Parties: 193.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, p. 3; depositary notifications C.N.147.1993.TREATIES-5 of 15 May 1993 [amendments to article 43 (2)] ; and C.N.322.1995.TREATIES-7 of 7 November 1995 [amendment to article 43 (2)].

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989 at the Forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	27 Sep 1990	28 Mar 1994	Canada	28 May 1990	13 Dec 1991
Albania.....	26 Jan 1990	27 Feb 1992	Cape Verde		4 Jun 1992 a
Algeria	26 Jan 1990	16 Apr 1993	Central African Republic	30 Jul 1990	23 Apr 1992
Andorra.....	2 Oct 1995	2 Jan 1996	Chad.....	30 Sep 1990	2 Oct 1990
Angola	14 Feb 1990	5 Dec 1990	Chile.....	26 Jan 1990	13 Aug 1990
Antigua and Barbuda ..	12 Mar 1991	5 Oct 1993	China.....	29 Aug 1990	2 Mar 1992
Argentina	29 Jun 1990	4 Dec 1990	Colombia.....	26 Jan 1990	28 Jan 1991
Armenia		23 Jun 1993 a	Comoros.....	30 Sep 1990	22 Jun 1993
Australia.....	22 Aug 1990	17 Dec 1990	Congo.....		14 Oct 1993 a
Austria	26 Aug 1990	6 Aug 1992	Cook Islands		6 Jun 1997 a
Azerbaijan.....		13 Aug 1992 a	Costa Rica.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1990
Bahamas.....	30 Oct 1990	20 Feb 1991	Côte d'Ivoire.....	26 Jan 1990	4 Feb 1991
Bahrain.....		13 Feb 1992 a	Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d
Bangladesh.....	26 Jan 1990	3 Aug 1990	Cuba.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1991
Barbados	19 Apr 1990	9 Oct 1990	Cyprus.....	5 Oct 1990	7 Feb 1991
Belarus	26 Jan 1990	1 Oct 1990	Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d
Belgium	26 Jan 1990	16 Dec 1991	Democratic People's Republic of Korea .	23 Aug 1990	21 Sep 1990
Belize	2 Mar 1990	2 May 1990	Democratic Republic of the Congo	20 Mar 1990	27 Sep 1990
Benin.....	25 Apr 1990	3 Aug 1990	Denmark	26 Jan 1990	19 Jul 1991
Bhutan.....	4 Jun 1990	1 Aug 1990	Djibouti	30 Sep 1990	6 Dec 1990
Bolivia	8 Mar 1990	26 Jun 1990	Dominica.....	26 Jan 1990	13 Mar 1991
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Dominican Republic ...	8 Aug 1990	11 Jun 1991
Botswana.....		14 Mar 1995 a	Ecuador	26 Jan 1990	23 Mar 1990
Brazil	26 Jan 1990	24 Sep 1990	Egypt	5 Feb 1990	6 Jul 1990
Brunei Darussalam.....		27 Dec 1995 a	El Salvador.....	26 Jan 1990	10 Jul 1990
Bulgaria	31 May 1990	3 Jun 1991	Equatorial Guinea		15 Jun 1992 a
Burkina Faso.....	26 Jan 1990	31 Aug 1990	Eritrea.....	20 Dec 1993	3 Aug 1994
Burundi	8 May 1990	19 Oct 1990	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Cambodia.....		15 Oct 1992 a			
Cameroon.....	25 Sep 1990	11 Jan 1993			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Ethiopia.....		14 May 1991 a	Jamahiriya		
Fiji.....	2 Jul 1993	13 Aug 1993	Liechtenstein.....	30 Sep 1990	22 Dec 1995
Finland.....	26 Jan 1990	20 Jun 1991	Lithuania.....		31 Jan 1992 a
France.....	26 Jan 1990	7 Aug 1990	Luxembourg.....	21 Mar 1990	7 Mar 1994
Gabon.....	26 Jan 1990	9 Feb 1994	Madagascar.....	19 Apr 1990	19 Mar 1991
Gambia.....	5 Feb 1990	8 Aug 1990	Malawi.....		2 Jan 1991 a
Georgia.....		2 Jun 1994 a	Malaysia.....		17 Feb 1995 a
Germany.....	26 Jan 1990	6 Mar 1992	Maldives.....	21 Aug 1990	11 Feb 1991
Ghana.....	29 Jan 1990	5 Feb 1990	Mali.....	26 Jan 1990	20 Sep 1990
Greece.....	26 Jan 1990	11 May 1993	Malta.....	26 Jan 1990	30 Sep 1990
Grenada.....	21 Feb 1990	5 Nov 1990	Marshall Islands.....	14 Apr 1993	4 Oct 1993
Guatemala.....	26 Jan 1990	6 Jun 1990	Mauritania.....	26 Jan 1990	16 May 1991
Guinea.....		13 Jul 1990 a	Mauritius.....		26 Jul 1990 a
Guinea-Bissau.....	26 Jan 1990	20 Aug 1990	Mexico.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Sep 1990
Guyana.....	30 Sep 1990	14 Jan 1991	Micronesia (Federated States of).....		5 May 1993 a
Haiti.....	26 Jan 1990	8 Jun 1995	Moldova.....		26 Jan 1993 a
Holy See.....	20 Apr 1990	20 Apr 1990	Monaco.....		21 Jun 1993 a
Honduras.....	31 May 1990	10 Aug 1990	Mongolia.....	26 Jan 1990	5 Jul 1990
Hungary.....	14 Mar 1990	7 Oct 1991	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Iceland.....	26 Jan 1990	28 Oct 1992	Morocco.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Jun 1993
India.....		11 Dec 1992 a	Mozambique.....	30 Sep 1990	26 Apr 1994
Indonesia.....	26 Jan 1990	5 Sep 1990	Myanmar.....		15 Jul 1991 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	5 Sep 1991	13 Jul 1994	Namibia.....	26 Sep 1990	30 Sep 1990
Iraq.....		15 Jun 1994 a	Nauru.....		27 Jul 1994 a
Ireland.....	30 Sep 1990	28 Sep 1992	Nepal.....	26 Jan 1990	14 Sep 1990
Israel.....	3 Jul 1990	3 Oct 1991	Netherlands.....	26 Jan 1990	6 Feb 1995 A
Italy.....	26 Jan 1990	5 Sep 1991	New Zealand.....	1 Oct 1990	6 Apr 1993
Jamaica.....	26 Jan 1990	14 May 1991	Nicaragua.....	6 Feb 1990	5 Oct 1990
Japan.....	21 Sep 1990	22 Apr 1994	Niger.....	26 Jan 1990	30 Sep 1990
Jordan.....	29 Aug 1990	24 May 1991	Nigeria.....	26 Jan 1990	19 Apr 1991
Kazakhstan.....	16 Feb 1994	12 Aug 1994	Niue.....		20 Dec 1995 a
Kenya.....	26 Jan 1990	30 Jul 1990	Norway.....	26 Jan 1990	8 Jan 1991
Kiribati.....		11 Dec 1995 a	Oman.....		9 Dec 1996 a
Kuwait.....	7 Jun 1990	21 Oct 1991	Pakistan.....	20 Sep 1990	12 Nov 1990
Kyrgyzstan.....		7 Oct 1994 a	Palau.....		4 Aug 1995 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....		8 May 1991 a	Panama.....	26 Jan 1990	12 Dec 1990
Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a	Papua New Guinea.....	30 Sep 1990	2 Mar 1993
Lebanon.....	26 Jan 1990	14 May 1991	Paraguay.....	4 Apr 1990	25 Sep 1990
Lesotho.....	21 Aug 1990	10 Mar 1992	Peru.....	26 Jan 1990	4 Sep 1990
Liberia.....	26 Apr 1990	4 Jun 1993	Philippines.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1990
Libyan Arab		15 Apr 1993 a	Poland.....	26 Jan 1990	7 Jun 1991
			Portugal.....	26 Jan 1990	21 Sep 1990
			Qatar.....	8 Dec 1992	3 Apr 1995

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Republic of Korea.....	25 Sep 1990	20 Nov	1991	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		2 Dec	1993 d
Romania.....	26 Jan 1990	28 Sep	1990	Timor-Leste		16 Apr	2003 a
Russian Federation.....	26 Jan 1990	16 Aug	1990	Togo	26 Jan 1990	1 Aug	1990
Rwanda	26 Jan 1990	24 Jan	1991	Tonga		6 Nov	1995 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis ..	26 Jan 1990	24 Jul	1990	Trinidad and Tobago...	30 Sep 1990	5 Dec	1991
Saint Lucia	30 Sep 1990	16 Jun	1993	Tunisia	26 Feb 1990	30 Jan	1992
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20 Sep 1993	26 Oct	1993	Turkey.....	14 Sep 1990	4 Apr	1995
Samoa	30 Sep 1990	29 Nov	1994	Turkmenistan		20 Sep	1993 a
San Marino.....		25 Nov	1991 a	Tuvalu		22 Sep	1995 a
Sao Tome and Principe .		14 May	1991 a	Uganda.....	17 Aug 1990	17 Aug	1990
Saudi Arabia		26 Jan	1996 a	Ukraine.....	21 Feb 1990	28 Aug	1991
Senegal.....	26 Jan 1990	31 Jul	1990	United Arab Emirates .		3 Jan	1997 a
Serbia		12 Mar	2001 d	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	19 Apr 1990	16 Dec	1991
Seychelles		7 Sep	1990 a	United Republic of Tanzania.....	1 Jun 1990	10 Jun	1991
Sierra Leone.....	13 Feb 1990	18 Jun	1990	United States of America.....	16 Feb 1995		
Singapore.....		5 Oct	1995 a	Uruguay	26 Jan 1990	20 Nov	1990
Slovakia		28 May	1993 d	Uzbekistan		29 Jun	1994 a
Slovenia		6 Jul	1992 d	Vanuatu.....	30 Sep 1990	7 Jul	1993
Solomon Islands.....		10 Apr	1995 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	26 Jan 1990	13 Sep	1990
Somalia	9 May 2002			Viet Nam.....	26 Jan 1990	28 Feb	1990
South Africa.....	29 Jan 1993	16 Jun	1995	Yemen.....	13 Feb 1990	1 May	1991
Spain	26 Jan 1990	6 Dec	1990	Zambia	30 Sep 1990	6 Dec	1991
Sri Lanka.....	26 Jan 1990	12 Jul	1991	Zimbabwe	8 Mar 1990	11 Sep	1990
Sudan	24 Jul 1990	3 Aug	1990				
Suriname.....	26 Jan 1990	1 Mar	1993				
Swaziland.....	22 Aug 1990	7 Sep	1995				
Sweden.....	26 Jan 1990	29 Jun	1990				
Switzerland	1 May 1991	24 Feb	1997				
Syrian Arab Republic .	18 Sep 1990	15 Jul	1993				
Tajikistan		26 Oct	1993 a				
Thailand		27 Mar	1992 a				

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

(New York, 25 May 2000)

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (the Optional Protocol) is to increase the protection of children from involvement in armed conflict by raising the age of possible recruitment of persons into the armed forces and their participation in hostilities.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol establishes an obligation upon Parties to take all feasible measures to prevent the direct participation in hostilities by individuals under the age of eighteen. It prohibits the compulsory recruitment of persons under the age of eighteen into the armed forces, and also obliges Parties to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the armed forces above the age set by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention). It further requires Parties to establish safeguards relative to the voluntary recruitment of individuals under the age of eighteen. The Protocol also proscribes the recruitment of persons under the age of eighteen years by armed groups that are distinct from the armed forces of a State. Finally, the Protocol sets forth an obligation upon Parties to report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its implementation.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has entered into force on 12 February 2002, in accordance with article 10 (1).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature by any State that is a Party to the Convention or has signed it. The Protocol is subject to ratification and is open for accession by any State (article 9).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each State shall deposit a binding declaration upon ratification or accession, which sets forth the minimum age at which the State will permit voluntary recruitment into its national armed forces and a description of the safeguards that it has adopted to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced (article 3 (2)).

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time and it takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. If, on the expiry of that year, the denouncing Party is engaged in armed conflict, the denunciation does not take effect before the end of the armed conflict. Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligation under this Protocol with regard to any act that occurs prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective and it does not prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter that is already under consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 11).

**Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement
of children in armed conflict**

New York, 25 May 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 12 February 2002, in accordance with article 10(1).
REGISTRATION: 12 February 2002, No. 27531.
STATUS: Signatories: 124. Parties: 124.
TEXT: Doc.A/RES/54/263; and C.N.1031.2000.TREATIES-82 of 14 November 2000 [Rectification of the original of the Protocol (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.865.2001.TREATIES-10 of 13 September 2001 [Rectification of the original of the Protocol (Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)].

Note: The Optional Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May 2000 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 9 (1), the Optional Protocol will be open for signature by any State that is a party to the Convention or has signed it.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		24 Sep 2003 a	Colombia.....	6 Sep 2000	25 May 2005
Andorra.....	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	Costa Rica.....	7 Sep 2000	24 Jan 2003
Angola.....		11 Oct 2007 a	Croatia.....	8 May 2002	1 Nov 2002
Argentina.....	15 Jun 2000	10 Sep 2002	Cuba.....	13 Oct 2000	9 Feb 2007
Armenia.....	24 Sep 2003	30 Sep 2005	Czech Republic.....	6 Sep 2000	30 Nov 2001
Australia.....	21 Oct 2002	26 Sep 2006	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....	8 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2001
Austria.....	6 Sep 2000	1 Feb 2002	Denmark.....	7 Sep 2000	27 Aug 2002
Azerbaijan.....	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	Djibouti.....	14 Jun 2006	
Bahrain.....		21 Sep 2004 a	Dominica.....		20 Sep 2002 a
Bangladesh.....	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Dominican Republic ...	9 May 2002	
Belarus.....		25 Jan 2006 a	Ecuador.....	6 Sep 2000	7 Jun 2004
Belgium.....	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2002	Egypt.....		6 Feb 2007 a
Belize.....	6 Sep 2000	1 Dec 2003	El Salvador.....	18 Sep 2000	18 Apr 2002
Benin.....	22 Feb 2001	31 Jan 2005	Eritrea.....		16 Feb 2005 a
Bhutan.....	15 Sep 2005		Estonia.....	24 Sep 2003	
Bolivia.....		22 Dec 2004 a	Fiji.....	16 Sep 2005	
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	7 Sep 2000	10 Oct 2003	Finland.....	7 Sep 2000	10 Apr 2002
Botswana.....	24 Sep 2003	4 Oct 2004	France.....	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003
Brazil.....	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Gabon.....	8 Sep 2000	
Bulgaria.....	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Gambia.....	21 Dec 2000	
Burkina Faso.....	16 Nov 2001	6 Jul 2007	Germany.....	6 Sep 2000	13 Dec 2004
Burundi.....	13 Nov 2001		Ghana.....	24 Sep 2003	
Cambodia.....	27 Jun 2000	16 Jul 2004	Greece.....	7 Sep 2000	22 Oct 2003
Cameroon.....	5 Oct 2001		Guatemala.....	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Canada.....	5 Jun 2000	7 Jul 2000	Guinea-Bissau.....	8 Sep 2000	
Cape Verde.....		10 May 2002 a	Haiti.....	15 Aug 2002	
Chad.....	3 May 2002	28 Aug 2002	Holy See.....	10 Oct 2000	24 Oct 2001
Chile.....	15 Nov 2001	31 Jul 2003	Honduras.....		14 Aug 2002 a
China.....	15 Mar 2001	20 Feb 2008	Hungary.....	11 Mar 2002	

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Iceland	7 Sep	2000	1 Oct	2001	Nicaragua			17 Mar	2005 a
India	15 Nov	2004	30 Nov	2005	Nigeria	8 Sep	2000		
Indonesia.....	24 Sep	2001			Norway.....	13 Jun	2000	23 Sep	2003
Ireland.....	7 Sep	2000	18 Nov	2002	Oman.....			17 Sep	2004 a
Israel	14 Nov	2001	18 Jul	2005	Pakistan	26 Sep	2001		
Italy.....	6 Sep	2000	9 May	2002	Panama.....	31 Oct	2000	8 Aug	2001
Jamaica	8 Sep	2000	9 May	2002	Paraguay.....	13 Sep	2000	27 Sep	2002
Japan	10 May	2002	2 Aug	2004	Peru	1 Nov	2000	8 May	2002
Jordan.....	6 Sep	2000	23 May	2007	Philippines	8 Sep	2000	26 Aug	2003
Kazakhstan.....	6 Sep	2000	10 Apr	2003	Poland	13 Feb	2002	7 Apr	2005
Kenya.....	8 Sep	2000	28 Jan	2002	Portugal.....	6 Sep	2000	19 Aug	2003
Kuwait			26 Aug	2004 a	Qatar			25 Jul	2002 a
Kyrgyzstan.....			13 Aug	2003 a	Republic of Korea	6 Sep	2000	24 Sep	2004
Lao People's Democratic Republic			20 Sep	2006 a	Romania	6 Sep	2000	10 Nov	2001
Latvia	1 Feb	2002	19 Dec	2005	Russian Federation.....	15 Feb	2001		
Lebanon	11 Feb	2002			Rwanda			23 Apr	2002 a
Lesotho	6 Sep	2000	24 Sep	2003	San Marino.....	5 Jun	2000		
Liberia.....	22 Sep	2004			Senegal.....	8 Sep	2000	3 Mar	2004
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya			29 Oct	2004 a	Serbia	8 Oct	2001	31 Jan	2003
Liechtenstein.....	8 Sep	2000	4 Feb	2005	Seychelles	23 Jan	2001		
Lithuania.....	13 Feb	2002	20 Feb	2003	Sierra Leone.....	8 Sep	2000	15 May	2002
Luxembourg.....	8 Sep	2000	4 Aug	2004	Singapore	7 Sep	2000		
Madagascar	7 Sep	2000	22 Sep	2004	Slovakia	30 Nov	2001	7 Jul	2006
Malawi.....	7 Sep	2000			Slovenia	8 Sep	2000	23 Sep	2004
Maldives	10 May	2002	29 Dec	2004	Somalia	16 Sep	2005		
Mali.....	8 Sep	2000	16 May	2002	South Africa.....	8 Feb	2002		
Malta.....	7 Sep	2000	9 May	2002	Spain	6 Sep	2000	8 Mar	2002
Mauritius.....	11 Nov	2001			Sri Lanka.....	21 Aug	2000	8 Sep	2000
Mexico	7 Sep	2000	15 Mar	2002	Sudan	9 May	2002	26 Jul	2005
Micronesia (Federated States of)	8 May	2002			Suriname	10 May	2002		
Moldova.....	8 Feb	2002	7 Apr	2004	Sweden.....	8 Jun	2000	20 Feb	2003
Monaco	26 Jun	2000	13 Nov	2001	Switzerland	7 Sep	2000	26 Jun	2002
Mongolia.....	12 Nov	2001	6 Oct	2004	Syrian Arab Republic..			17 Oct	2003 a
Montenegro			2 May	2007 d	Tajikistan			5 Aug	2002 a
Morocco.....	8 Sep	2000	22 May	2002	Thailand			27 Feb	2006 a
Mozambique			19 Oct	2004 a	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	17 Jul	2001	12 Jan	2004
Namibia	8 Sep	2000	16 Apr	2002	Timor-Leste			2 Aug	2004 a
Nauru	8 Sep	2000			Togo	15 Nov	2001	28 Nov	2005
Nepal.....	8 Sep	2000	3 Jan	2007	Tunisia	22 Apr	2002	2 Jan	2003
Netherlands.....	7 Sep	2000			Turkey.....	8 Sep	2000	4 May	2004
New Zealand	7 Sep	2000	12 Nov	2001	Turkmenistan			29 Apr	2005 a
					Uganda.....			6 May	2002 a
					Ukraine.....	7 Sep	2000	11 Jul	2005

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	7 Sep 2000	24 Jun 2003
United Republic of Tanzania.....		11 Nov 2004 a
United States of America.....	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec 2002

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Uruguay	7 Sep 2000	9 Sep 2003
Vanuatu.....	16 Sep 2005	26 Sep 2007
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	7 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2003
Viet Nam.....	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec 2001
Yemen.....		2 Mar 2007 a

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography *(New York, 25 May 2000)*

OBJECTIVES

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (the Optional Protocol) supplements the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention) by extending the obligations of the Parties to guarantee the protection of the child from the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol obliges Parties to prohibit the “sale of children”, “child prostitution”, and “child pornography”, as defined in the Protocol. It further obliges Parties to ensure that the above offences are covered under their respective criminal codes, and that such offences are punishable by appropriate penalties. Attempted offences are also proscribed. Parties must establish jurisdiction over the above offences in specified circumstances. Extradition and mutual assistance are also provided for in this context.

The Protocol also obliges Parties to adopt appropriate measures to protect the rights and interest of child victims at all stages of the criminal justice process; to take various preventive measures, including the dissemination of information, education and training on the matter; and to provide all appropriate assistance to victims. Lastly, the Protocol provides a framework for increased international cooperation in these areas, in particular for the prosecution of offenders.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 18 January 2002 (article 14).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature by any State that is a Party to the Convention or has signed it, and for ratification and accession (article 13).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time by written notification and it takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the written notification by the Secretary-General. Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under this Protocol in regard to any act or omission which occurs prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective, nor does it prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter which is already under consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective (article 15).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

New York, 25 May 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 18 January 2002, in accordance with article 14(1).
REGISTRATION: 18 January 2002, No. 27531.
STATUS: Signatories: 119. Parties: 126.
TEXT: Doc. A/RES/54/263; C.N.1032.2000.TREATIES-72 of 14 November 2000 [rectification of the original of the Protocol (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.1008.2002.TREATIES-42 of 17 September 2002 (proposal of corrections to the original chinese text) and C.N.1312.2002.TREATIES-49 of 16 December 2002 [rectification of the original of the Protocol (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Optional Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May 2000 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 13 (1), the Optional Protocol will be open for signature by any State that is a party to the Convention or has signed it.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		19 Sep 2002 a	Cape Verde		10 May 2002 a
Albania.....		5 Feb 2008 a	Chad.....	3 May 2002	28 Aug 2002
Algeria.....		27 Dec 2006 a	Chile.....	28 Jun 2000	6 Feb 2003
Andorra.....	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	China	6 Sep 2000	3 Dec 2002
Angola		24 Mar 2005 a	Colombia.....	6 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2003
Antigua and Barbuda ..	18 Dec 2001	30 Apr 2002	Comoros.....		23 Feb 2007 a
Argentina	1 Apr 2002	25 Sep 2003	Costa Rica.....	7 Sep 2000	9 Apr 2002
Armenia	24 Sep 2003	30 Jun 2005	Croatia.....	8 May 2002	13 May 2002
Australia.....	18 Dec 2001	8 Jan 2007	Cuba.....	13 Oct 2000	25 Sep 2001
Austria	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2004	Cyprus.....	8 Feb 2001	6 Apr 2006
Azerbaijan.....	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	Czech Republic	26 Jan 2005	
Bahrain.....		21 Sep 2004 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo		11 Nov 2001 a
Bangladesh.....	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Denmark	7 Sep 2000	24 Jul 2003
Belarus		23 Jan 2002 a	Djibouti.....	14 Jun 2006	
Belgium	6 Sep 2000	17 Mar 2006	Dominica.....		20 Sep 2002 a
Belize	6 Sep 2000	1 Dec 2003	Dominican Republic ...		6 Dec 2006 a
Benin.....	22 Feb 2001	31 Jan 2005	Ecuador	6 Sep 2000	30 Jan 2004
Bhutan.....	15 Sep 2005		Egypt.....		12 Jul 2002 a
Bolivia	10 Nov 2001	3 Jun 2003	El Salvador.....	13 Sep 2002	17 May 2004
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	Equatorial Guinea		7 Feb 2003 a
Botswana.....		24 Sep 2003 a	Eritrea.....		16 Feb 2005 a
Brazil	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Estonia	24 Sep 2003	3 Aug 2004
Brunei Darussalam.....		21 Nov 2006 a	Fiji.....	16 Sep 2005	
Bulgaria	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Finland.....	7 Sep 2000	
Burkina Faso.....	16 Nov 2001	31 Mar 2006	France.....	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003
Burundi		6 Nov 2007 a	Gabon.....	8 Sep 2000	1 Oct 2007
Cambodia.....	27 Jun 2000	30 May 2002	Gambia.....	21 Dec 2000	
Cameroon.....	5 Oct 2001		Georgia.....		28 Jun 2005 a
Canada	10 Nov 2001	14 Sep 2005	Germany.....	6 Sep 2000	

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Ghana.....	24 Sep 2003		Moldova.....	8 Feb 2002	12 Apr 2007
Greece.....	7 Sep 2000	22 Feb 2008	Monaco.....	26 Jun 2000	
Guatemala.....	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002	Mongolia.....	12 Nov 2001	27 Jun 2003
Guinea-Bissau.....	8 Sep 2000		Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Haiti.....	15 Aug 2002		Morocco.....	8 Sep 2000	2 Oct 2001
Holy See.....	10 Oct 2000	24 Oct 2001	Mozambique.....		6 Mar 2003 a
Honduras.....		8 May 2002 a	Namibia.....	8 Sep 2000	16 Apr 2002
Hungary.....	11 Mar 2002		Nauru.....	8 Sep 2000	
Iceland.....	7 Sep 2000	9 Jul 2001	Nepal.....	8 Sep 2000	20 Jan 2006
India.....	15 Nov 2004	16 Aug 2005	Netherlands.....	7 Sep 2000	23 Aug 2005
Indonesia.....	24 Sep 2001		New Zealand.....	7 Sep 2000	
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		26 Sep 2007 a	Nicaragua.....		2 Dec 2004 a
Ireland.....	7 Sep 2000		Niger.....	27 Mar 2002	26 Oct 2004
Israel.....	14 Nov 2001		Nigeria.....	8 Sep 2000	
Italy.....	6 Sep 2000	9 May 2002	Norway.....	13 Jun 2000	2 Oct 2001
Jamaica.....	8 Sep 2000		Oman.....		17 Sep 2004 a
Japan.....	10 May 2002	24 Jan 2005	Pakistan.....	26 Sep 2001	
Jordan.....	6 Sep 2000	4 Dec 2006	Panama.....	31 Oct 2000	9 Feb 2001
Kazakhstan.....	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001	Paraguay.....	13 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2003
Kenya.....	8 Sep 2000		Peru.....	1 Nov 2000	8 May 2002
Kuwait.....		26 Aug 2004 a	Philippines.....	8 Sep 2000	28 May 2002
Kyrgyzstan.....		12 Feb 2003 a	Poland.....	13 Feb 2002	4 Feb 2005
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....		20 Sep 2006 a	Portugal.....	6 Sep 2000	16 May 2003
Latvia.....	1 Feb 2002	22 Feb 2006	Qatar.....		14 Dec 2001 a
Lebanon.....	10 Oct 2001	8 Nov 2004	Republic of Korea.....	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004
Lesotho.....	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2003	Romania.....	6 Sep 2000	18 Oct 2001
Liberia.....	22 Sep 2004		Rwanda.....		14 Mar 2002 a
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		18 Jun 2004 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		15 Sep 2005 a
Liechtenstein.....	8 Sep 2000		San Marino.....	5 Jun 2000	
Lithuania.....		5 Aug 2004 a	Senegal.....	8 Sep 2000	5 Nov 2003
Luxembourg.....	8 Sep 2000		Serbia.....	8 Oct 2001	10 Oct 2002
Madagascar.....	7 Sep 2000	22 Sep 2004	Seychelles.....	23 Jan 2001	
Malawi.....	7 Sep 2000		Sierra Leone.....	8 Sep 2000	17 Sep 2001
Maldives.....	10 May 2002	10 May 2002	Slovakia.....	30 Nov 2001	25 Jun 2004
Mali.....		16 May 2002 a	Slovenia.....	8 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2004
Malta.....	7 Sep 2000		South Africa.....		30 Jun 2003 a
Mauritania.....		23 Apr 2007 a	Spain.....	6 Sep 2000	18 Dec 2001
Mauritius.....	11 Nov 2001		Sri Lanka.....	8 May 2002	22 Sep 2006
Mexico.....	7 Sep 2000	15 Mar 2002	Sudan.....		2 Nov 2004 a
Micronesia (Federated States of).....	8 May 2002		Suriname.....	10 May 2002	
			Sweden.....	8 Sep 2000	19 Jan 2007
			Switzerland.....	7 Sep 2000	19 Sep 2006
			Syrian Arab Republic..		15 May 2003 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Tajikistan		5 Aug	2002 a	Northern Ireland			
Thailand		11 Jan	2006 a	United Republic of Tanzania		24 Apr	2003 a
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	17 Jul 2001	17 Oct	2003	United States of America	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec	2002
Timor-Leste		16 Apr	2003 a	Uruguay	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul	2003
Togo.....	15 Nov 2001	2 Jul	2004	Vanuatu.....	16 Sep 2005	17 May	2007
Tunisia	22 Apr 2002	13 Sep	2002	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	7 Sep 2000	8 May	2002
Turkey.....	8 Sep 2000	19 Aug	2002	Viet Nam.....	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec	2001
Turkmenistan		28 Mar	2005 a	Yemen.....		15 Dec	2004 a
Uganda.....		30 Nov	2001 a				
Ukraine	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul	2003				
United Kingdom of Great Britain and	7 Sep 2000						

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

(New York, 18 December 1990)

OBJECTIVES

The globalization of markets, information and technology, as well as the liberalization of many laws affecting individuals' mobility has enabled vast movements of people on a scale never seen before. The objective of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (the Convention) is to create international standards for the protection of the human rights of migrant workers and their families.

The reasons individuals migrate vary greatly. Some individuals migrate in order to escape desperate conditions in their home countries, such as war or famine. Others seek better living conditions in countries where economic opportunities seem to be more abundant or more equitable.

However, all migrant workers are vulnerable to abuse by virtue of the fact that they are living in a foreign country. In fact, many may fall victim to human traffickers who recruit them under false pretences and some are even held against their will under slave-like conditions.

Migrants may face many forms of discrimination on the part of the institutions and laws of their host country or its people. They are often restricted by law in the kind of employment or conditions of work in which they can engage, even in cases where they were encouraged by foreign companies or governments to settle in the host country.

KEY PROVISIONS

The adoption of this Convention in 1990 was an historic event for migrant workers. It establishes, in certain areas, the principle of equality of treatment with nationals for all migrant workers and their families, irrespective of their legal status.

This Convention sets forth, for the first time, internationally uniform definitions agreed upon by States for different categories of migrant workers. States also agreed upon the need for the sending, transit and receiving countries to institute protective action on behalf of the migrant workers.

The Convention establishes standards to which Parties must adhere with respect to migrant workers. It incorporates six international human rights treaties that are today in force. It also provides for the establishment of a monitoring mechanism in the form of an international body of independent experts. This independent body will periodically review the implementation of the Convention by Parties to the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 1 July 2003 (article 87).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all States. It is subject to ratification and open for accession (article 86).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party to the Convention may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 76).

A Party to the Convention may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim that their individual rights as established by the Convention have been violated by that Party (article 77).

States may declare, at the time of signature or ratification, that they do not consider themselves bound by article 92.1, according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration, upon request of one of them, and, failing an agreement about the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 92).

RESERVATIONS

A State ratifying or acceding to the Convention may not exclude the application of any part of it, or exclude any particular category of migrant workers from its application (article 88). Reservations not compatible with the object and the purpose of the Convention are not permitted (article 91).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Convention is possible only five years after it has entered into force for the Party concerned, and it becomes effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 12 months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under the Convention with regard to any act or omission which occurs prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective, nor does it prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter which is already under consideration by the Committee prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 89).

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL
MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES**

New York, 18 December 1990

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 July 2003, in accordance with article 87(1)
REGISTRATION: 1 July 2003, No. 39481.
STATUS: Signatories:24 Parties:38.
TEXT: Doc. A/RES/45/158.

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by Resolution 45/158¹ of 18 December 1990 at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States in accordance with its article 86 (1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature and Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a) and Succession(d)</i>
Albania		5 Jun 2007 a	Lesotho	24 Sep 2004	16 Sep 2005
Algeria		21 Apr 2005 a	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Argentina	10 Aug 2004	23 Feb 2007	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		18 Jun 2004 a
Azerbaijan		11 Jan 1999 a	Mali		5 Jun 2003 a
Bangladesh	7 Oct 1998		Mauritania		22 Jan 2007 a
Belize.....		14 Nov 2001 a	Mexico.....	22 May 1991	8 Mar 1999
Benin	15 Sep 2005		Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	
Bolivia		16 Oct 2000 a	Morocco	15 Aug 1991	21 Jun 1993
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		13 Dec 1996 a	Nicaragua		26 Oct 2005 a
Burkina Faso.....	16 Nov 2001	26 Nov 2003	Paraguay.....	13 Sep 2000	
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Peru	22 Sep 2004	14 Sep 2005
Cape Verde.....		16 Sep 1997 a	Philippines.....	15 Nov 1993	5 Jul 1995
Chile	24 Sep 1993	21 Mar 2005	Sao Tome and Principe..	6 Sep 2000	
Colombia		24 May 1995 a	Senegal		9 Jun 1999 a
Comoros	22 Sep 2000		Serbia.....	11 Nov 2004	
Ecuador.....		5 Feb 2002 a	Seychelles.....		15 Dec 1994 a
Egypt		19 Feb 1993 a	Sierra Leone	15 Sep 2000	
El Salvador	13 Sep 2002	14 Mar 2003	Sri Lanka		11 Mar 1996 a
Gabon	15 Dec 2004		Syrian Arab Republic .		2 Jun 2005 a
Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Tajikistan.....	7 Sep 2000	8 Jan 2002
Guatemala.....	7 Sep 2000	14 Mar 2003	Timor-Leste.....		30 Jan 2004 a
Guinea		7 Sep 2000 a	Togo	15 Nov 2001	
Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000		Turkey	13 Jan 1999	27 Sep 2004
Guyana	15 Sep 2005		Uganda		14 Nov 1995 a
Honduras		9 Aug 2005 a	Uruguay.....		15 Feb 2001 a
Indonesia	22 Sep 2004				
Kyrgyzstan.....		29 Sep 2003 a			

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities *(New York, 13 December 2006)*

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, already enjoyed by the general population, by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention sets forth a number of general obligations with respect to persons with disabilities. In this regard, Parties must undertake, *inter alia*, to adopt all appropriate legislation for the implementation of rights recognized in the Convention; to take all appropriate measures to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that are discriminatory; to take into account the protection and promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities in all policies and programmes; to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination by any person, organization or private enterprise; and to undertake to promote research and development of, and to promote the availability and use of new technologies, including information and communication technologies, mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies.

In addition to general obligations, the Convention provides for a number of specific obligations. For example, Parties must ensure equal protection and recognition before the law of persons with disabilities and prohibit all discrimination on the basis of disability. Specific provisions address the special circumstances of women and children in this regard.

The Convention reaffirms that persons with disabilities have the inherent right to life, liberty and security of person. The Convention contains provisions to protect persons with disabilities from being subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and from all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse, including their gender-based aspects.

The Convention recognizes the rights of persons with disabilities to liberty of movement, to freedom to choose their residence and to a nationality. It also recognizes the right of all persons with disabilities to live independently in the community with access to support services. In addition, Parties are obliged to undertake appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access, on an equal basis with others, to transportation, information and communications to enable them to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life.

Parties must also take effective and appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities in all matters relating to marriage, family, parenthood and relationships. Provisions relating to education, health and employment are also contained in the Convention.

To ensure implementation and monitoring of the Convention, Parties must designate one or more focal points within the government.

The Convention also establishes the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee), which considers reports on progress made in implementing the Convention by Parties.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. For each State or regional integration organisation ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twentieth such instrument, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument (article 45)*.

For the purpose of calculating the entry into force of the Convention, any instrument of formal confirmation or accession deposited by a regional integration organization shall not be counted (article 44).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all States and by regional integration organisations at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007. The Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States and to formal confirmation by signatory regional integration organisations. It shall also be open for accession by any State or regional integration organisation which has not signed the Convention (articles 42 and 43).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Regional integration organizations shall declare, in their instrument of formal confirmation or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention. Subsequently, such regional integration organizations shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 44).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention states that reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted and that reservations may be withdrawn at any time (article 46).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A State Party may denounce the present Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 48).

* On 3 April 2008, the conditions provided for in article 45 for the entry into force of the Convention were met. Accordingly, the Convention entered into force on 3 May 2008.

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

New York, 13 December 2006

NOT YET IN FORCE:

see article 45 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State or regional integration organization ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twentieth such instrument, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument."

STATUS:

Signatories: 127. Parties: 17.

TEXT:

Doc.A/61/611.

Note: The above Convention was adopted on 13 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/106. In accordance with its article 42, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States and by regional integration organizations at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>
Algeria	30 Mar 2007		Côte d'Ivoire.....	7 Jun 2007	
Andorra.....	27 Apr 2007		Croatia.....	30 Mar 2007	15 Aug 2007
Antigua and Barbuda ..	30 Mar 2007		Cuba.....	26 Apr 2007	6 Sep 2007
Argentina	30 Mar 2007		Cyprus.....	30 Mar 2007	
Armenia	30 Mar 2007		Czech Republic	30 Mar 2007	
Australia.....	30 Mar 2007		Denmark.....	30 Mar 2007	
Austria	30 Mar 2007		Dominica.....	30 Mar 2007	
Azerbaijan.....	9 Jan 2008		Dominican Republic ...	30 Mar 2007	
Bahrain.....	25 Jun 2007		Ecuador	30 Mar 2007	
Bangladesh.....	9 May 2007	30 Nov 2007	Egypt.....	4 Apr 2007	
Barbados	19 Jul 2007		El Salvador.....	30 Mar 2007	14 Dec 2007
Belgium	30 Mar 2007		Estonia	25 Sep 2007	
Benin.....	8 Feb 2008		Ethiopia.....	30 Mar 2007	
Bolivia	13 Aug 2007		European Community .	30 Mar 2007	
Brazil	30 Mar 2007		Finland	30 Mar 2007	
Brunei Darussalam.....	18 Dec 2007		France.....	30 Mar 2007	
Bulgaria	27 Sep 2007		Gabon.....	30 Mar 2007	1 Oct 2007
Burkina Faso.....	23 May 2007		Germany.....	30 Mar 2007	
Burundi	26 Apr 2007		Ghana.....	30 Mar 2007	
Cambodia.....	1 Oct 2007		Greece	30 Mar 2007	
Canada	30 Mar 2007		Guatemala	30 Mar 2007	
Cape Verde	30 Mar 2007		Guinea.....	16 May 2007	8 Feb 2008
Central African Republic	9 May 2007		Guyana.....	11 Apr 2007	
Chile.....	30 Mar 2007		Honduras.....	30 Mar 2007	
China.....	30 Mar 2007		Hungary	30 Mar 2007	20 Jul 2007
Colombia.....	30 Mar 2007		Iceland.....	30 Mar 2007	
Comoros.....	26 Sep 2007		India	30 Mar 2007	1 Oct 2007
Congo.....	30 Mar 2007		Indonesia.....	30 Mar 2007	
Costa Rica.....	30 Mar 2007		Ireland.....	30 Mar 2007	
			Israel	30 Mar 2007	

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>
Italy.....	30 Mar 2007		Qatar	9 Jul 2007	
Jamaica	30 Mar 2007	30 Mar 2007	Republic of Korea.....	30 Mar 2007	
Japan	28 Sep 2007		Romania.....	26 Sep 2007	
Jordan.....	30 Mar 2007		San Marino.....	30 Mar 2007	22 Feb 2008
Kenya.....	30 Mar 2007		Senegal.....	25 Apr 2007	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	15 Jan 2008		Serbia	17 Dec 2007	
Lebanon	14 Jun 2007		Seychelles	30 Mar 2007	
Liberia.....	30 Mar 2007		Sierra Leone.....	30 Mar 2007	
Lithuania.....	30 Mar 2007		Slovakia	26 Sep 2007	
Luxembourg.....	30 Mar 2007		Slovenia	30 Mar 2007	
Madagascar	25 Sep 2007		South Africa.....	30 Mar 2007	30 Nov 2007
Malawi	27 Sep 2007		Spain	30 Mar 2007	3 Dec 2007
Maldives	2 Oct 2007		Sri Lanka.....	30 Mar 2007	
Mali.....	15 May 2007		Sudan	30 Mar 2007	
Malta.....	30 Mar 2007		Suriname	30 Mar 2007	
Mauritius.....	25 Sep 2007		Swaziland.....	25 Sep 2007	
Mexico	30 Mar 2007	17 Dec 2007	Sweden.....	30 Mar 2007	
Moldova.....	30 Mar 2007		Syrian Arab Republic..	30 Mar 2007	
Montenegro.....	27 Sep 2007		Thailand	30 Mar 2007	
Morocco.....	30 Mar 2007		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	30 Mar 2007	
Mozambique	30 Mar 2007		Tonga	15 Nov 2007	
Namibia	25 Apr 2007	4 Dec 2007	Trinidad and Tobago...	27 Sep 2007	
Nepal.....	3 Jan 2008		Tunisia	30 Mar 2007	
Netherlands	30 Mar 2007		Turkey.....	30 Mar 2007	
New Zealand.....	30 Mar 2007		Uganda	30 Mar 2007	
Nicaragua.....	30 Mar 2007	7 Dec 2007	United Arab Emirates .	8 Feb 2008	
Niger	30 Mar 2007		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	30 Mar 2007	
Nigeria	30 Mar 2007		United Republic of Tanzania	30 Mar 2007	
Norway	30 Mar 2007		Uruguay	3 Apr 2007	
Oman	17 Mar 2008		Vanuatu.....	17 May 2007	
Panama.....	30 Mar 2007	7 Aug 2007	Viet Nam.....	22 Oct 2007	
Paraguay	30 Mar 2007		Yemen.....	30 Mar 2007	
Peru.....	30 Mar 2007	30 Jan 2008			
Philippines	25 Sep 2007				
Poland.....	30 Mar 2007				
Portugal.....	30 Mar 2007				

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities *(New York, 13 December 2006)*

OBJECTIVES

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Optional Protocol) grants authority to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) to receive communications from or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals concerning alleged breaches of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) by a Party to the Optional Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to the Optional Protocol, the Committee is obliged to submit admissible communications from or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals concerning alleged breaches of the Convention to the Party concerned in a confidential manner. Within six months, the Party concerned is obliged to provide the Committee with written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by it. The Optional Protocol delineates those cases in which the Committee shall consider a communication inadmissible. Such cases include, for example, where the communication is anonymous, the same matter has already been examined by the Committee, all available domestic remedies have not been exhausted, and the communication is ill-founded or not sufficiently substantiated.

Following the receipt of a communication, but before a determination has been reached, the Committee may request that a Party take interim measures as may be necessary to avoid possible irreparable damage to the victim or victims of an alleged violation. Moreover, in cases where the Committee receives reliable information indicating that grave or systematic violations by a Party of rights set forth in the Convention are taking place, the Committee shall invite the Party concerned to cooperate in the examination of the information and submit observations. Taking into account the above, the Committee may also conduct an inquiry, and where warranted and with the consent of the Party concerned, may also visit its territory. Such inquiries are conducted in a confidential manner. Moreover, the Committee is obliged to seek the cooperation of the Party concerned at all stages of the proceedings.

The Committee is obliged to transmit the findings of an inquiry to the Party concerned with any comments and recommendations. The Party shall, within six months of receiving the findings, submit its observations to the Committee. The Committee may invite the Party concerned to include in its report under article 35 of the Convention details of any measures taken in response to an inquiry. The Committee may also, at the end of the six month period, invite the Party to inform it of the measures taken in response to the inquiry.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Optional Protocol has not yet entered into force. Subject to the entry into force of the Convention, it shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the tenth instrument of ratification or accession. For each State or regional integration organisation ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Optional Protocol after the deposit of the tenth instrument

of ratification, formal confirmation or accession, the Optional Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument (article 13)*.

For the purpose of calculating the entry into force of the Optional Protocol, any instrument of formal confirmation or accession deposited by a regional integration organization shall not be counted (article 12).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Optional Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by signatory States and regional integration organisations of the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York as from 30 March 2007 (article 10).

The Optional Protocol shall be subject to ratification by signatory States of the Optional Protocol which have ratified or acceded to the Convention. The Optional Protocol shall be subject to formal confirmation by signatory regional integration organisations of the Optional Protocol which have formally confirmed or acceded to the Convention. It shall be open for accession by any State or regional integration organization which has ratified, formally confirmed or acceded to the Convention and which has not signed the Optional Protocol (article 11).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Optional Protocol or accession thereto, declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee provided for in articles 6 and 7 to conduct inquiries of grave or systematic violations of the Convention (article 8).

Regional integration organizations shall declare, in their instrument of formal confirmation or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by Convention and the Optional Protocol. Subsequently, such regional integration organization shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 12).

RESERVATIONS

The Optional Protocol states that reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Optional Protocol shall not be permitted. Reservations may be withdrawn at any time (article 14).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Optional Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 16).

* On 3 April 2008, the conditions provided for in article 45 for the entry into force of the Convention were met. Accordingly, and pursuant to article 13 of the Optional Protocol, the Convention and the Optional Protocol entered into force on 3 May 2008.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

New York, 13 December 2006

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 May 2008, in accordance with article 13(1).
STATUS: Signatories: 73. Parties: 14.
TEXT: Doc.A/61/611.

Note: The above Optional Protocol was adopted on 13 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/106. In accordance with its article 10, the Optional Protocol shall be open for signature by all signatory States and regional integration organizations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>
Algeria	30 Mar 2007		Honduras.....	23 Aug 2007	
Andorra.....	27 Apr 2007		Hungary	30 Mar 2007	20 Jul 2007
Antigua and Barbuda ..	30 Mar 2007		Iceland.....	30 Mar 2007	
Argentina	30 Mar 2007		Italy	30 Mar 2007	
Armenia	30 Mar 2007		Jamaica.....	30 Mar 2007	
Austria	30 Mar 2007		Jordan.....	30 Mar 2007	
Azerbaijan.....	9 Jan 2008		Lebanon	14 Jun 2007	
Belgium	30 Mar 2007		Liberia.....	30 Mar 2007	
Benin.....	8 Feb 2008		Lithuania	30 Mar 2007	
Bolivia	13 Aug 2007		Luxembourg.....	30 Mar 2007	
Brazil	30 Mar 2007		Madagascar	25 Sep 2007	
Burkina Faso.....	23 May 2007		Mali.....	15 May 2007	7 Apr 2008
Burundi	26 Apr 2007		Malta	30 Mar 2007	
Cambodia.....	1 Oct 2007		Mauritius.....	25 Sep 2007	
Central African Republic	9 May 2007		Mexico	30 Mar 2007	17 Dec 2007
Chile.....	30 Mar 2007		Montenegro	27 Sep 2007	
Congo.....	30 Mar 2007		Namibia.....	25 Apr 2007	4 Dec 2007
Costa Rica.....	30 Mar 2007		Nepal.....	3 Jan 2008	
Côte d'Ivoire	7 Jun 2007		Niger	2 Aug 2007	
Croatia	30 Mar 2007	15 Aug 2007	Nigeria	30 Mar 2007	
Cyprus.....	30 Mar 2007		Panama.....	30 Mar 2007	7 Aug 2007
Czech Republic.....	30 Mar 2007		Paraguay.....	30 Mar 2007	
Dominican Republic ...	30 Mar 2007		Peru	30 Mar 2007	30 Jan 2008
Ecuador.....	30 Mar 2007	3 Apr 2008	Portugal.....	30 Mar 2007	
El Salvador.....	30 Mar 2007	14 Dec 2007	Qatar	9 Jul 2007	
Finland	30 Mar 2007		San Marino.....	30 Mar 2007	22 Feb 2008
Gabon.....	25 Sep 2007		Senegal.....	25 Apr 2007	
Germany	30 Mar 2007		Serbia	17 Dec 2007	
Ghana.....	30 Mar 2007		Seychelles	30 Mar 2007	
Guatemala.....	30 Mar 2007		Sierra Leone.....	30 Mar 2007	
Guinea.....	31 Aug 2007	8 Feb 2008	Slovakia	26 Sep 2007	
			Slovenia	30 Mar 2007	

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a)</i>
South Africa.....	30 Mar 2007	30 Nov 2007
Spain	30 Mar 2007	3 Dec 2007
Swaziland.....	25 Sep 2007	
Sweden.....	30 Mar 2007	
Tunisia	30 Mar 2007	2 Apr 2008
Uganda.....	30 Mar 2007	
United Arab Emirates .	12 Feb 2008	
Yemen.....	11 Apr 2007	

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance *(New York, 20 December 2006)*

OBJECTIVES

The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (the Convention) represents an important development in the fight against the enforced disappearance of people. The Convention fills a number of important gaps in the international framework relating to enforced disappearances, including the definition of “enforced disappearance”. The Convention establishes all critical measures for preventing enforced disappearance and for minimizing the risk of torture and death. It specifically seeks to bring criminal proceedings against perpetrators of such a crime and outlaws secret detention. It requires that Parties hold all detainees in officially recognized places, maintain up-to-date official registers and detailed records of all detainees, allow them to communicate with their families and counsel, and give access to competent and authorized authorities.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention states that no one shall be subject to enforced disappearance and requires Parties to take necessary measures to ensure that enforced disappearance constitutes an offence under its criminal law. The offence of enforced disappearance is defined by the Convention as “...the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law. ...”

Pursuant to the Convention, Parties are obliged to take the necessary measures to hold criminally responsible at least “(a)ny person who commits, orders, solicits or induces the commission of, attempt to commit, is an accomplice to or participates in an enforced disappearance.” Superiors may also be held criminally responsible in certain circumstances as defined in the Convention. Parties are obliged to make the offence punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account the extreme seriousness of the crime.

The Party in the territory under whose jurisdiction a person alleged to have committed an offence of enforced disappearance is found has a duty to prosecute or extradite that person, surrender him or her to another State in accordance with its international obligations, or surrender him or her to an international criminal tribunal whose jurisdiction it has recognized. The Convention provides for fair treatment for alleged perpetrators of the crime, and for a fair trial before a competent, independent and impartial court. In addition, the Convention provides for the protection of the complainant, witnesses, relatives of the disappeared person, counsel, and other persons participating in the investigation. The Convention includes provisions on extradition and mutual legal assistance, and international cooperation relating to assisting victims, and searching for disappeared persons.

Victims’ rights are also included in the Convention. Victims and their families are entitled to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the fate of the disappeared person and the progress of the results concerning the investigation. Victims are also entitled to obtain reparation and compensation. The Convention guarantees the right to form associations and organizations to fight against enforced disappearances. The Convention also deals with the wrongful removal of children whose parents

are victims of enforced disappearance, the falsification of these children's identities and their subsequent adoption.

An international treaty-monitoring body, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, is established by the Convention to monitor how Parties implement their obligations under the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession (article 39).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature by all Member States of the United Nations and is subject to ratification. It is open to accession by all Member States of the United Nations (article 38).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may at the time of ratification or at any time thereafter declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (the Committee) to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by the Party concerned of provisions of the Convention (article 31).

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in which a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 32).

A State may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention, or accession thereto, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of article 42, according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which cannot be settled by negotiation or by procedures expressly provided for in the Convention, shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration, and, failing an agreement on the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 42).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

New York, 20 December 2006

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 39 which reads as follows: "This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State ratifying or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit of that State's instrument of ratification or accession."

STATUS: Signatories: 72. Parties: 4.

TEXT: Doc.A/61/488.

Note: The above Convention was adopted on 20 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/177. In accordance with its article 38, the Convention shall be open for signature by all Member States of the United Nations. The Convention shall be open for signature on 6 February 2007 in Paris, France, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Accession(a), Ratification</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Accession(a), Ratification</i>
Albania.....	6 Feb 2007	8 Nov 2007	Ghana.....	6 Feb 2007	
Algeria.....	6 Feb 2007		Grenada.....	6 Feb 2007	
Argentina.....	6 Feb 2007	14 Dec 2007	Guatemala.....	6 Feb 2007	
Armenia.....	10 Apr 2007		Haiti.....	6 Feb 2007	
Austria.....	6 Feb 2007		Honduras.....	6 Feb 2007	1 Apr 2008
Azerbaijan.....	6 Feb 2007		India.....	6 Feb 2007	
Belgium.....	6 Feb 2007		Ireland.....	29 Mar 2007	
Bolivia.....	6 Feb 2007		Italy.....	3 Jul 2007	
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	6 Feb 2007		Japan.....	6 Feb 2007	
Brazil.....	6 Feb 2007		Kenya.....	6 Feb 2007	
Burkina Faso.....	6 Feb 2007		Lebanon.....	6 Feb 2007	
Burundi.....	6 Feb 2007		Liechtenstein.....	1 Oct 2007	
Cameroon.....	6 Feb 2007		Lithuania.....	6 Feb 2007	
Cape Verde.....	6 Feb 2007		Luxembourg.....	6 Feb 2007	
Chad.....	6 Feb 2007		Madagascar.....	6 Feb 2007	
Chile.....	6 Feb 2007		Maldives.....	6 Feb 2007	
Colombia.....	27 Sep 2007		Mali.....	6 Feb 2007	
Comoros.....	6 Feb 2007		Malta.....	6 Feb 2007	
Congo.....	6 Feb 2007		Mexico.....	6 Feb 2007	18 Mar 2008
Costa Rica.....	6 Feb 2007		Moldova.....	6 Feb 2007	
Croatia.....	6 Feb 2007		Monaco.....	6 Feb 2007	
Cuba.....	6 Feb 2007		Mongolia.....	6 Feb 2007	
Cyprus.....	6 Feb 2007		Montenegro.....	6 Feb 2007	
Denmark.....	25 Sep 2007		Morocco.....	6 Feb 2007	
Ecuador.....	24 May 2007		Niger.....	6 Feb 2007	
Finland.....	6 Feb 2007		Norway.....	21 Dec 2007	
France.....	6 Feb 2007		Panama.....	25 Sep 2007	
Gabon.....	25 Sep 2007		Paraguay.....	6 Feb 2007	
Germany.....	26 Sep 2007		Portugal.....	6 Feb 2007	
			Samoa.....	6 Feb 2007	

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Accession(a), Ratification</i>
Senegal.....	6 Feb	2007
Serbia.....	6 Feb	2007
Sierra Leone.....	6 Feb	2007
Slovakia.....	26 Sep	2007
Slovenia.....	26 Sep	2007
Spain.....	27 Sep	2007
Swaziland.....	25 Sep	2007
Sweden.....	6 Feb	2007
The former Yugoslav	6 Feb	2007

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Accession(a), Ratification</i>
Republic of Macedonia.....		
Tunisia.....	6 Feb	2007
Uganda.....	6 Feb	2007
Uruguay.....	6 Feb	2007
Vanuatu.....	6 Feb	2007

International Tropical Timber Agreement *(Geneva, 27 January 2006)*

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (the Agreement) are to promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests and to promote the sustainable management of tropical timber producing forest.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Agreement provides that the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), which was established by the 1983 International Tropical Timber Agreement, shall continue in being for the purposes of administering the provisions and supervising the operation of the Agreement. The Organization occupies an unusual position in the family of intergovernmental organizations. Like all commodity organizations it is concerned with trade and industry, but it also pays considerable attention to the sustainable management of natural resources.

The Agreement sets-out two categories of membership in the ITTO (producing and consuming member). A member refers to a State or any intergovernmental organization, as defined by the Agreement, which has consented to be bound by the Agreement and for which the Agreement is in force, whether provisionally or definitively. The Agreement also provides for the composition of the International Tropical Timber Council (the Council), which is the highest authority of the ITTO, the powers and functions of the Council, annual contributions and distribution of votes, rules of procedure and other relevant matters.

The Agreement establishes four committees of the ITTO, which are open to all members. Three of the committees deal with key areas of policy and project work: economic information and market intelligence, reforestation and forest management, and forest industry. These committees are supported by the Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Projects and Pre-projects, which reviews project proposals for technical merit and relevance to the ITTO's objectives. The fourth committee, on Finance and Administration, advises the Council on matters related to the budget and other funding and administrative issues concerning the management of the ITTO. These Committees provide advice and assistance to the Council on policy and project issues.

Members are obliged to use their best endeavours and cooperate to promote the attainment of the objectives of the Agreement and avoid any action contrary thereto. Members also undertake to accept and carry out the decisions of the Council under the provisions of the Agreement and agree to refrain from implementing measures that would have the effect of limiting or running counter to them. Members are additionally obligated to provide statistics and information on timber, its trade and activities aimed at achieving sustainable management of timber producing forests, as well as other relevant information requested by the Council.

The Agreement provides that the Council may grant relief from obligations in certain circumstances to a member. It also provides for a complaint procedure whereby a member may bring to the Council any complaint that a member has failed to fulfill its obligations under the Agreement. There are also special provisions for developing countries and least developed countries which may, in certain circumstances, apply to the Council for differential and remedial measures, and special measures, respectively.

Lastly, the Agreement contains a non-discrimination clause to the effect that nothing in the Agreement authorizes the use of measures to restrict or ban international trade in, and in particular as they concern imports of, and utilization of, timber and timber products.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement is not in force. It shall enter into force definitively on any date after 1 February 2008, if 12 Governments of producers holding at least 60 per cent of the total votes as set out in Annex A to this Agreement and 10 Governments of consumers as listed in Annex B and accounting for 60 per cent of the global import volume of tropical timber in the reference year 2005 have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 36, paragraph 2, or article 37. The Agreement may also enter into force provisionally up until 1 August 2008 if by that date 10 Governments of producers holding at least 50 per cent of the total votes as set out in Annex A to this Agreement and seven Governments of consumers as listed in Annex B and accounting for 50 per cent of the global import volume of tropical timber in the reference year 2005 have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 36, paragraph 2, or have notified the depositary under article 38 that they will apply this Agreement provisionally. If the Agreement has not entered into force either definitively or provisionally by 1 September 2008, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall invite those Governments which have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 36, paragraph 2, or have notified the depositary that they will apply this Agreement provisionally, to meet at the earliest time practicable to decide whether to put this Agreement into force provisionally or definitively among themselves in whole or in part (article 39).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Agreement is closed for signature. The Agreement is open for accession by Governments upon conditions established by the Council, which shall include a time-limit for the deposit of instruments of accession. The Council may, however, grant extensions of time to Governments which are unable to accede by the time-limit set in the conditions of accession. (article 37).

A signatory Government which intends to ratify, accept or approve this Agreement, or a Government for which the Council has established conditions for accession but which has not yet been able to deposit its instrument may, at any time, notify the depositary that it will apply this Agreement provisionally in accordance with its laws and regulations, either when it enters into force in accordance with the Agreement or, if it is already in force, at a specified date (article 38).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Upon signature and ratification, acceptance or approval, or accession, or provisional application, the European Community or any intergovernmental organization, as defined by the Agreement, shall deposit a declaration issued by the appropriate authority of such organization specifying the nature and extent of its competence over matters governed by this Agreement, and shall inform the depositary of any subsequent substantial change in such competence. Where such organization declares exclusive competence over all matters governed by this Agreement, the member States of such organization shall not take the actions under article 36, paragraph 2, article 37 and article 38, or shall take the action under article 41 or withdraw notification of provisional application under article 38 (article 36).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Agreement (article 45).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A member may withdraw from this Agreement at any time after the entry into force of the Agreement by giving written notice of withdrawal to the depositary. That member shall simultaneously inform the Council of the action it has taken. Withdrawal shall become effective 90 days after the notice is received by the depositary (article 41).

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 2006

*Geneva, 27 January 2006***NOT YET IN FORCE:**

which reads, in part, as follows: "1. This Agreement shall enter into force definitively on 1 February 2008 or on any date thereafter, if 12 Governments of producers holding at least 60 per cent of the total votes as set out in Annex A to this Agreement and 10 Governments of consumers as listed in Annex B and accounting for 60 per cent of the global import volume of tropical timber in the reference year 2005 have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 36, paragraph 2, or article 37. 2. If this Agreement has not entered into force definitively on 1 February 2008, it shall enter into force provisionally on that date or on any date within six months thereafter if 10 Governments of producers holding at least 50 per cent of the total votes as set out in Annex A to this Agreement and seven Governments of consumers as listed in Annex B and accounting for 50 per cent of the global import volume of tropical timber in the reference year 2005 have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 36, paragraph 2 or have notified the depositary under article 38 that they will apply this Agreement provisionally." Signatories: 17. Parties: 5.

STATUS:

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application(n)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s)</i>
Cameroon.....	13 Feb 2007		
Colombia.....	3 May 2007		
Ecuador.....	24 May 2007		
European Community .	2 Nov 2007	2 Nov 2007 n	
Greece.....	29 Oct 2007		
Guatemala.....	14 Jul 2006		
Indonesia.....	7 Apr 2006		
Japan.....	16 Feb 2007		31 Aug 2007 A
Madagascar.....	19 Sep 2006		
Malaysia.....	28 Mar 2007		28 Sep 2007
Mexico.....	25 Jul 2007		
Netherlands.....	4 Dec 2007		
Norway.....	13 Sep 2006		
Panama.....	8 Dec 2006		
Switzerland.....	13 Dec 2006		27 Apr 2007
Togo.....	21 Apr 2006		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	21 Dec 2007	21 Dec 2007 n	
United States of America.....			27 Apr 2007 s

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
(Montego Bay, 10 December 1982)

**Agreement for the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations
Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982**
(New York, 28 July 1994)

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention) lays down a comprehensive regime of law and order for the world's oceans and seas, establishing rules governing all uses of the oceans and seas and their resources. It enshrines the notion that all problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be addressed as a whole.

The Convention was opened for signature on 10 December 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. At the time of its adoption, the Convention embodied in one instrument traditional rules for the uses of the oceans and at the same time introduced new legal concepts and regimes and addressed new concerns. Today, it is the globally recognized regime dealing with all matters relating to the law of the sea.

The Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention (the Agreement) was adopted on 28 July 1994 to resolve certain difficulties with the seabed mining provisions contained in Part XI of the Convention, which had been raised primarily by the industrialized countries.

In accordance with article 2 of the Agreement, the Agreement and Convention shall be interpreted and applied together as a single instrument.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention represents an attempt to create a legal order for the seas and oceans, which will facilitate international cooperation, and will promote the peaceful uses of the seas and oceans, the equitable utilization of their resources, the conservation of their living resources, and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment. The Convention is in many respects a framework Convention in light of the fact that many of its provisions, being of a general nature, can only be further implemented through the adoption of relevant international rules and standards developed by or through the competent international organization or organizations. Key provisions of the Convention include:

- Coastal States exercise sovereignty over their territorial sea, which they have the right to establish up to a limit not exceeding 12 nautical miles;
- Archipelagic States, made up of a group or groups of closely interrelated islands and interconnecting waters, have sovereignty over a sea area enclosed by straight lines drawn between the outermost points of the islands;
- Foreign ships can exercise the rights of "innocent passage" through the territorial sea and archipelagic waters, "transit passage" through straits used for international navigation and archipelagic sea lanes passage through archipelagic sea lanes. The exercise of such rights is subject to the duty to comply with the relevant international rules and standards and the laws and regulations of the coastal and archipelagic States, and of the States bordering the strait;

- Coastal States have sovereign rights in a 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone with respect to exploring, exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, living and non-living, and with regard to other activities for the economic exploitation and exploration of the zone; coastal States also exercise jurisdiction with regard to marine scientific research and the protection and preservation of the marine environment;
- Land-locked and geographically disadvantaged States have the right to participate on an equitable basis in exploitation of an appropriate part of the surplus of the living resources of the exclusive economic zones of coastal States of the same region or sub-region; land-locked States also have the right of access to and from the sea and enjoy freedom of transit through the territory of transit States;
- All States enjoy freedom of navigation and overflight in the exclusive economic zone, as well as freedom to lay submarine cables and pipelines;
- Coastal States have sovereign rights over the continental shelf for the purpose of exploring it and exploiting its natural resources; the shelf extends to a distance of at least 200 nautical miles; data on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles must be submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;
- Coastal States share with the international community part of the revenue derived from exploiting non-living resources from any part of their shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;
- All States enjoy, *inter alia*, the traditional freedoms of navigation, overflight, scientific research and fishing on the high seas; they are obliged to adopt, or cooperate with other States in adopting measures to manage and conserve living resources;
- States bordering enclosed or semi-enclosed seas should coordinate the management, conservation, exploration and exploitation of living resources; the implementation of their rights and duties with respect to the protection and preservation of the marine environment; and scientific research policies and activities;
- The seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (the Area) and its mineral resources are the common heritage of mankind; the exploration and exploitation of the mineral resources are to be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, and under the control of the International Seabed Authority, which is also responsible for ensuring the protection of the marine environment from harmful effects which may arise from activities in the Area;
- States have an obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment and are required to take all measures necessary to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from any source; to ensure that activities under their jurisdiction or control do not spread to areas beyond their jurisdiction and do not cause damage by pollution to other States and their environment; and to protect and preserve rare and fragile ecosystems, as well as the habitat of depleted, threatened or endangered species and other forms of marine life;
- States are responsible for the fulfilment of their international obligations concerning the protection and preservation of the marine environment and shall be liable in accordance with international law;
- All marine scientific research in the EEZ and on the continental shelf is subject to the consent of the coastal State, which must normally be granted if the research is conducted for peaceful purposes and in order to increase scientific knowledge of the marine environment for the benefit of mankind;
- States are bound to promote the development and transfer of marine technology "on fair and reasonable terms and conditions", with due regard for all legitimate interests;

- Parties are obliged to settle disputes between them concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention by peaceful means;
- Under the compulsory procedures entailing binding decisions, disputes can be submitted to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea established under the Convention, to the International Court of Justice, to an arbitral tribunal, or to a special arbitral tribunal. Conciliation is also available and, in certain circumstances, submission to it would be compulsory. The Tribunal has exclusive jurisdiction over disputes relating to activities in the Area.

The Agreement deals with various issues that were identified as problematic. These include costs to Parties and institutional arrangements, decision-making mechanisms for the Authority, the Review Conference, production policy and financial terms of contracts.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 16 November 1994 (article 308 of the Convention). The Agreement entered into force on 28 July 1996 (article 6 of the Agreement).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is open for ratification by States and other entities referred to in article 305 (1) (c), (d) and (e), and to formal confirmation by international organizations, in accordance with Annex IX. The Convention is also open for accession by States and other entities referred to in article 305, and by international organizations, in accordance with Annex IX. Pursuant to Annex IX, an international organization may deposit its instrument of formal confirmation or accession only if a majority of its member States deposit or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession (articles 305, 306 and 307 of the Convention).

The Agreement is closed for signature. The Agreement is subject to ratification by States and other entities referred to in article 305 (1) (c), (d) and (e) of the Convention, and to formal confirmation by international organizations, in accordance with Annex IX of the Convention. The Agreement is also open for accession by States and other entities referred to in article 305 of the Convention, and by international organizations, in accordance with Annex IX of the Convention. Pursuant to Annex IX of the Convention, an international organization may deposit its instrument of formal confirmation or accession only if a majority of its member States deposit or have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession (article 4(3) and (4) of the Agreement).

No State or entity may establish its consent to be bound by the Agreement unless it has previously established or establishes at the same time its consent to be bound by the Convention (article 4(2) of the Agreement).

Any instrument of ratification or formal confirmation or of accession to the Convention also represents consent to be bound by the Agreement (article 4(1) of the Agreement).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

When signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention or at any time thereafter, a State may choose by means of a written declaration one or more of the listed means for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention (article 287 of the Convention).

When signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention or at any time thereafter, a State may declare in writing that it does not accept any one or more of the procedures provided for in section 2 with respect to one or more of the categories of disputes enumerated in the article (article 298 of the Convention).

A State, when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention may make declarations or statements, however phrased or named, with a view, *inter alia*, to the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of the Convention, provided that such declarations or statements do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to that State (article 310 of the Convention).

An instrument deposited by an international organization shall contain the undertakings and declarations required by articles 4 and 5 of Annex IX (Annex IX, article 3 of the Convention, and article 4(4) of the Agreement).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention unless expressly permitted by other articles of this Convention (article 309 of the Convention). Articles 309 to 319 of the Convention apply to the Agreement (article 2 of the Agreement).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation is effected by a written notification to the Secretary-General as depositary and takes effect one year after the date of receipt, unless such notification specifies a later date (article 317 of the Convention). Articles 309 to 319 of the Convention apply to the Agreement (article 2 of the Agreement).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Montego Bay, 10 December 1982

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 16 November 1994, in accordance with article 308(1).
REGISTRATION: 16 November 1994, No. 31363.
STATUS: Signatories: 155. Parties: 155.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, p. 3; depositary notifications C.N.236.1984.TREATIES-7 of 5 October 1984 (procès-verbal of rectification of the English and Spanish authentic texts); C.N.202.1985.TREATIES-17 of 23 August 1985 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original English text); C.N.17.1986.TREATIES-1 of 7 April 1986 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish texts of the Final Act); C.N.166.1993.TREATIES-4 of 9 August 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish texts of the Final Act); and vol. 1904, p. 320 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original French text); C.N.694.2005.TREATIES-5 of 7 September 2005 (Proposal of correction to Article 5 of Annex II of the authentic Spanish text of the Convention) and C.N.1023.2005.TREATIES-7 of 7 October 2005 [procès-verbal of rectification of the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)].

Note: The Convention was adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and opened for signature, together with the Final Act of the Conference, at Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 10 December 1982. The Conference was convened pursuant to resolution 3067 (XXVIII) adopted by the General Assembly on 16 November 1973. The Conference held eleven sessions, from 1973 to 1982, as follows:

- First session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 3 to 15 December 1973;
- Second session: Parque Central, Caracas, 20 June to 29 August 1974;
- Third session: United Nations Office at Geneva, 17 March to 9 May 1975;
- Fourth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 15 March to 7 May 1976;
- Fifth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 2 August to 17 September 1976;
- Sixth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 23 May to 15 July 1977;
- Seventh session: United Nations Office at Geneva, 28 March to 19 May 1978;
- Resumed seventh session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 21 August to 15 September 1978;
- Eighth session: United Nations Office at Geneva, 19 March to 27 April 1979;
- Resumed eighth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 19 July to 24 August 1979;
- Ninth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 3 March to 4 April 1980;
- Resumed ninth session: United Nations Office at Geneva, 28 July to 29 August 1980;
- Tenth session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 9 March to 24 April 1981;
- Resumed tenth session: United Nations Office at Geneva, 3 to 28 August 1981;
- Eleventh session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 8 March to 30 April 1982;
- Resumed eleventh session: United Nations Headquarters, New York, 22 to 24 September 1982;
- Final Part of the eleventh session: Montego Bay, Jamaica, 6 to 10 December 1982.

The Conference also adopted a Final Act with, annexed thereto, nine resolutions and a statement of understanding. The text of the Final Act has been reproduced as document A/CONF.62/121 and Corr. 1 to 8.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	18 Mar 1983		Australia.....	10 Dec 1982	5 Oct 1994
Albania.....		23 Jun 2003 a	Austria.....	10 Dec 1982	14 Jul 1995
Algeria	10 Dec 1982	11 Jun 1996	Bahamas.....	10 Dec 1982	29 Jul 1983
Angola	10 Dec 1982	5 Dec 1990	Bahrain.....	10 Dec 1982	30 May 1985
Antigua and Barbuda	7 Feb 1983	2 Feb 1989	Bangladesh.....	10 Dec 1982	27 Jul 2001
Argentina	5 Oct 1984	1 Dec 1995	Barbados	10 Dec 1982	12 Oct 1993
Armenia		9 Dec 2002 a	Belarus	10 Dec 1982	30 Aug 2006

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Belgium	5 Dec 1984	13 Nov 1998	Estonia		26 Aug 2005 a
Belize	10 Dec 1982	13 Aug 1983	Ethiopia	10 Dec 1982	
Benin.....	30 Aug 1983	16 Oct 1997	European Community ...	7 Dec 1984	1 Apr 1998 c
Bhutan.....	10 Dec 1982		Fiji.....	10 Dec 1982	10 Dec 1982
Bolivia	27 Nov 1984	28 Apr 1995	Finland	10 Dec 1982	21 Jun 1996
Bosnia and Herzegovina		12 Jan 1994 d	France.....	10 Dec 1982	11 Apr 1996
Botswana.....	5 Dec 1984	2 May 1990	Gabon.....	10 Dec 1982	11 Mar 1998
Brazil	10 Dec 1982	22 Dec 1988	Gambia.....	10 Dec 1982	22 May 1984
Brunei Darussalam.....	5 Dec 1984	5 Nov 1996	Georgia.....		21 Mar 1996 a
Bulgaria	10 Dec 1982	15 May 1996	Germany.....		14 Oct 1994 a
Burkina Faso	10 Dec 1982	25 Jan 2005	Ghana	10 Dec 1982	7 Jun 1983
Burundi	10 Dec 1982		Greece	10 Dec 1982	21 Jul 1995
Cambodia.....	1 Jul 1983		Grenada.....	10 Dec 1982	25 Apr 1991
Cameroon.....	10 Dec 1982	19 Nov 1985	Guatemala	8 Jul 1983	11 Feb 1997
Canada	10 Dec 1982	7 Nov 2003	Guinea.....	4 Oct 1984	6 Sep 1985
Cape Verde	10 Dec 1982	10 Aug 1987	Guinea-Bissau	10 Dec 1982	25 Aug 1986
Central African Republic	4 Dec 1984		Guyana	10 Dec 1982	16 Nov 1993
Chad.....	10 Dec 1982		Haiti	10 Dec 1982	31 Jul 1996
Chile.....	10 Dec 1982	25 Aug 1997	Honduras.....	10 Dec 1982	5 Oct 1993
China.....	10 Dec 1982	7 Jun 1996	Hungary	10 Dec 1982	5 Feb 2002
Colombia.....	10 Dec 1982		Iceland.....	10 Dec 1982	21 Jun 1985
Comoros.....	6 Dec 1984	21 Jun 1994	India	10 Dec 1982	29 Jun 1995
Congo.....	10 Dec 1982		Indonesia.....	10 Dec 1982	3 Feb 1986
Cook Islands	10 Dec 1982	15 Feb 1995	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	10 Dec 1982	
Costa Rica.....	10 Dec 1982	21 Sep 1992	Iraq	10 Dec 1982	30 Jul 1985
Côte d'Ivoire	10 Dec 1982	26 Mar 1984	Ireland	10 Dec 1982	21 Jun 1996
Croatia		5 Apr 1995 d	Italy	7 Dec 1984	13 Jan 1995
Cuba.....	10 Dec 1982	15 Aug 1984	Jamaica.....	10 Dec 1982	21 Mar 1983
Cyprus.....	10 Dec 1982	12 Dec 1988	Japan	7 Feb 1983	20 Jun 1996
Czech Republic	22 Feb 1993 d	21 Jun 1996	Jordan.....		27 Nov 1995 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea ...	10 Dec 1982		Kenya.....	10 Dec 1982	2 Mar 1989
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....	22 Aug 1983	17 Feb 1989	Kiribati.....		24 Feb 2003 a
Denmark	10 Dec 1982	16 Nov 2004	Kuwait.....	10 Dec 1982	2 May 1986
Djibouti.....	10 Dec 1982	8 Oct 1991	Lao People's Democratic Republic	10 Dec 1982	5 Jun 1998
Dominica.....	28 Mar 1983	24 Oct 1991	Latvia		23 Dec 2004 a
Dominican Republic	10 Dec 1982		Lebanon	7 Dec 1984	5 Jan 1995
Egypt.....	10 Dec 1982	26 Aug 1983	Lesotho.....	10 Dec 1982	31 May 2007
El Salvador.....	5 Dec 1984		Liberia.....	10 Dec 1982	
Equatorial Guinea	30 Jan 1984	21 Jul 1997	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3 Dec 1984	

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Liechtenstein.....	30 Nov 1984		Romania.....	10 Dec 1982	17 Dec 1996
Lithuania.....		12 Nov 2003 a	Russian Federation.....	10 Dec 1982	12 Mar 1997
Luxembourg.....	5 Dec 1984	5 Oct 2000	Rwanda.....	10 Dec 1982	
Madagascar.....	25 Feb 1983	22 Aug 2001	Saint Kitts and Nevis ...	7 Dec 1984	7 Jan 1993
Malawi.....	7 Dec 1984		Saint Lucia.....	10 Dec 1982	27 Mar 1985
Malaysia.....	10 Dec 1982	14 Oct 1996	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....	10 Dec 1982	1 Oct 1993
Maldives.....	10 Dec 1982	7 Sep 2000	Samoa.....	28 Sep 1984	14 Aug 1995
Mali.....	19 Oct 1983	16 Jul 1985	Sao Tome and Principe .	13 Jul 1983	3 Nov 1987
Malta.....	10 Dec 1982	20 May 1993	Saudi Arabia.....	7 Dec 1984	24 Apr 1996
Marshall Islands.....		9 Aug 1991 a	Senegal.....	10 Dec 1982	25 Oct 1984
Mauritania.....	10 Dec 1982	17 Jul 1996	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Mauritius.....	10 Dec 1982	4 Nov 1994	Seychelles.....	10 Dec 1982	16 Sep 1991
Mexico.....	10 Dec 1982	18 Mar 1983	Sierra Leone.....	10 Dec 1982	12 Dec 1994
Micronesia (Federated States of).....		29 Apr 1991 a	Singapore.....	10 Dec 1982	17 Nov 1994
Moldova.....		6 Feb 2007 a	Slovakia.....	28 May 1993 d	8 May 1996
Monaco.....	10 Dec 1982	20 Mar 1996	Slovenia.....		16 Jun 1995 d
Mongolia.....	10 Dec 1982	13 Aug 1996	Solomon Islands.....	10 Dec 1982	23 Jun 1997
Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d	Somalia.....	10 Dec 1982	24 Jul 1989
Morocco.....	10 Dec 1982	31 May 2007	South Africa.....	5 Dec 1984	23 Dec 1997
Mozambique.....	10 Dec 1982	13 Mar 1997	Spain.....	4 Dec 1984	15 Jan 1997
Myanmar.....	10 Dec 1982	21 May 1996	Sri Lanka.....	10 Dec 1982	19 Jul 1994
Namibia.....	10 Dec 1982	18 Apr 1983	Sudan.....	10 Dec 1982	23 Jan 1985
Nauru.....	10 Dec 1982	23 Jan 1996	Suriname.....	10 Dec 1982	9 Jul 1998
Nepal.....	10 Dec 1982	2 Nov 1998	Swaziland.....	18 Jan 1984	
Netherlands.....	10 Dec 1982	28 Jun 1996	Sweden.....	10 Dec 1982	25 Jun 1996
New Zealand.....	10 Dec 1982	19 Jul 1996	Switzerland.....	17 Oct 1984	
Nicaragua.....	9 Dec 1984	3 May 2000	Thailand.....	10 Dec 1982	
Niger.....	10 Dec 1982		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		19 Aug 1994 d
Nigeria.....	10 Dec 1982	14 Aug 1986	Togo.....	10 Dec 1982	16 Apr 1985
Niue.....	5 Dec 1984	11 Oct 2006	Tonga.....		2 Aug 1995 a
Norway.....	10 Dec 1982	24 Jun 1996	Trinidad and Tobago.....	10 Dec 1982	25 Apr 1986
Oman.....	1 Jul 1983	17 Aug 1989	Tunisia.....	10 Dec 1982	24 Apr 1985
Pakistan.....	10 Dec 1982	26 Feb 1997	Tuvalu.....	10 Dec 1982	9 Dec 2002
Palau.....		30 Sep 1996 a	Uganda.....	10 Dec 1982	9 Nov 1990
Panama.....	10 Dec 1982	1 Jul 1996	Ukraine.....	10 Dec 1982	26 Jul 1999
Papua New Guinea.....	10 Dec 1982	14 Jan 1997	United Arab Emirates ...	10 Dec 1982	
Paraguay.....	10 Dec 1982	26 Sep 1986	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....		25 Jul 1997 a
Philippines.....	10 Dec 1982	8 May 1984	United Republic of Tanzania.....	10 Dec 1982	30 Sep 1985
Poland.....	10 Dec 1982	13 Nov 1998			
Portugal.....	10 Dec 1982	3 Nov 1997			
Qatar.....	27 Nov 1984	9 Dec 2002			
Republic of Korea.....	14 Mar 1983	29 Jan 1996			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>		<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Uruguay	10 Dec	1982	10 Dec	1992
Vanuatu.....	10 Dec	1982	10 Aug	1999
Viet Nam.....	10 Dec	1982	25 Jul	1994

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>		<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Yemen.....	10 Dec	1982	21 Jul	1987
Zambia	10 Dec	1982	7 Mar	1983
Zimbabwe	10 Dec	1982	24 Feb	1993

**Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations
Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982**

New York, 28 July 1994

ENTRY INTO FORCE: definitively on 28 July 1996, in accordance with article 6(1) and provisionally on 16 November 1994, in accordance with article 7(1).
REGISTRATION: 16 November 1994, No. 31364.
STATUS: Signatories: 79. Parties: 154.
TEXT: Doc. A/RES.48/263; and depositary notification C.N.1.1995.TREATIES-1 of 9 February 1995 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original French text).

Note: The Agreement was adopted by Resolution 48/263, on 28 July 1994, by the General Assembly of the United Nations during its resumed 48th session, held from 27 to 29 July 1994 in New York. In accordance with its article 3, the Agreement shall remain open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York by the States and entities referred to in article 305, paragraphs 1 (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea for 12 months from the date of its adoption i.e. until 28 July 1995.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application by virtue of a notification (n), Provisional application by virtue of signature, adoption of the Agreement or accession thereto</i>	<i>Notification of non-provisional application under article 7 (1) (b)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s), Simplified procedure(p), Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		16 Nov 1994		
Albania.....		16 Nov 1994		23 Jun 2003 P
Algeria.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		11 Jun 1996 P
Andorra.....		16 Nov 1994		
Argentina.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		1 Dec 1995
Armenia.....		16 Nov 1994		9 Dec 2002 a
Australia.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		5 Oct 1994
Austria.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		14 Jul 1995
Bahamas.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Bahrain.....		16 Nov 1994		
Bangladesh.....		16 Nov 1994		27 Jul 2001 a
Barbados.....	15 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Belarus.....		16 Nov 1994		30 Aug 2006 a
Belgium.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		13 Nov 1998 P
Belize.....		16 Nov 1994		21 Oct 1994 s
Benin.....		16 Nov 1994		16 Oct 1997 P
Bhutan.....		16 Nov 1994		
Bolivia.....		16 Nov 1994		28 Apr 1995 P
Botswana.....		16 Nov 1994		31 Jan 2005 a
Brazil.....	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	25 Oct 2007
Brunei Darussalam.....		16 Nov 1994		5 Nov 1996 P
Bulgaria.....		15 May 1996	15 Nov 1994	15 May 1996 a
Burkina Faso.....	30 Nov 1994	30 Nov 1994		25 Jan 2005 P
Burundi.....		16 Nov 1994		
Cambodia.....		16 Nov 1994		

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application by virtue of a notification (n), Provisional application by virtue of signature, adoption of the Agreement or accession thereto</i>	<i>Notification of non-provisional application under article 7 (1) (b)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s), Simplified procedure(p), Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Cameroon.....	24 May 1995	24 May 1995	15 Nov 1994	28 Aug 2002
Canada	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		7 Nov 2003
Cape Verde	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		
Chile		16 Nov 1994		25 Aug 1997 a
China.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		7 Jun 1996 P
Congo		16 Nov 1994		
Cook Islands				15 Feb 1995 a
Costa Rica.....				20 Sep 2001 a
Côte d'Ivoire	25 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Croatia				5 Apr 1995 P
Cuba.....		16 Nov 1994		17 Oct 2002 a
Cyprus.....	1 Nov 1994	27 Jul 1995	15 Nov 1994	27 Jul 1995
Czech Republic.....	16 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		21 Jun 1996
Denmark	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 2004
Egypt	22 Mar 1995	16 Nov 1994		
Equatorial Guinea				21 Jul 1997 P
Eritrea		16 Nov 1994		
Estonia		16 Nov 1994		26 Aug 2005 a
Ethiopia.....		16 Nov 1994		
European Community	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		1 Apr 1998 c
Fiji	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995
Finland.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		21 Jun 1996
France	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		11 Apr 1996
Gabon	4 Apr 1995	16 Nov 1994		11 Mar 1998 P
Georgia				21 Mar 1996 P
Germany	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		14 Oct 1994
Ghana.....		16 Nov 1994		
Greece.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		21 Jul 1995
Grenada	14 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Guatemala.....				11 Feb 1997 P
Guinea	26 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Guyana.....		16 Nov 1994		
Haiti				31 Jul 1996 P
Honduras.....		16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 2003 a
Hungary		16 Nov 1994		5 Feb 2002 a
Iceland	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
India.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		29 Jun 1995
Indonesia	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		2 Jun 2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....			1 Nov 1994	

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application by virtue of a notification (n), Provisional application by virtue of signature, adoption of the Agreement or accession thereto</i>	<i>Notification of non-provisional application under article 7 (1) (b)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s), Simplified procedure(p), Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Iraq.....		16 Nov 1994		
Ireland.....	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	21 Jun 1996
Italy.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994	29 Jul 1994	13 Jan 1995
Jamaica.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Japan.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		20 Jun 1996
Jordan.....			14 Nov 1994	27 Nov 1995 P
Kenya.....		16 Nov 1994		29 Jul 1994 s
Kiribati.....				24 Feb 2003 P
Kuwait.....		16 Nov 1994		2 Aug 2002 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	27 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		5 Jun 1998 P
Latvia.....				23 Dec 2004 a
Lebanon.....				5 Jan 1995 P
Lesotho.....				31 May 2007 P
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		16 Nov 1994		
Liechtenstein.....		16 Nov 1994		
Lithuania.....				12 Nov 2003 a
Luxembourg.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		5 Oct 2000
Madagascar.....		16 Nov 1994		22 Aug 2001 P
Malaysia.....	2 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		14 Oct 1996 P
Maldives.....	10 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		7 Sep 2000 P
Malta.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		26 Jun 1996
Marshall Islands.....		16 Nov 1994		
Mauritania.....	2 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		17 Jul 1996 P
Mauritius.....		16 Nov 1994		4 Nov 1994 P
Mexico.....			2 Nov 1994	10 Apr 2003 a
Micronesia (Federated States of).....	10 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		6 Sep 1995
Moldova.....		16 Nov 1994		6 Feb 2007 P
Monaco.....	30 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		20 Mar 1996 P
Mongolia.....	17 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		13 Aug 1996 P
Montenegro.....				23 Oct 2006 d
Morocco.....	19 Oct 1994		19 Oct 1994	31 May 2007
Mozambique.....		16 Nov 1994		13 Mar 1997 a
Myanmar.....		16 Nov 1994		21 May 1996 a
Namibia.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Nauru.....				23 Jan 1996 P
Nepal.....		16 Nov 1994		2 Nov 1998 P
Netherlands.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jun 1996
New Zealand.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		19 Jul 1996
Nicaragua.....				3 May 2000 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application by virtue of a notification (n), Provisional application by virtue of signature, adoption of the Agreement or accession thereto</i>	<i>Notification of non-provisional application under article 7 (1) (b)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s), Simplified procedure(p), Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Nigeria	25 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Niue				11 Oct 2006 P
Norway		16 Nov 1994		24 Jun 1996 a
Oman		16 Nov 1994		26 Feb 1997 a
Pakistan.....	10 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		26 Feb 1997 P
Palau				30 Sep 1996 P
Panama.....				1 Jul 1996 P
Papua New Guinea		16 Nov 1994		14 Jan 1997 P
Paraguay	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		10 Jul 1995
Philippines	15 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		23 Jul 1997
Poland	29 Jul 1994	23 Feb 1995		13 Nov 1998 P
Portugal.....	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	3 Nov 1997
Qatar		16 Nov 1994		9 Dec 2002 P
Republic of Korea.....	7 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		29 Jan 1996
Romania.....			4 Oct 1994	17 Dec 1996 a
Russian Federation		11 Jan 1995		12 Mar 1997 a
Samoa	7 Jul 1995	16 Nov 1994		14 Aug 1995 P
Saudi Arabia			9 Nov 1994	24 Apr 1996 P
Senegal.....	9 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		25 Jul 1995
Serbia.....	12 May 1995			28 Jul 1995 p
Seychelles.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		15 Dec 1994
Sierra Leone.....		16 Nov 1994		12 Dec 1994 P
Singapore.....		16 Nov 1994		17 Nov 1994 P
Slovakia	14 Nov 1994	16 Nov 1994		8 May 1996
Slovenia	19 Jan 1995	16 Jun 1995	15 Nov 1994	16 Jun 1995
Solomon Islands.....		8 Feb 1995		23 Jun 1997 P
South Africa	3 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		23 Dec 1997
Spain	29 Jul 1994			15 Jan 1997
Sri Lanka	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Sudan	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		
Suriname		16 Nov 1994		9 Jul 1998 P
Swaziland.....	12 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		
Sweden.....	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	25 Jun 1996
Switzerland	26 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		16 Nov 1994		19 Aug 1994 P
Togo	3 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Tonga.....				2 Aug 1995 P
Trinidad and Tobago	10 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Provisional application by virtue of a notification (n), Provisional application by virtue of signature, adoption of the Agreement or accession thereto</i>	<i>Notification of non-provisional application under article 7 (1) (b)</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation(c), Accession(a), Definitive signature(s), Simplified procedure(p), Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Tunisia	15 May 1995	16 Nov 1994		24 May 2002
Tuvalu				9 Dec 2002 P
Uganda	9 Aug 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Ukraine	28 Feb 1995	16 Nov 1994		26 Jul 1999
United Arab Emirates		16 Nov 1994		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		25 Jul 1997
United Republic of Tanzania	7 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		25 Jun 1998
United States of America	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		
Uruguay	29 Jul 1994		29 Jul 1994	7 Aug 2007
Vanuatu.....	29 Jul 1994	16 Nov 1994		10 Aug 1999 P
Viet Nam.....		16 Nov 1994		27 Apr 2006 a
Zambia	13 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p
Zimbabwe	28 Oct 1994	16 Nov 1994		28 Jul 1995 p

Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks
(New York, 4 August 1995)

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement) is to ensure the long-term conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and establishes that such management must be based on the precautionary approach and the best available scientific information. The Agreement elaborates on the fundamental principle, established in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention), that States should cooperate to ensure conservation and promote the objective of the optimum utilization of fisheries resources both within and beyond the exclusive economic zone.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Agreement provides a framework for cooperation in the conservation and management of fisheries resources. It promotes good order in the oceans through the effective management and conservation of high seas resources by establishing, among other things, detailed minimum international standards for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks; ensuring that measures taken for the conservation and management of those stocks in areas under national jurisdiction and in the adjacent high seas are compatible and coherent; ensuring that there are effective mechanisms for compliance and enforcement of those measures on the high seas; and recognizing the special requirements of developing States in relation to conservation and management as well as the development and participation in fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement entered into force on 11 December 2001 (article 40).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Agreement is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification and open to accession by States and other entities referred to in article 305, paragraph 1(c), (d) and (e) of the Convention, and international organizations pursuant to Annex IX of the Convention, subject to article 47 of the Agreement (articles 38 and 39).

In cases where an international organization has competence over all matters governed by the Agreement, its member States shall not become Parties, except in respect of their territories for which the international organization has no responsibility (article 47).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A State or entity, when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Agreement, may make declarations or statements, however phrased or named, with a view, *inter alia*, to the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of the Agreement, provided that such declarations or statements do not purport to exclude or modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Agreement in their application to that State or entity (article 42).

In cases where an international organization, as defined by the Agreement, has competence over all of the matters governed by the Agreement, it shall make a declaration at the time of signature or accession stating (i) that it has competence over all matters governed by the Agreement; (ii) that, for this reason, its member States shall not become Parties, except in respect of their territories for which the international organization has no responsibility; and (iii) that it accepts the rights and obligations of States under the Agreement (article 47).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Agreement (article 42).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may, by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, denounce this Agreement and may indicate its reasons. The denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification, unless the notification specifies a later date (article 46).

**AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS**

New York, 4 August 1995

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 December 2001, in accordance with article 40(1).
REGISTRATION: 11 December 2001, No. 37924.
STATUS: Signatories: 59. Parties: 71.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, p. 3; and depositary notification C.N.99.1996.TREATIES-4 of 7 April 1996 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Arabic text).

Note: The above Agreement was adopted on 4 August 1995 at New York, by the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. In accordance with its article 37, the Agreement will be open for signature at United Nations Headquarters, from 4 December 1995 until and including 4 December 1996 by all States and the other entities referred to in article 305 (1) (a), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Argentina	4 Dec 1995		Iceland.....	4 Dec 1995	14 Feb 1997
Australia.....	4 Dec 1995	23 Dec 1999	India		19 Aug 2003 a
Austria	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Indonesia.....	4 Dec 1995	
Bahamas.....		16 Jan 1997 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		17 Apr 1998 a
Bangladesh.....	4 Dec 1995		Ireland.....	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Barbados		22 Sep 2000 a	Israel	4 Dec 1995	
Belgium	3 Oct 1996	19 Dec 2003	Italy	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Belize	4 Dec 1995	14 Jul 2005	Jamaica.....	4 Dec 1995	
Brazil	4 Dec 1995	8 Mar 2000	Japan	19 Nov 1996	7 Aug 2006
Bulgaria		13 Dec 2006 a	Kenya.....		13 Jul 2004 a
Burkina Faso.....	15 Oct 1996		Kiribati.....		15 Sep 2005 a
Canada	4 Dec 1995	3 Aug 1999	Latvia		5 Feb 2007 a
China.....	6 Nov 1996		Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Cook Islands		1 Apr 1999 a	Lithuania		1 Mar 2007 a
Costa Rica.....		18 Jun 2001 a	Luxembourg	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Côte d'Ivoire	24 Jan 1996		Maldives.....	8 Oct 1996	30 Dec 1998
Cyprus.....		25 Sep 2002 a	Malta		11 Nov 2001 a
Czech Republic.....		19 Mar 2007 a	Marshall Islands.....	4 Dec 1995	19 Mar 2003
Denmark	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Mauritania.....	21 Dec 1995	
Egypt.....	5 Dec 1995		Mauritius.....		25 Mar 1997 a
Estonia		7 Aug 2006 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)	4 Dec 1995	23 May 1997
European Community ...	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Monaco		9 Jun 1999 a
Fiji	4 Dec 1995	12 Dec 1996	Morocco.....	4 Dec 1995	
Finland	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Namibia.....	19 Apr 1996	8 Apr 1998
France	4 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003	Nauru		10 Jan 1997 a
Gabon.....	7 Oct 1996		Netherlands	28 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Germany	28 Aug 1996	19 Dec 2003	New Zealand	4 Dec 1995	18 Apr 2001
Greece.....	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Niue.....	4 Dec 1995	11 Oct 2006
Guinea.....		16 Sep 2005 a			
Guinea-Bissau.....	4 Dec 1995				

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Norway	4 Dec 1995	30 Dec 1996	South Africa.....		14 Aug 2003 a
Pakistan.....	15 Feb 1996		Spain	3 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003
Palau		26 Mar 2008 a	Sri Lanka.....	9 Oct 1996	24 Oct 1996
Papua New Guinea.....	4 Dec 1995	4 Jun 1999	Sweden.....	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Philippines	30 Aug 1996		Tonga	4 Dec 1995	31 Jul 1996
Poland		14 Mar 2006 a	Trinidad and Tobago.....		13 Sep 2006 a
Portugal.....	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Uganda	10 Oct 1996	
Republic of Korea.....	26 Nov 1996	1 Feb 2008	Ukraine.....	4 Dec 1995	27 Feb 2003
Romania.....		16 Jul 2007 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4 Dec 1995	10 Dec 2001
Russian Federation.....	4 Dec 1995	4 Aug 1997	United States of America.....	4 Dec 1995	21 Aug 1996
Saint Lucia.....	12 Dec 1995	9 Aug 1996	Uruguay	16 Jan 1996	10 Sep 1999
Samoa	4 Dec 1995	25 Oct 1996	Vanuatu.....	23 Jul 1996	
Senegal.....	4 Dec 1995	30 Jan 1997			
Seychelles	4 Dec 1996	20 Mar 1998			
Slovenia		15 Jun 2006 a			
Solomon Islands.....		13 Feb 1997 a			

Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal *(Basel, 22 March 1989)*

OBJECTIVES

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (the Convention) is the response of the international community to the problems caused by the annual worldwide production of hundreds of millions of tons of hazardous wastes.

These wastes are hazardous to people and the environment because they are toxic, poisonous, explosive, corrosive, flammable, eco-toxic, or infectious.

The Convention strictly regulates the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and obliges Parties to ensure that such wastes are managed and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. The main principles of the Basel Convention are:

- Transboundary movements of hazardous wastes should be reduced to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound management;
- Hazardous wastes should be treated and disposed of as close as possible to their source of generation; and
- Hazardous waste generation should be reduced and minimized at source.

KEY PROVISIONS

In order to achieve these principles, the Convention aims to control the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, monitor and prevent illegal traffic, provide assistance for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, promote cooperation between Parties in this field, and develop technical guidelines for the management of hazardous wastes.

The Convention sets out a number of general obligations for Parties. These obligations include taking the appropriate measures to reduce hazardous wastes to a minimum; ensuring the availability of adequate disposal facilities; ensuring that persons involved in the management of hazardous wastes take the necessary steps to prevent pollution and minimize its consequences; reducing the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes to the minimum consistent with the environmentally sound and efficient management of such wastes; prohibiting the export of such wastes to Parties, especially developing countries, which have prohibited by their legislation imports of such wastes or which have reason to believe that the wastes will not be managed in an environmentally sound manner; and preventing the import of hazardous wastes if it has reason to believe that the wastes will not be managed in an environmentally sound manner.

Under the Convention, transboundary movements of hazardous wastes or other wastes can take place only upon prior written notification by the State of export to the competent authorities of the States of import and the transit (if appropriate). Each shipment of hazardous waste or other waste must be accompanied by a movement document from the point at which a transboundary movement begins to the point of disposal. Hazardous waste shipments made without such documents are illegal. In addition, there are outright bans on the export of these wastes to certain countries. Transboundary movements can take place, however, if the State of export does not have the capability of managing or disposing of the hazardous waste in an environmentally sound manner.

The Convention also defines illegal traffic of hazardous wastes and deems such activity to be criminal. It obliges Parties to take appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement and enforce the provisions of the Convention, including measures to prevent and punish conduct in contravention of the Convention.

Further, the Convention obliges Parties to cooperate in order to improve and achieve environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes through disseminating information; monitoring the effects of the management of hazardous wastes on human health and the environment; developing and implementing new environmentally sound low-waste technologies, and improving existing technologies; and promoting the transfer of technology and management systems. The Convention also encourages cooperation between Parties and international organizations, taking into account the needs of developing countries, to promote public awareness, the development of sound management of hazardous wastes and the adoption of new technologies.

Parties to the Convention are required to report any accident occurring during the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes or other wastes and their disposal, which are likely to present risks to human health and the environment in other States. Moreover, the Convention obliges Parties to transmit annual reports pertaining to, *inter alia*, the movement, reduction and disposal of hazardous wastes.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 5 May 1992 (article 25).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States and to formal confirmation or approval by political and/or economic integration organizations, which have signed the Convention. The Convention is open for accession by States and by political and/or economic integration organizations.

MANDATORY/OPTIONAL DECLARATIONS

When ratifying, accepting, approving, formally confirming or acceding to this Convention, or at any time thereafter, a State or political and/or economic integration organization may declare that it recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation: (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice; and/or (b) arbitration in accordance with the Convention (article 20).

Political and/or economic integration organizations, in their instruments of formal confirmation, approval or accession, shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Convention (articles 22 and 23).

States or political and/or economic integration organizations may, when signing, ratifying, accepting, approving, formally confirming or acceding to the Convention, make declarations or statements, however phrased or named, with a view, *inter alia*, to the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of the Convention, provided that such declarations or statements do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effects of the provisions of the Convention in their application to that State (article 26).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention (article 26).

WITHDRAWAL/DENUNCIATION

A Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary at any time after three years from the date on which the Convention has entered into force for that Party. The withdrawal takes effect one year from the date of receipt of the notification by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification (article 27).

BASEL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL

Basel, 22 March 1989

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 5 May 1992, in accordance with article 25(1).
REGISTRATION: 5 May 1992, No. 28911.
STATUS: Signatories: 53. Parties: 170.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, p. 57; and depositary notifications C.N.302.1992.TREATIES-9 of 25 November 1992 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original English text); C.N.248.1993.TREATIES-7 of 7 September 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic French text); C.N.144.1994.TREATIES-4 of 27 June 1994 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Arabic, Chinese, English and Spanish texts); C.N.15.1997.TREATIES-1 of 20 February 1997 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Russian text); C.N.77.1998. TREATIES-2 of 6 May 1998 (amendment to annex I and adoption of annexes VIII and IX); C.N.245.2003.TREATIES-4 of 27 March 2003 [proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (authentic Chinese text)] and C.N.321.2003.TREATIES-5 of 29 April 2003 [Corrections to the original of the Convention (authentic Chinese text)]; C.N.399.2003.TREATIES-9 of 20 May 2003 (Proposal of amendments to Annexes VIII and IX of the Convention) and C.N.1314.2003.TREATIES-12 of 20 November 2003 (Entry into force of amendments to Annexes VIII and IX of the Convention); C.N.119.2005.TREATIES-2 of 23 February 2005 [(Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (authentic Spanish text)] and C.N.406.2005.TREATIES-6 of 25 May 2005 [(Corrections to the original of the Convention (Authentic Spanish text)]; C.N.263.2005.TREATIES-4 of 8 April 2005 (Proposal of amendments to Annexes VIII and IX of the Convention) and C.N.263.2005.TREATIES-4 of (Re-issued) of 13 June 2005 (Proposal of amendments to Annexes VIII and IX of the Convention) and C.N.1044.2005.TREATIES-7 of 10 October 2005 (Entry into force of amendments to Annexes VIII and IX of the Convention).

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted on 22 March 1989 by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries which was convened at Basel from 20 to 22 March 1989. In accordance with its article 21, the Convention, which was open for signature at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland in Berne from 23 March 1989 to 30 June 1989, was open thereafter at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York until 22 March 1990, by all States, Namibia, and by political and/or economic integration organizations.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	22 Mar 1989		Belize		23 May 1997 a
Albania.....		29 Jun 1999 a	Benin.....		4 Dec 1997 a
Algeria.....		15 Sep 1998 a	Bhutan.....		26 Aug 2002 a
Andorra.....		23 Jul 1999 a	Bolivia.....	22 Mar 1989	15 Nov 1996
Antigua and Barbuda		5 Apr 1993 a	Bosnia and Herzegovina		16 Mar 2001 a
Argentina	28 Jun 1989	27 Jun 1991	Botswana.....		20 May 1998 a
Armenia		1 Oct 1999 a	Brazil.....		1 Oct 1992 a
Australia.....		5 Feb 1992 a	Brunei Darussalam.....		16 Dec 2002 a
Austria	19 Mar 1990	12 Jan 1993	Bulgaria.....		16 Feb 1996 a
Azerbaijan.....		1 Jun 2001 a	Burkina Faso.....		4 Nov 1999 a
Bahamas.....		12 Aug 1992 a	Burundi		6 Jan 1997 a
Bahrain.....	22 Mar 1989	15 Oct 1992	Cambodia.....		2 Mar 2001 a
Bangladesh.....		1 Apr 1993 a	Cameroon.....		9 Feb 2001 a
Barbados		24 Aug 1995 a	Canada	22 Mar 1989	28 Aug 1992
Belarus.....		10 Dec 1999 a	Cape Verde		2 Jul 1999 a
Belgium	22 Mar 1989	1 Nov 1993			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Central African Republic		24 Feb 2006 a	Honduras		27 Dec 1995 a
Chad		10 Mar 2004 a	Hungary	22 Mar 1989	21 May 1990 AA
Chile	31 Jan 1990	11 Aug 1992	Iceland		28 Jun 1995 a
China	22 Mar 1990	17 Dec 1991	India	15 Mar 1990	24 Jun 1992
Colombia	22 Mar 1989	31 Dec 1996	Indonesia		20 Sep 1993 a
Comoros		31 Oct 1994 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of)		5 Jan 1993 a
Congo		20 Apr 2007 a	Ireland	19 Jan 1990	7 Feb 1994
Cook Islands		29 Jun 2004 a	Israel	22 Mar 1989	14 Dec 1994
Costa Rica		7 Mar 1995 a	Italy	22 Mar 1989	7 Feb 1994
Côte d'Ivoire		1 Dec 1994 a	Jamaica		23 Jan 2003 a
Croatia		9 May 1994 a	Japan		17 Sep 1993 a
Cuba		3 Oct 1994 a	Jordan	22 Mar 1989	22 Jun 1989 AA
Cyprus	22 Mar 1989	17 Sep 1992	Kazakhstan		3 Jun 2003 a
Czech Republic		30 Sep 1993 d	Kenya		1 Jun 2000 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		6 Oct 1994 a	Kiribati		7 Sep 2000 a
Denmark	22 Mar 1989	6 Feb 1994 AA	Kuwait	22 Mar 1989	11 Oct 1993
Djibouti		31 May 2002 a	Kyrgyzstan		13 Aug 1996 a
Dominica		5 May 1998 a	Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Dominican Republic		10 Jul 2000 a	Lebanon	22 Mar 1989	21 Dec 1994
Ecuador	22 Mar 1989	23 Feb 1993	Lesotho		31 May 2000 a
Egypt		8 Jan 1993 a	Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a
El Salvador	22 Mar 1990	13 Dec 1991	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		12 Jul 2001 a
Equatorial Guinea		7 Feb 2003 a	Liechtenstein	22 Mar 1989	27 Jan 1992
Eritrea		10 Mar 2005 a	Lithuania		22 Apr 1999 a
Estonia		21 Jul 1992 a	Luxembourg	22 Mar 1989	7 Feb 1994
Ethiopia		12 Apr 2000 a	Madagascar		2 Jun 1999 a
European Community	22 Mar 1989	7 Feb 1994 AA	Malawi		21 Apr 1994 a
Finland	22 Mar 1989	19 Nov 1991 A	Malaysia		8 Oct 1993 a
France	22 Mar 1989	7 Jan 1991 AA	Maldives		28 Apr 1992 a
Gambia		15 Dec 1997 a	Mali		5 Dec 2000 a
Georgia		20 May 1999 a	Malta		19 Jun 2000 a
Germany	23 Oct 1989	21 Apr 1995	Marshall Islands		27 Jan 2003 a
Ghana		30 May 2003 a	Mauritania		16 Aug 1996 a
Greece	22 Mar 1989	4 Aug 1994	Mauritius		24 Nov 1992 a
Guatemala	22 Mar 1989	15 May 1995	Mexico	22 Mar 1989	22 Feb 1991
Guinea		26 Apr 1995 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)		6 Sep 1995 a
Guinea-Bissau		9 Feb 2005 a	Moldova		2 Jul 1998 a
Guyana		4 Apr 2001 a	Monaco		31 Aug 1992 a
Haiti	22 Mar 1989		Mongolia		15 Apr 1997 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Formal confirmation(c), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	Slovenia		7 Oct 1993 a
Morocco		28 Dec 1995 a	South Africa		5 May 1994 a
Mozambique		13 Mar 1997 a	Spain	22 Mar 1989	7 Feb 1994
Namibia		15 May 1995 a	Sri Lanka		28 Aug 1992 a
Nauru		12 Nov 2001 a	Sudan		9 Jan 2006 a
Nepal		15 Oct 1996 a	Swaziland		8 Aug 2005 a
Netherlands	22 Mar 1989	16 Apr 1993 A	Sweden	22 Mar 1989	2 Aug 1991
New Zealand	18 Dec 1989	20 Dec 1994	Switzerland	22 Mar 1989	31 Jan 1990
Nicaragua		3 Jun 1997 a	Syrian Arab Republic	11 Oct 1989	
Niger		17 Jun 1998 a	Thailand	22 Mar 1990	24 Nov 1997
Nigeria	15 Mar 1990	13 Mar 1991	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		16 Jul 1997 a
Norway	22 Mar 1989	2 Jul 1990	Togo		2 Jul 2004 a
Oman		8 Feb 1995 a	Trinidad and Tobago		18 Feb 1994 a
Pakistan		26 Jul 1994 a	Tunisia		11 Oct 1995 a
Panama	22 Mar 1989	22 Feb 1991	Turkey	22 Mar 1989	22 Jun 1994
Papua New Guinea		1 Sep 1995 a	Turkmenistan		25 Sep 1996 a
Paraguay		28 Sep 1995 a	Uganda		11 Mar 1999 a
Peru		23 Nov 1993 a	Ukraine		8 Oct 1999 a
Philippines	22 Mar 1989	21 Oct 1993	United Arab Emirates	22 Mar 1989	17 Nov 1992
Poland	22 Mar 1990	20 Mar 1992	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6 Oct 1989	7 Feb 1994
Portugal	26 Jun 1989	26 Jan 1994	United Republic of Tanzania		7 Apr 1993 a
Qatar		9 Aug 1995 a	United States of America	22 Mar 1990	
Republic of Korea		28 Feb 1994 a	Uruguay	22 Mar 1989	20 Dec 1991
Romania		27 Feb 1991 a	Uzbekistan		7 Feb 1996 a
Russian Federation	22 Mar 1990	31 Jan 1995	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	22 Mar 1989	3 Mar 1998
Rwanda		7 Jan 2004 a	Viet Nam		13 Mar 1995 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis		7 Sep 1994 a	Yemen		21 Feb 1996 a
Saint Lucia		9 Dec 1993 a	Zambia		15 Nov 1994 a
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		2 Dec 1996 a			
Samoa		22 Mar 2002 a			
Saudi Arabia	22 Mar 1989	7 Mar 1990			
Senegal		10 Nov 1992 a			
Serbia		18 Apr 2000 a			
Seychelles		11 May 1993 a			
Singapore		2 Jan 1996 a			
Slovakia		28 May 1993 d			

Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal *(Geneva, 22 September 1995)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (the Amendment) is to address the situation of the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes to developing countries.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Amendment provides that each Party listed in Annex VII of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (the Convention) shall prohibit all transboundary movements of hazardous wastes which are destined for operations according to Annex IV A (operations which do not lead to the possibility of resource recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses), to States not listed in Annex VII. The Amendments also required parties listed in Annex VII to phase out by 31 December 1997, and prohibit as of that date, all transboundary movements of hazardous wastes under Article 1(i)(a) of the Convention which are destined for operations according to Annex IV B (operations which may lead to resource recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses) to States not listed in Annex VII. Transboundary movements are not prohibited in this context unless the wastes in question are characterized as hazardous under the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment has not yet entered into force. Amendments adopted in accordance with paragraphs 3 or 4 of article 17 of the Convention shall enter into force between Parties having accepted them on the ninetieth day after the receipt by the depositary of their instrument of ratification, approval, formal confirmation or acceptance by at least three-fourths of the Parties to the Convention who accepted them. The amendments shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after that Party deposits its instrument of ratification, approval, formal confirmation or acceptance of the amendments (article 17 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Parties to the Convention may consent to be bound by the Amendment by depositing instruments of ratification, approval, formal confirmation, or acceptance with the depositary.

Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Geneva, 22 September 1995

NOT YET IN FORCE: see article 17 (5) of the Convention which reads as follows: "Instruments of ratification, approval, formal confirmation or acceptance of amendments shall be deposited with the Depository. Amendments adopted in accordance with paragraphs 3 or 4 [of article 17 of the Convention] shall enter into force between Parties having accepted them on the ninetieth day after the receipt by the Depository of their instrument of ratification, approval, formal confirmation or acceptance by at least three-fourths of the Parties who accepted the amendments to the Protocol concerned, except as may otherwise be provided in such protocol. The amendments shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after that Party deposits its instrument of ratification, approval, formal confirmation or acceptance of the amendments."
STATUS: Parties: 62.
TEXT: Doc. UNEP/CHW.3/35.

Note: By decision III/1, of 22 September 1995, the Third meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the above Convention, which took place in Geneva from 18 to 22 September 1995, adopted an Amendment to the Convention (including the adoption of Annex VII).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....	27 Oct 2005 A	Kuwait.....	12 May 2006
Andorra.....	23 Jul 1999 A	Latvia.....	18 Dec 2003 A
Austria.....	17 Oct 1999 A	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 A
Bahrain.....	25 Jul 2005	Liechtenstein.....	20 May 2003 A
Belgium.....	20 Jun 2003	Lithuania.....	7 Nov 2003 A
Bolivia.....	31 Mar 2005	Luxembourg.....	14 Aug 1997
Botswana.....	17 Jun 2004 A	Malaysia.....	26 Oct 2001
Brunei Darussalam....	16 Dec 2002 A	Mauritius.....	9 Nov 2004
Bulgaria.....	15 Feb 2000	Montenegro.....	23 Oct 2006 d
China.....	1 May 2001	Morocco.....	10 Sep 2004 AA
Cook Islands.....	29 Jun 2004	Netherlands.....	22 Jan 2001 A
Cyprus.....	7 Jul 2000 A	Nigeria.....	24 May 2004
Czech Republic.....	28 Feb 2000 A	Norway.....	16 Jul 1997 A
Denmark.....	10 Sep 1997 AA	Oman.....	17 May 2004
Ecuador.....	6 Mar 1998	Panama.....	7 Oct 1998
Egypt.....	27 Jan 2004	Paraguay.....	28 Aug 1998
Estonia.....	2 Aug 2001	Poland.....	29 Jan 2003 A
Ethiopia.....	8 Oct 2003	Portugal.....	30 Oct 2000
European Community	30 Sep 1997 AA	Qatar.....	28 Feb 2002
Finland.....	5 Sep 1996 A	Romania.....	17 Jul 2002 A
France.....	18 Nov 2003 AA	Saint Lucia.....	22 Jan 2002
Gambia.....	7 Mar 2001	Serbia.....	22 Nov 2002 A
Germany.....	24 May 2002 A	Slovakia.....	11 Sep 1998 A
Ghana.....	9 Jun 2005	Slovenia.....	1 Dec 2004
Hungary.....	25 May 2004 AA	Spain.....	7 Aug 1997 A
Indonesia.....	24 Oct 2005	Sri Lanka.....	29 Jan 1999
Jordan.....	6 Dec 2004 AA	Sweden.....	10 Sep 1997 A

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Switzerland	7 Nov 2002 A
Syrian Arab Republic.	5 Oct 2004
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	18 Nov 2004
Trinidad and Tobago..	12 Jan 2000
Tunisia.....	26 Oct 1999
Turkey.....	27 Aug 2003

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	13 Oct 1997
United Republic of Tanzania	26 Aug 2002
Uruguay.....	10 Mar 1999

Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal *(Basel, 10 December 1999)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol is to provide for a comprehensive regime for liability as well as adequate and prompt compensation for damage resulting from the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including incidents occurring because of illegal traffic in those wastes. Each phase of a transboundary movement, from the point at which the wastes are loaded on the means of transport to their export, international transit, import and final disposal, is considered.

KEY PROVISIONS

The person who notifies in accordance with article 6 of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (the Convention), shall be strictly liable for damage until the disposer has taken possession of the hazardous wastes and other wastes. Thereafter the disposer is strictly liable. Any person in operational control of hazardous wastes at the time of an incident has a duty to take all reasonable measures to mitigate damages arising therefrom. Strict liability is subject to limited exceptions especially in cases of war and natural phenomena. Notwithstanding the provisions concerning strict liability, any person shall be liable for damage caused or contributed to by his lack of compliance with the provisions implementing the Convention or by his wrongful intentional, reckless or negligent acts of omission.

The Protocol provides for a right of recourse for any person liable under the Protocol, contains a provision on contributory fault and establishes financial limits for liability as well as time limits for bringing a claim for compensation. The Protocol also addresses insurance and financial guarantees, financial mechanisms, State responsibility, jurisdiction, choice of law, mutual recognition and enforcement of judgments.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol is not yet in force. It shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, formal confirmation, approval or accession.

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States and to formal confirmation or approval by regional economic integration organizations that are Parties to the Convention. The Protocol is open for accession by States and regional economic integration organizations that are Parties to the Convention.

OPTIONAL/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Regional economic integration organizations, in their instruments of formal confirmation, approval or accession, shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Protocol.

States and political and/or economic integration organizations may, when signing, ratifying, accepting, approving, formally confirming or acceding to the Protocol, make declarations or statements, however phrased or named, with a view, *inter alia*, to the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of the Protocol, provided that such declarations or statements do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effects of the provisions of the Protocol in their application to that State or that organization.

Any Party may, by a way of notification to the depositary, exclude the application of the Protocol, in respect of all transboundary movements for which it is the State of export, for such incidents that occur in an area under its national jurisdiction, as regards damage in its area of national jurisdiction.

States shall, by notification to the depositary at the time of signature, ratification, or approval of, or accession to the Protocol, indicate if it does not provide for a right to bring a direct action against persons providing insurance, bonds or other financial guaranties to strict or fault-based liable individuals under the Protocol.

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Protocol has entered into force for a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Withdrawal shall be effective one year from receipt of notification by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification.

Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Basel, 10 December 1999

NOT YET IN FORCE:

see article 29 which reads as follows: "1. The Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, formal confirmation, approval or accession. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization which ratifies, accepts, approves or formally confirms the Protocol or accedes thereto after the date of the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, formal confirmation or accession, it shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, formal confirmation or accession. 3. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, any instrument deposited by member States of such organization."

STATUS:

TEXT:

Signatories: 13. Parties: 8.
Doc. UNEP/CHW.1/WG.1/9/2; depositary notification C.N.120.2005.TREATIES-12 of 23 February 2005 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (authentic Spanish text)] and C.N.407.2005.TREATIES-3 of 25 May 2005 [(Corrections to the original of the Protocol (Authentic Spanish text)].

Note: The Protocol will be open for signature by States and by regional economic integration organizations Parties to the Basel Convention in Berne at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland from 6 to 17 March 2000 and at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 April 2000 to 10 December 2000, in accordance with its article 26.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Formal confirmation(c), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Formal confirmation(c), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Botswana.....		17 Jun 2004 a	Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Chile.....	8 Dec 2000		Luxembourg.....	28 Aug 2000	
Colombia.....	22 Nov 2000		Monaco	17 Mar 2000	
Congo.....		20 Apr 2007 a	Sweden.....	1 Dec 2000	
Costa Rica.....	27 Apr 2000		Switzerland	9 Mar 2000	
Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a	Syrian Arab Republic..		5 Oct 2004 a
Denmark	5 Dec 2000		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3 Apr 2000	
Ethiopia.....		8 Oct 2003 a	Togo		2 Jul 2004 a
Finland	6 Dec 2000		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	7 Dec 2000	
France	8 Dec 2000				
Ghana.....		9 Jun 2005 a			
Hungary	5 Dec 2000				

Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes *(Helsinki, 17 March 1992)*

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (the Convention) are to strengthen local, national and regional measures to protect and ensure the ecologically sustainable use of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters; to prevent, control, or reduce transboundary impacts; to conserve and protect ecosystems; to ensure that transboundary waters are used in a reasonable and equitable way; to prevent, control, and reduce the releases of hazardous, acidifying, and eutrophying substances into the aquatic environment; and to promote public information and public participation in relevant decision-making processes.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention includes general provisions for all Parties and specific provisions for Parties bordering the same transboundary waters (Riparian Parties). It mandates that the Parties take all appropriate measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact, as defined by the Convention. The Parties shall, in particular, take all appropriate measures: (a) to prevent, control and reduce pollution of waters causing or likely to cause transboundary impact, (b) to ensure that transboundary waters are used with the aim of ecologically sound and rational water management, conservation of water resources and environmental protection, (c) to ensure that transboundary waters are used in a reasonable and equitable way, taking into particular account their transboundary character, in the case of activities which cause or are likely to cause transboundary impact, (d) to ensure conservation and, where necessary, restoration of ecosystems.

In furtherance of the above, the Parties are obliged to develop, adopt, implement and, as far as possible, render compatible relevant legal, administrative, economic, financial and technical measures. The Parties shall also establish programmes for monitoring the conditions of transboundary waters and shall cooperate in the conduct of research into the development of effective techniques for the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact.

The Parties are required to provide for the widest exchange of information, as early as possible, on issues covered by the provisions of the Convention.

The Parties shall also support appropriate international efforts to elaborate rules, criteria, and procedures in the field of responsibility and liability.

The Convention requests the Riparian Parties to enter into bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements, where these do not yet exist, or adapt existing ones, where necessary, to eliminate the contradictions with the basic principles of the Convention in order to define their mutual relations and conduct regarding the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact. The agreements between Riparian Parties shall provide for the establishment of joint bodies (such as river basin commissions) which are entrusted with a number of specific cooperation tasks such as draw up inventories and exchange information on the pollution sources; elaborate joint monitoring programmes; elaborate emission limits for waste water and evaluate the effectiveness of control programmes; elaborate joint water-quality objectives; develop concerted action programmes for the reduction of pollution loads; establish warning and alarm procedures.

The Convention mandates that consultations be held between Riparian Parties and that the Riparian Parties establish and implement joint programmes for monitoring the conditions of transboundary waters and transboundary impact as well as undertake development activities, exchange information, and provide mutual assistance.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 6 October 1996 (article 26).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature (article 23). It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States and regional economic integration organizations. It is open to accession to States members of the Economic Commission for Europe as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and to regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission of Europe to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by this Convention, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters (article 25).

Any organization which become a Party to this Convention without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under the Convention. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose member States is a Party to the Convention, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Convention. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under this Convention concurrently (article 25).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

When signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party may declare in writing to the depositary that, for a dispute not resolved between two or more Parties about the interpretation or application of the Convention, it accepts one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligations: (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice, and (b) arbitration in accordance with the procedure set out in annex IV (article 22).

In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the regional economic integration organizations mentioned in article 25 shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Convention. The organizations shall also inform the depositary of any substantial modification to the extent of their competence (article 25).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years of the date on which this Convention has come into force with respect to a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day after the date of its receipt by the depositary (article 27).

CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND
INTERNATIONAL LAKES

Helsinki, 17 March 1992

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 6 October 1996, in accordance with article 26(1).
REGISTRATION: 6 October 1996, No. 33207.
STATUS: Signatories: 26. Parties: 16.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1936, p. 269.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the Senior Advisers to the Economic Commission for Europe Governments on Environmental and Water Problems at their Resumed Fifth Session held at Helsinki from 17 to 18 March 1992. The Convention was opened for signature at Helsinki from 17 to 18 March 1992 and was open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 18 September 1992.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Albania.....	18 Mar 1992	5 Jan 1994	Lithuania	18 Mar 1992	28 Apr 2000
Austria	18 Mar 1992	25 Jul 1996	Luxembourg.....	20 May 1992	7 Jun 1994
Azerbaijan.....		3 Aug 2000 a	Moldova.....		4 Jan 1994 a
Belarus.....		29 May 2003 a	Netherlands	18 Mar 1992	14 Mar 1995 A
Belgium	18 Mar 1992	8 Nov 2000	Norway.....	18 Sep 1992	1 Apr 1993 AA
Bulgaria	18 Mar 1992	28 Oct 2003	Poland	18 Mar 1992	15 Mar 2000
Croatia		8 Jul 1996 a	Portugal	9 Jun 1992	9 Dec 1994
Czech Republic.....		12 Jun 2000 a	Romania	18 Mar 1992	31 May 1995
Denmark	18 Mar 1992	28 May 1997 AA	Russian Federation.....	18 Mar 1992	2 Nov 1993 A
Estonia	18 Mar 1992	16 Jun 1995	Slovakia		7 Jul 1999 a
European Community .	18 Mar 1992	14 Sep 1995 AA	Slovenia		13 Apr 1999 a
Finland.....	18 Mar 1992	21 Feb 1996 A	Spain	18 Mar 1992	16 Feb 2000
France	18 Mar 1992	30 Jun 1998 AA	Sweden.....	18 Mar 1992	5 Aug 1993
Germany	18 Mar 1992	30 Jan 1995	Switzerland	18 Mar 1992	23 May 1995
Greece.....	18 Mar 1992	6 Sep 1996	Ukraine.....		8 Oct 1999 a
Hungary	18 Mar 1992	2 Sep 1994 AA	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	18 Mar 1992	
Italy.....	18 Mar 1992	23 May 1996	Uzbekistan		4 Sep 2007 a
Kazakhstan.....		11 Jan 2001 a			
Latvia	18 Mar 1992	10 Dec 1996			
Liechtenstein.....		19 Nov 1997 a			

Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes *(London, 17 June 1999)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (the Protocol) is to promote at all appropriate levels, nationally as well as in transboundary and international contexts, the protection of human health and well-being, both individual and collective, within a framework of sustainable development, through improving water management, including the protection of water ecosystem, and through preventing, controlling and reducing water-related diseases.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol aims to protect human health through improving water management. Toward this end, the Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to prevent, control and reduce water-related diseases within a framework of integrated water-management systems aimed at sustainable use of water resources, ambient water quality which does not endanger human health, and protection of water ecosystems.

The Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to ensure: adequate supplies of wholesome drinking-water; adequate sanitation of a standard which sufficiently protects human health and the environment; effective protection of water resources used as sources of drinking-water, and their related water ecosystems, from pollution from other causes, including agriculture, industry and other discharges and emissions of hazardous substance; sufficient safeguards for human health against water-related disease arising from the use of water for recreational purposes, aquaculture, and shellfish-production, the use of waste water for irrigation, and the use of sewage sludge in agriculture and aquaculture; and effective systems for monitoring and responding to outbreaks or incidents of water-related diseases.

The Parties are mandated to take all appropriate action to create legal, administrative and economic frameworks within which the public, private and voluntary sectors can each make their contribution to improving water management for the purpose of preventing, controlling and reducing water-related disease.

The Protocol requires the Parties, to achieve the objective of the Protocol, to pursue the aims of (a) access to drinking water for everyone, and (b) provision of sanitation for everyone within the framework of integrated water-management systems aimed at sustainable use of water resources, ambient water quality, and protection of water ecosystems. For these purposes, the Parties shall each establish and publish national and/or local targets for the standards and levels of performance that need to be achieved or maintained for high level of protection against water related disease.

The Protocol provides that the Parties shall each collect and evaluate data on: (a) their progress towards the achievement of the targets, and (b) indicators that are designed to show how far that progress has contributed towards preventing, controlling or reducing water related diseases.

The Parties shall, as appropriate, ensure that comprehensive national and/or local surveillance, early-warning and response systems for outbreaks and incidents of water related diseases are established, improved or maintained. The Parties shall also undertake measures to foster public awareness of the importance of water management and public health, and encourage the education and training of the professional and technical staff for managing water resources and for operating systems of water supply and sanitation. The

Parties are required to encourage research and development of cost-effective means and techniques for the prevention, control and reduction of water-related disease.

The Parties have obligations to make public certain information relating to the Protocol, and to cooperate and assist each other in international actions in support of the Protocol.

The Parties shall review the compliance of the Parties with the provisions of this Protocol on the basis of the reviews and assessments. A compliance review procedure of a non-confrontational, non-judicial and consultative nature has been established by the Parties at their first meeting. Such procedure allows for appropriate public involvement and for submission of communications by members of the public.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 4 August 2005 (article 23).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States and regional economic integration organizations. This Protocol is open to accession by the States and organizations referred to in article 21. Article 21 refers to States members of the Economic Commission for Europe, States members of the Regional Committee for Europe of the World Health Organization, States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe or members of the Regional Committee for Europe of the World Health Organization to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by the Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters.

Any organization referred to in article 21 which becomes a Party without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under this Protocol, in the case of such organization one or more of whose member States is a Party, the organization and its member States shall decide under respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under this Protocol. In such cases, the organizations and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under this Protocol concurrently.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

When signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Protocol, or at any time thereafter, a Party may declare in writing to the depositary that, for a dispute not resolved between two or more Parties about the interpretation or application of the Protocol, it accepts one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation: (a) where the Parties are Parties to the Convention, and have accepted as compulsory in relation to each other one or both of the means of dispute settlement provided in the Convention, the settlement of the dispute in accordance with the provisions of the Convention for the settlement of disputes arising in connection with the Convention; (b) in any other case, the submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice, unless the Parties agree to arbitration or some other forms of dispute resolution (article 20).

In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the regional economic integration organizations, shall declare the extent of the competence with respect to the matters governed by this

Protocol. These organizations shall also inform the depositary of any substantial modification to the extent of their competence (article 22).

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which this Protocol has come into force with respect to a Party, the Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day after the date of its receipt by the depositary (article 24).

Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

London, 17 June 1999

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4 August 2005, in accordance with article 23 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this article, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of such an organization. 3. For each State or organization referred to in article 21 which ratifies, accepts or approves this Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."

REGISTRATION: 4 August 2005, No. 33207.

STATUS: Signatories: 38. Parties: 21.

TEXT: ECOSOC doc. MP.WAT/AC.1/1999/1 of 24 March 1999.

Note: The Protocol was adopted on 17 June 1999 on the occasion of the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health held at London from 16 to 18 June 1999. The Protocol will be opened for signature in London on 17 June 1999 and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 18 June 2000 by States members of the Economic Commission for Europe, by States members of the Regional Committee for Europe of the World Health Organization, by States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe or members of the Regional Committee for Europe of the World Health Organization to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by this Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters in accordance with its article 21.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Albania.....	17 Jun 1999	8 Mar 2002	Luxembourg.....	17 Jun 1999	4 Oct 2001
Armenia	17 Jun 1999		Malta	17 Jun 1999	
Azerbaijan.....		9 Jan 2003 a	Moldova	10 Mar 2000	16 Sep 2005
Belgium	17 Jun 1999	29 Jun 2004	Monaco	17 Jun 1999	
Bulgaria	17 Jun 1999		Netherlands	17 Jun 1999	
Croatia	17 Jun 1999	28 Jul 2006	Norway.....	17 Jun 1999	6 Jan 2004
Cyprus.....	17 Jun 1999		Poland	17 Jun 1999	
Czech Republic.....	17 Jun 1999	15 Nov 2001	Portugal.....	17 Jun 1999	6 Sep 2006 AA
Denmark	17 Jun 1999		Romania	17 Jun 1999	5 Jan 2001
Estonia	17 Jun 1999	9 Sep 2003	Russian Federation.....	17 Jun 1999	31 Dec 1999 A
Finland.....	17 Jun 1999	3 Mar 2005 A	Slovakia	17 Jun 1999	2 Oct 2001
France	17 Jun 1999	6 May 2005 AA	Slovenia	17 Jun 1999	
Georgia	17 Jun 1999		Spain	17 Jun 1999	
Germany	17 Jun 1999	15 Jan 2007	Sweden.....	17 Jun 1999	
Greece.....	17 Jun 1999		Switzerland	17 Jun 1999	27 Oct 2006
Hungary	17 Jun 1999	7 Dec 2001 AA	Ukraine.....	17 Jun 1999	26 Sep 2003
Iceland	17 Jun 1999		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	17 Jun 1999	
Italy.....	17 Jun 1999				
Latvia	17 Jun 1999	24 Nov 2004			
Lithuania	17 Jun 1999	17 Mar 2004			

Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes *(Geneva, 17 February 2004)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Amendments to articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (the Amendments) is to allow States situated outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region to become Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (the Convention).

KEY PROVISIONS

The Amendments provide that any other State that is a Member of the United Nations may accede to the Convention upon approval by the Meeting of the Parties. In its instrument of accession, such a State shall make a declaration stating that approval for its accession to the Convention had been obtained from the Meeting of the Parties and shall specify the date on which approval was received.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment has not yet entered into force. An Amendment to the Convention shall enter into force for the Parties to the Convention which have accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date on which two thirds of those Parties have deposited with the depositary their instruments of acceptance of the amendment. The amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits its instrument of acceptance of the amendment (article 21 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Parties to the Convention may consent to be bound by the Amendments by depositing instruments of acceptance with the depositary (article 21 of the Convention).

**Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**

Geneva, 17 February 2004

NOT YET IN FORCE: see article 21(4) of the Convention which reads as follows: "An amendment to the present Convention shall be adopted by consensus of the representatives of the Parties to this Convention present at a meeting of the Parties, and shall enter into force for the Parties to the Convention which have accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date on which two thirds of those Parties have deposited with the Depository their instruments of acceptance of the amendment. The amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits its instrument of acceptance of the amendment."

STATUS:

TEXT:

Parties: 9.
Doc. ECE/MP.WAT/14.

Note: On 28 November 2003, the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes adopted amendments to articles 25 and 26 of the Convention by decision III/1, following a proposal by the Government of Switzerland dated 20 August 2003 (see MP.WAT/2003/4).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Finland	11 Dec 2007 A	Poland.....	31 Jan 2005
Hungary.....	20 Jun 2005 A	Romania	13 Jun 2006 A
Luxembourg.....	10 May 2006	Sweden.....	20 May 2004 A
Moldova.....	6 Feb 2007 A		
Netherlands	12 Jan 2006 A		

Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and to the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
(Kiev, 21 May 2003)

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and to the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (the Protocol) is to provide for a comprehensive regime for civil liability and for adequate and prompt compensation for damage caused by the transboundary effects of industrial accidents on transboundary waters.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol applies to damage caused by the transboundary effects of an industrial accident on transboundary waters. It applies only to damage suffered in the territory of a Party other than the Party where the industrial accident has occurred. Liability in this context is limited.

The Protocol provides that the operator shall be liable for the damage caused by an industrial accident. However, no liability shall attach to the operator, if he or she proves that, despite there being in place appropriate safety measures the damage was: (a) the result of an act of armed conflict, hostilities, civil war or insurrection; (b) the result of a natural phenomenon of exceptional, inevitable, unforeseeable and irresistible character; (c) wholly the result of compliance with a compulsory measure of a public authority of the Party where the industrial accident has occurred; or (d) wholly the result of the wrongful intentional conduct of a third party. In addition, any person shall be liable for damage caused or contributed to by his or her wrongful intention, reckless or negligent acts or omissions under the Protocol. There is no financial limit on liability in this context.

In addition, any person liable under the Protocol shall be entitled to a right of recourse in accordance with the rules of procedure of the competent court or arbitral tribunal established pursuant to the Protocol. The Protocol provides for time limits within which claims for compensation must be brought. According to the Protocol, claims for compensation may be brought in the courts of a Party only where: (a) the damage was suffered, (b) the industrial accident occurred, or, (c) the defendant has his or her habitual residence, or, if the defendant is a company or other legal person or an association of natural or legal persons, where it has its principal place of business, its statutory seat or central administration.

The Protocol obliges the operator to procure sufficient insurance liability coverage as defined by the Protocol. The Protocol also mandates that operators take, following an industrial accident, response measures, as defined by the Protocol. It also covers arbitration, choice of law and the mutual recognition and enforcement of judgments and arbitral awards.

For the implementation of the Protocol, the Parties are mandated to adopt any legislative, regulatory and administrative measure that may be necessary to implement it. The Parties are obliged to inform the

Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe of any measures taken with regard to the above.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol is not in force. It shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Article 2, paragraph 2(e)(iii), shall take effect when thresholds, limits of liability and minimum limits of financial securities for pipelines are set in annexes I and II in accordance with article 24, paragraphs 8 and 9. For the purposes of calculating the entry into force of the Protocol, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization, as defined by the Protocol, shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of such an organization. For each State or regional economic integration organization, as defined by the Protocol, which ratifies, accepts or approves the Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 29).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States and regional economic integration organizations, as defined by the Protocol, provided that the States and organization concerned are Parties to one or both Conventions (i.e., the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, and the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents) (articles 27 and 28).

The Protocol shall be open to accession to States members of the Economic Commission for Europe, as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and to regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe to which their member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by the Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters, provided that the States and organization concerned are Parties to one or both Conventions (i.e., the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, and the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents). Any other State that is a Member of the United Nations may accede to the Protocol upon approval by the Meeting of the Parties (article 28).

Any regional economic integration organization, as defined by the Protocol, which becomes a Party to the Protocol without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under the Protocol. If one or more of such organization's member States is a Party to the Protocol, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Protocol. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Protocol concurrently (article 28).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any other State that is a Member of the United Nations may accede to the Protocol upon approval by the Meeting of the Parties. In its instruments of accession, such State shall make a declaration stating that

approval for its accession to the Protocol had been obtained from the Meeting of the Parties and shall specify the date in which approval was received (article 28).

In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, regional economic integration organizations shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by the Protocol. This organization shall also inform the depositary of any substantial modification to the extent of their competence (article 28).

When signing, ratifying, approving or acceding to the Protocol, or at any time thereafter, a Party may declare in writing to the depositary that for a dispute not solved in accordance with paragraph 1, it accepts one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation: (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice; and (b) arbitration in accordance with the procedure set out in annex III (article 26).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 30).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date of which the Protocol has entered into force for a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect one year from the date of its receipt by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification (article 31).

**PROTOCOL ON CIVIL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE
TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS ON TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS TO
THE 1992 CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES
AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES AND TO THE 1992 CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY
EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

Kiev, 21 May 2003

NOT YET IN FORCE:

see article 29 which reads as follows: "1. The Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. Article 2, paragraph 2(e)(iii), shall take effect when thresholds, limits of liability and minimum limits of financial securities for pipelines are set in annexes I and II in accordance with article 24, paragraphs 8 and 9. 3. For the purposes of paragraph 1, any instrument deposited by an organization referred to in article 27 shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of such an organization. 4. For each State or organization referred to in article 27 which ratifies, accepts or approves the Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."

STATUS:

Signatories: 26. Parties: 1.
Doc. ECE/MP.WAT/11-ECE/CP.TEIA/9.

TEXT:

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 21 May 2003 by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Convention of 17 March 1992 on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Convention of 17 March 1992 on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents held in Kiev from 21 to 23 May 2003. The Protocol was opened for signature from 21 to 23 May 2003 in Kiev, and will remain open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 31 December 2003 by States members of the Economic Commission for Europe as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe, pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe to which their member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by the Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Armenia	21 May 2003		Luxembourg.....	21 May 2003	
Austria	30 Dec 2003		Moldova.....	21 May 2003	
Belgium	21 May 2003		Monaco	21 May 2003	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	21 May 2003		Norway.....	21 May 2003	
Bulgaria	21 May 2003		Poland	13 Jun 2003	
Cyprus.....	21 May 2003		Portugal.....	21 May 2003	
Denmark	21 May 2003		Romania.....	21 May 2003	
Estonia	21 May 2003		Sweden.....	21 May 2003	
Finland.....	21 May 2003		Ukraine.....	21 May 2003	
Georgia	21 May 2003		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	21 May 2003	
Greece.....	21 May 2003				
Hungary	21 May 2003	25 Jun 2004			
Latvia.....	21 May 2003				
Lithuania.....	21 May 2003				

Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents *(Helsinki, 17 March 1992)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (the Convention) is designed at protecting human beings and the environment against industrial accidents by preventing them as far as possible, by reducing their frequency and severity and by mitigating their effects. It promotes active international cooperation between the Parties, before, during and after an industrial accident.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Parties to the Convention are required to take appropriate measures and cooperate to protect human beings and the environment against industrial accidents, as defined by the Convention, by preventing such accidents as far as possible, by reducing their frequency and severity and by mitigating their effects. To this end, preventive, preparedness and response measures shall be applied by the Parties. The Parties shall, by means of exchange of information, consultation and other cooperative measures, develop and implement policies for reducing risks of industrial accidents and improving preventive, preparedness and response measures. The Parties are required to take all necessary legislative, regulatory, administrative and financial measures for the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents.

The Parties also undertake to ensure that adequate information is given to the public in the areas capable of being affected by an industrial accident arising out of a hazardous activity. The Parties must also establish industrial accident notification systems. The Parties are also required to cooperate concerning mutual assistance, research and development, exchange of information and exchange of technology in the area of prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 19 April 2000 (article 30).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance, or approval by the signatory States and regional economic integration organizations. The Convention is open to accession by the States members of the Economic Commission for Europe, as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe to which their member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by this Convention, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters (articles 27 and 29).

Any regional economic integration organization which becomes Party to this Convention without any of its member States being a Party shall be bound by all the obligations under this Convention. In the case of such organizations, one or more of whose member States is a Party to this Convention, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obliga-

tions under this Convention. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under this Convention concurrently (article 29).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

When signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party may declare in writing to the depositary that, for a dispute not resolved in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 21, it accepts one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation: (a) submission of a dispute to the International Court of Justice, (b) arbitration in accordance with the procedure set out in Annex XIII hereto (article 21).

In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the regional economic integration organizations referred shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to the matters governed by this Convention. These organizations shall also inform the depositary of any substantial modification to the extent of their competence (article 29).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which this Convention has come into force with respect to a Party, the Party may withdraw from this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary (article 31).

CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Helsinki, 17 March 1992

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 19 April 2000, in accordance with article 30(1).
REGISTRATION: 19 April 2000, No. 36605.
STATUS: Signatories: 27. Parties: 37.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2105, p. 457.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the Senior Advisers to the Economic Commission for Europe Governments on Environmental and Water Problems at their Resumed Fifth Session held at Helsinki from 17 to 18 March 1992. The Convention was opened for signature at Helsinki from 17 to 18 March 1992 and was open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 18 September 1992.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Albania.....	18 Mar 1992	5 Jan 1994	Lithuania.....	18 Mar 1992	2 Nov 2000
Armenia.....		21 Feb 1997 a	Luxembourg.....	20 May 1992	8 Aug 1994
Austria.....	18 Mar 1992	4 Aug 1999	Moldova.....		4 Jan 1994 a
Azerbaijan.....		16 Jun 2004 a	Monaco.....		28 Aug 2001 a
Belarus.....		25 Jun 2003 a	Netherlands.....	18 Mar 1992	6 Nov 2006 A
Belgium.....	18 Mar 1992	6 Apr 2006	Norway.....	18 Sep 1992	1 Apr 1993 AA
Bulgaria.....	18 Mar 1992	12 May 1995	Poland.....	18 Mar 1992	8 Sep 2003
Canada.....	18 Mar 1992		Portugal.....	9 Jun 1992	2 Nov 2006
Croatia.....		20 Jan 2000 a	Romania.....		22 May 2003 a
Cyprus.....		31 Aug 2005 a	Russian Federation.....	18 Mar 1992	1 Feb 1994 A
Czech Republic.....		12 Jun 2000 a	Slovakia.....		9 Sep 2003 a
Denmark.....	18 Mar 1992	28 Mar 2001 AA	Slovenia.....		13 May 2002 a
Estonia.....	18 Mar 1992	17 May 2000	Spain.....	18 Mar 1992	16 May 1997
European Community ..	18 Mar 1992	24 Apr 1998 AA	Sweden.....	18 Mar 1992	22 Sep 1999
Finland.....	18 Mar 1992	13 Sep 1999 A	Switzerland.....	18 Mar 1992	21 May 1999
France.....	18 Mar 1992	3 Oct 2003 AA	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	18 Mar 1992	5 Aug 2002
Germany.....	18 Mar 1992	9 Sep 1998	United States of America.....	18 Mar 1992	
Greece.....	18 Mar 1992	24 Feb 1998			
Hungary.....	18 Mar 1992	2 Jun 1994 AA			
Italy.....	18 Mar 1992	2 Jul 2002			
Kazakhstan.....		11 Jan 2001 a			
Latvia.....	18 Mar 1992	29 Jun 2004			

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change *(New York, 9 May 1992)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Convention) is to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened, to avoid adverse health effects and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

KEY PROVISIONS

In order to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, Parties are obliged to develop, periodically update, publish and make available national inventories of anthropogenic emissions and sinks; adopt and implement national and regional measures to mitigate climate change; promote the application of processes that control emissions, including the transfer of technologies; promote sustainable management of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases; elaborate integrated plans for coastal zone management and cooperate in research and systematic observation of the climate system.

Developed country Parties and other Parties specified in the Convention shall adopt national policies and take corresponding measures on the mitigation of climate change. These Parties are obliged to communicate detailed information on their policies and measures. Parties not bound by these provisions may elect to be bound by such provisions by written notification.

The Convention also provides for a financial mechanism which requires developed country Parties and other developed Parties specified in the Convention to provide financial resources to meet the costs incurred by developing country Parties to adopt necessary measures and to communicate information relating to implementation. Developed country Parties and other developed Parties specified in the Convention shall also promote the transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies and know-how to developing country Parties.

Parties are obliged to support and develop international and intergovernmental programmes aimed at defining, conducting, assessing and financing research, data collection and systematic observation; support international and intergovernmental efforts to strengthen systematic observation and national and technical research capabilities; develop and implement educational and public awareness programmes on climate change; facilitate public awareness and participation; and provide training of scientific, technical and managerial personnel.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 21 March 1994 (article 23).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Member States of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the

Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations. It is also open for accession by Member States of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations (article 22).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any Party not included in annex I may, in its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or at any time thereafter, notify the depositary that it intends to be bound by subparagraphs (a) and (b) of article 4(2) relating to the adoption of national policies and the implementation of corresponding measures (article 4(2)(g)).

When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party which is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the depositary that, in respect of any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation, submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice and/or arbitration in accordance with procedure to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties. A Party that is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration (article 14).

Regional economic integration organizations, in their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention (article 22).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention (article 24).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Convention has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal (article 25).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

New York, 9 May 1992

ENTRY INTO FORCE:
REGISTRATION:
STATUS:
TEXT:

21 March 1994, in accordance with article 23(1).
21 March 1994, No. 30822.
Signatories: 166. Parties: 192.
United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, p.107; and depositary notifications C.N.148.1993.TREATIES-4 of 12 July 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original texts of the Convention); C.N.436.1993.TREATIES-12 of 15 December 1993 (corrigendum to C.N.148.1993.TREATIES-4 of 12 July 1993); C.N.247.1993.TREATIES-6 of 24 November 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic French text); C.N.462.1993.TREATIES-13 of 30 December 1993 (corrigendum to C.N.247.1993.TREATIES-6 of 24 November 1993); C.N.544.1997.TREATIES-6 of 13 February 1997 (amendment to the list in annex I to the Convention); and C.N.1478.2001.TREATIES-2 of 28 December 2001 (amendment to the list in annex II to the Convention).

Note: The Convention was agreed upon and adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, during its Fifth session, second part, held at New York from 30 April to 9 May 1992. In accordance with its article 20, the Convention was open for signature by States Members of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations, at Rio de Janeiro during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, from 4 to 14 June 1992, and remained thereafter open at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until 19 June 1993.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	12 Jun 1992	19 Sep 2002	Brunei Darussalam.....		7 Aug 2007 a
Albania.....		3 Oct 1994 a	Bulgaria.....	5 Jun 1992	12 May 1995
Algeria.....	13 Jun 1992	9 Jun 1993	Burkina Faso.....	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993
Angola.....	14 Jun 1992	17 May 2000	Burundi.....	11 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1997
Antigua and Barbuda..	4 Jun 1992	2 Feb 1993	Cambodia.....		18 Dec 1995 a
Argentina.....	12 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1994	Cameroon.....	14 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1994
Armenia.....	13 Jun 1992	14 May 1993 A	Canada.....	12 Jun 1992	4 Dec 1992
Australia.....	4 Jun 1992	30 Dec 1992	Cape Verde.....	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1995
Austria.....	8 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	Central African Republic.....	13 Jun 1992	10 Mar 1995
Azerbaijan.....	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1995	Chad.....	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1994
Bahamas.....	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1994	Chile.....	13 Jun 1992	22 Dec 1994
Bahrain.....	8 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994	China.....	11 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1993
Bangladesh.....	9 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994	Colombia.....	13 Jun 1992	22 Mar 1995
Barbados.....	12 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1994	Comoros.....	11 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1994
Belarus.....	11 Jun 1992	11 May 2000 AA	Congo.....	12 Jun 1992	14 Oct 1996
Belgium.....	4 Jun 1992	16 Jan 1996	Cook Islands.....	12 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1993
Belize.....	13 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1994	Costa Rica.....	13 Jun 1992	26 Aug 1994
Benin.....	13 Jun 1992	30 Jun 1994	Côte d'Ivoire.....	10 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994
Bhutan.....	11 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Croatia.....	11 Jun 1992	8 Apr 1996 A
Bolivia.....	10 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994	Cuba.....	13 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1994
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		7 Sep 2000 a	Cyprus.....	12 Jun 1992	15 Oct 1997
Botswana.....	12 Jun 1992	27 Jan 1994	Czech Republic.....	18 Jun 1993	7 Oct 1993 AA
Brazil.....	4 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	Democratic People's Republic of Korea..	11 Jun 1992	5 Dec 1994 AA

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	11 Jun	1992	9 Jan	1995	Kazakhstan	8 Jun	1992	17 May	1995
Denmark	9 Jun	1992	21 Dec	1993	Kenya	12 Jun	1992	30 Aug	1994
Djibouti	12 Jun	1992	27 Aug	1995	Kiribati	13 Jun	1992	7 Feb	1995
Dominica			21 Jun	1993 a	Kuwait			28 Dec	1994 a
Dominican Republic ...	12 Jun	1992	7 Oct	1998	Kyrgyzstan			25 May	2000 a
Ecuador	9 Jun	1992	23 Feb	1993	Lao People's Democratic Republic			4 Jan	1995 a
Egypt	9 Jun	1992	5 Dec	1994	Latvia	11 Jun	1992	23 Mar	1995
El Salvador	13 Jun	1992	4 Dec	1995	Lebanon	12 Jun	1992	15 Dec	1994
Equatorial Guinea			16 Aug	2000 a	Lesotho	11 Jun	1992	7 Feb	1995
Eritrea			24 Apr	1995 a	Liberia	12 Jun	1992	5 Nov	2002
Estonia	12 Jun	1992	27 Jul	1994	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	29 Jun	1992	14 Jun	1999
Ethiopia	10 Jun	1992	5 Apr	1994	Liechtenstein	4 Jun	1992	22 Jun	1994
European Community .	13 Jun	1992	21 Dec	1993 AA	Lithuania	11 Jun	1992	24 Mar	1995
Fiji	9 Oct	1992	25 Feb	1993	Luxembourg	9 Jun	1992	9 May	1994
Finland	4 Jun	1992	3 May	1994 A	Madagascar	10 Jun	1992	2 Jun	1999
France	13 Jun	1992	25 Mar	1994	Malawi	10 Jun	1992	21 Apr	1994
Gabon	12 Jun	1992	21 Jan	1998	Malaysia	9 Jun	1993	13 Jul	1994
Gambia	12 Jun	1992	10 Jun	1994	Maldives	12 Jun	1992	9 Nov	1992
Georgia			29 Jul	1994 a	Mali	30 Sep	1992	28 Dec	1994
Germany	12 Jun	1992	9 Dec	1993	Malta	12 Jun	1992	17 Mar	1994
Ghana	12 Jun	1992	6 Sep	1995	Marshall Islands	12 Jun	1992	8 Oct	1992
Greece	12 Jun	1992	4 Aug	1994	Mauritania	12 Jun	1992	20 Jan	1994
Grenada	3 Dec	1992	11 Aug	1994	Mauritius	10 Jun	1992	4 Sep	1992
Guatemala	13 Jun	1992	15 Dec	1995	Mexico	13 Jun	1992	11 Mar	1993
Guinea	12 Jun	1992	7 May	1993	Micronesia (Federated States of)	12 Jun	1992	18 Nov	1993
Guinea-Bissau	12 Jun	1992	27 Oct	1995	Moldova	12 Jun	1992	9 Jun	1995
Guyana	13 Jun	1992	29 Aug	1994	Monaco	11 Jun	1992	20 Nov	1992
Haiti	13 Jun	1992	25 Sep	1996	Mongolia	12 Jun	1992	30 Sep	1993
Honduras	13 Jun	1992	19 Oct	1995	Montenegro			23 Oct	2006 d
Hungary	13 Jun	1992	24 Feb	1994	Morocco	13 Jun	1992	28 Dec	1995
Iceland	4 Jun	1992	16 Jun	1993	Mozambique	12 Jun	1992	25 Aug	1995
India	10 Jun	1992	1 Nov	1993	Myanmar	11 Jun	1992	25 Nov	1994
Indonesia	5 Jun	1992	23 Aug	1994	Namibia	12 Jun	1992	16 May	1995
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14 Jun	1992	18 Jul	1996	Nauru	8 Jun	1992	11 Nov	1993
Ireland	13 Jun	1992	20 Apr	1994	Nepal	12 Jun	1992	2 May	1994
Israel	4 Jun	1992	4 Jun	1996	Netherlands'	4 Jun	1992	20 Dec	1993 A
Italy	5 Jun	1992	15 Apr	1994	New Zealand	4 Jun	1992	16 Sep	1993
Jamaica	12 Jun	1992	6 Jan	1995	Nicaragua	13 Jun	1992	31 Oct	1995
Japan	13 Jun	1992	28 May	1993 A	Niger	11 Jun	1992	25 Jul	1995
Jordan	11 Jun	1992	12 Nov	1993					

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Nigeria	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	Suriname	13 Jun 1992	14 Oct 1997
Niue		28 Feb 1996 a	Swaziland.....	12 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1996
Norway	4 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1993	Sweden.....	8 Jun 1992	23 Jun 1993
Oman	11 Jun 1992	8 Feb 1995	Switzerland	12 Jun 1992	10 Dec 1993
Pakistan.....	13 Jun 1992	1 Jun 1994	Syrian Arab Republic..		4 Jan 1996 a
Palau		10 Dec 1999 a	Tajikistan		7 Jan 1998 a
Panama.....	18 Mar 1993	23 May 1995	Thailand	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Papua New Guinea.....	13 Jun 1992	16 Mar 1993	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		28 Jan 1998 a
Paraguay	12 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994	Timor-Leste		10 Oct 2006 a
Peru.....	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1993	Togo.....	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1995 A
Philippines	12 Jun 1992	2 Aug 1994	Tonga		20 Jul 1998 a
Poland.....	5 Jun 1992	28 Jul 1994	Trinidad and Tobago...	11 Jun 1992	24 Jun 1994
Portugal	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993	Tunisia	13 Jun 1992	15 Jul 1993
Qatar		18 Apr 1996 a	Turkey.....		24 Feb 2004 a
Republic of Korea.....	13 Jun 1992	14 Dec 1993	Turkmenistan		5 Jun 1995 a
Romania.....	5 Jun 1992	8 Jun 1994	Tuvalu.....	8 Jun 1992	26 Oct 1993
Russian Federation.....	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994	Uganda.....	13 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993
Rwanda	10 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1998	Ukraine.....	11 Jun 1992	13 May 1997
Saint Kitts and Nevis ..	12 Jun 1992	7 Jan 1993	United Arab Emirates .		29 Dec 1995 a
Saint Lucia	14 Jun 1993	14 Jun 1993	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	12 Jun 1992	8 Dec 1993
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		2 Dec 1996 a	United Republic of Tanzania	12 Jun 1992	17 Apr 1996
Samoa	12 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994	United States of America	12 Jun 1992	15 Oct 1992
San Marino.....	10 Jun 1992	28 Oct 1994	Uruguay	4 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1994
Sao Tome and Principe..	12 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1999	Uzbekistan		20 Jun 1993 a
Saudi Arabia		28 Dec 1994 a	Vanuatu.....	9 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1993
Senegal.....	13 Jun 1992	17 Oct 1994	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Serbia		12 Mar 2001 a	Viet Nam.....	11 Jun 1992	16 Nov 1994
Seychelles	10 Jun 1992	22 Sep 1992	Yemen.....	12 Jun 1992	21 Feb 1996
Sierra Leone.....	11 Feb 1993	22 Jun 1995	Zambia	11 Jun 1992	28 May 1993
Singapore	13 Jun 1992	29 May 1997	Zimbabwe	12 Jun 1992	3 Nov 1992
Slovakia	19 May 1993	25 Aug 1994 AA			
Slovenia	13 Jun 1992	1 Dec 1995			
Solomon Islands.....	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994			
South Africa.....	15 Jun 1993	29 Aug 1997			
Spain	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993			
Sri Lanka.....	10 Jun 1992	23 Nov 1993			
Sudan	9 Jun 1992	19 Nov 1993			

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change *(Kyoto, 11 December 1997)*

OBJECTIVES

The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Protocol) has the same ultimate objective as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Convention), which is the stabilization of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

At the first United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties held in Berlin in 1995, the Parties reviewed the commitments by the developed countries under the Convention and decided that the commitment to aim at returning their emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000 was inadequate for achieving the Convention's long-term objective. The Conference adopted the Berlin Mandate and launched a new round of negotiations on strengthening the commitments of the Parties from developed countries. At the third Conference of the Parties in Kyoto in 1997, the Parties adopted the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

In accordance with the Protocol, Parties from developed countries are committed to reducing their combined greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5 per cent from 1990 levels by the period 2008-2012. The targets cover the six main greenhouse gases, namely, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs), per fluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), along with some activities in the land-use change and forestry sector that remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (carbon "sinks"). Each Party from developed countries is required to have made demonstrable progress in implementing its emission reduction commitments by 2005. Implementation of the legally binding Protocol commitments promises to produce an historic reversal of the upward trend in emissions from developed countries.

The Protocol also establishes three innovative mechanisms, known as joint implementation, emissions trading and the clean development mechanism, which are designed to help Parties included in Annex I of the Convention to reduce the costs of meeting their emission targets. The clean development mechanism also aims to promote sustainable development in developing countries. The operational details of these mechanisms are now being fleshed out by the Parties.

The procedure for the communication and review of information is established in the Protocol. Parties from developed countries are required to incorporate in their national communications the supplementary information necessary to demonstrate compliance with their commitments under the Protocol in accordance with guidelines to be developed. The information submitted shall be reviewed by expert review teams, pursuant to guidelines established by the Conference of the Parties, which is the supreme body that shall regularly review and promote effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocol.

The Protocol provides that the Parties shall periodically review the Protocol in the light of the best available scientific information and assessment on climate change and its impacts. The first review will take place at the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the

Protocol. Further reviews shall take place at regular intervals and in a timely manner. A framework for a compliance system is required to be developed under the Protocol.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 16 February 2005 (article 25).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It remains open to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States and any regional economic integration organizations which are Parties to the Convention (article 24).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol (article 24 (3)).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 26).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Protocol has entered into force for a Party that Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal (article 27).

Any Party that withdraws from the Convention shall be considered as also having withdrawn from the Protocol (article 27).

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

ENTRY INTO FORCE:

16 February 2005, in accordance with article 25(1) in accordance with article 25 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date on which not less than 55 Parties to the Convention, incorporating Parties included in Annex I which accounted in total for at least 55 per cent of the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990 of the Parties included in Annex I, have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For the purposes of this Article, 'the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990 of the Parties included in Annex I' means the amount communicated on or before the date of adoption of this Protocol by the Parties included in Annex I in their first national communications submitted in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention. 3. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Protocol or accedes thereto after the conditions set out in paragraph 1 above for entry into force have been fulfilled, this Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification acceptance, approval or accession. 4. For the purposes of this Article, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of the organization."

REGISTRATION:
STATUS:
TEXT:

16 February 2005, No. 30822.

Signatories: 84. Parties: 180.

Decision 1/CP.3 of the Conference of the State Parties to the Convention at its third session; depositary notifications C.N.101.2004.TREATIES-1 of 11 February 2004 [Proposed corrections to the original texts of the Protocol (Arabic and French versions)] and C.N.439.2004.TREATIES-4 of 12 May 2004 [Corrections to the original texts of the Protocol (Arabic and French versions)]; C.N.390.2007.TREATIES-5 of 17 April 2007 (Adoption of an amendment to Annex B of the Protocol).

Note: The Protocol was adopted at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("the Convention"), held at Kyoto (Japan) from 1 to 11 December 1997. The Protocol shall be open for signature by States and regional economic integration organizations which are Parties to the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 16 March 1998 to 15 March 1999 in accordance with its article 24 (1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>
Albania.....		1 Apr 2005 a	Herzegovina.....		
Algeria.....		16 Feb 2005 a	Botswana.....		8 Aug 2003 a
Angola.....		8 May 2007 a	Brazil.....	29 Apr 1998	23 Aug 2002
Antigua and Barbuda.....	16 Mar 1998	3 Nov 1998	Bulgaria.....	18 Sep 1998	15 Aug 2002
Argentina.....	16 Mar 1998	28 Sep 2001	Burkina Faso.....		31 Mar 2005 a
Armenia.....		25 Apr 2003 a	Burundi.....		18 Oct 2001 a
Australia.....	29 Apr 1998	12 Dec 2007	Cambodia.....		22 Aug 2002 a
Austria.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Cameroon.....		28 Aug 2002 a
Azerbaijan.....		28 Sep 2000 a	Canada.....	29 Apr 1998	17 Dec 2002
Bahamas.....		9 Apr 1999 a	Cape Verde.....		10 Feb 2006 a
Bahrain.....		31 Jan 2006 a	Chile.....	17 Jun 1998	26 Aug 2002
Bangladesh.....		22 Oct 2001 a	China.....	29 May 1998	30 Aug 2002 AA
Barbados.....		7 Aug 2000 a	Colombia.....		30 Nov 2001 a
Belarus.....		26 Aug 2005 a	Comoros.....		10 Apr 2008 a
Belgium.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Congo.....		12 Feb 2007 a
Belize.....		26 Sep 2003 a	Cook Islands.....	16 Sep 1998	27 Aug 2001
Benin.....		25 Feb 2002 a	Costa Rica.....	27 Apr 1998	9 Aug 2002
Bhutan.....		26 Aug 2002 a	Côte d'Ivoire.....		23 Apr 2007 a
Bolivia.....	9 Jul 1998	30 Nov 1999	Croatia.....	11 Mar 1999	30 May 2007
Bosnia and		16 Apr 2007 a	Cuba.....	15 Mar 1999	30 Apr 2002

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>
Cyprus.....		16 Jul 1999 a	Japan	28 Apr 1998	4 Jun 2002 A
Czech Republic	23 Nov 1998	15 Nov 2001 AA	Jordan		17 Jan 2003 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea ...		27 Apr 2005 a	Kazakhstan.....	12 Mar 1999	
Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a	Kenya		25 Feb 2005 a
Denmark	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Kiribati.....		7 Sep 2000 a
Djibouti.....		12 Mar 2002 a	Kuwait.....		11 Mar 2005 a
Dominica.....		25 Jan 2005 a	Kyrgyzstan		13 May 2003 a
Dominican Republic		12 Feb 2002 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic		6 Feb 2003 a
Ecuador.....	15 Jan 1999	13 Jan 2000	Latvia	14 Dec 1998	5 Jul 2002
Egypt.....	15 Mar 1999	12 Jan 2005	Lebanon		13 Nov 2006 a
El Salvador.....	8 Jun 1998	30 Nov 1998	Lesotho.....		6 Sep 2000 a
Equatorial Guinea		16 Aug 2000 a	Liberia		5 Nov 2002 a
Eritrea		28 Jul 2005 a	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		24 Aug 2006 a
Estonia	3 Dec 1998	14 Oct 2002	Liechtenstein.....	29 Jun 1998	3 Dec 2004
Ethiopia.....		14 Apr 2005 a	Lithuania	21 Sep 1998	3 Jan 2003
European Community ...	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA	Luxembourg.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Fiji	17 Sep 1998	17 Sep 1998	Madagascar		24 Sep 2003 a
Finland.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Malawi		26 Oct 2001 a
France	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA	Malaysia.....	12 Mar 1999	4 Sep 2002
Gabon.....		12 Dec 2006 a	Maldives.....	16 Mar 1998	30 Dec 1998
Gambia.....		1 Jun 2001 a	Mali.....	27 Jan 1999	28 Mar 2002
Georgia		16 Jun 1999 a	Malta.....	17 Apr 1998	11 Nov 2001
Germany	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Marshall Islands.....	17 Mar 1998	11 Aug 2003
Ghana.....		30 May 2003 a	Mauritania.....		22 Jul 2005 a
Greece.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Mauritius.....		9 May 2001 a
Grenada.....		6 Aug 2002 a	Mexico	9 Jun 1998	7 Sep 2000
Guatemala.....	10 Jul 1998	5 Oct 1999	Micronesia (Federated States of)	17 Mar 1998	21 Jun 1999
Guinea.....		7 Sep 2000 a	Moldova.....		22 Apr 2003 a
Guinea-Bissau.....		18 Nov 2005 a	Monaco	29 Apr 1998	27 Feb 2006
Guyana.....		5 Aug 2003 a	Mongolia.....		15 Dec 1999 a
Haiti		6 Jul 2005 a	Montenegro.....		4 Jun 2007 a
Honduras.....	25 Feb 1999	19 Jul 2000	Morocco.....		25 Jan 2002 a
Hungary		21 Aug 2002 a	Mozambique		18 Jan 2005 a
Iceland		23 May 2002 a	Myanmar.....		13 Aug 2003 a
India.....		26 Aug 2002 a	Namibia.....		4 Sep 2003 a
Indonesia.....	13 Jul 1998	3 Dec 2004	Nauru		16 Aug 2001 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		22 Aug 2005 a	Nepal.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Ireland.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Netherlands	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 A
Israel	16 Dec 1998	15 Mar 2004	New Zealand	22 May 1998	19 Dec 2002
Italy.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Nicaragua.....	7 Jul 1998	18 Nov 1999
Jamaica		28 Jun 1999 a			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>
Niger	23 Oct 1998	30 Sep 2004	Sudan		2 Nov 2004 a
Nigeria		10 Dec 2004 a	Suriname		25 Sep 2006 a
Niue	8 Dec 1998	6 May 1999	Swaziland.....		13 Jan 2006 a
Norway	29 Apr 1998	30 May 2002	Sweden.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Oman		19 Jan 2005 a	Switzerland	16 Mar 1998	9 Jul 2003
Pakistan.....		11 Jan 2005 a	Syrian Arab Republic....		27 Jan 2006 a
Palau		10 Dec 1999 a	Thailand	2 Feb 1999	28 Aug 2002
Panama.....	8 Jun 1998	5 Mar 1999	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		18 Nov 2004 a
Papua New Guinea.....	2 Mar 1999	28 Mar 2002	Togo.....		2 Jul 2004 a
Paraguay	25 Aug 1998	27 Aug 1999	Tonga		14 Jan 2008 a
Peru.....	13 Nov 1998	12 Sep 2002	Trinidad and Tobago.....	7 Jan 1999	28 Jan 1999
Philippines	15 Apr 1998	20 Nov 2003	Tunisia		22 Jan 2003 a
Poland	15 Jul 1998	13 Dec 2002	Turkmenistan	28 Sep 1998	11 Jan 1999
Portugal.....	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA	Tuvalu	16 Nov 1998	16 Nov 1998
Qatar		11 Jan 2005 a	Uganda.....		25 Mar 2002 a
Republic of Korea.....	25 Sep 1998	8 Nov 2002	Ukraine.....	15 Mar 1999	12 Apr 2004
Romania.....	5 Jan 1999	19 Mar 2001	United Arab Emirates ...		26 Jan 2005 a
Russian Federation.....	11 Mar 1999	18 Nov 2004	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Rwanda		22 Jul 2004 a	United Republic of Tanzania		26 Aug 2002 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis		8 Apr 2008 a	United States of America.....	12 Nov 1998	
Saint Lucia.....	16 Mar 1998	20 Aug 2003	Uruguay	29 Jul 1998	5 Feb 2001
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	19 Mar 1998	31 Dec 2004	Uzbekistan	20 Nov 1998	12 Oct 1999
Samoa	16 Mar 1998	27 Nov 2000	Vanuatu.....		17 Jul 2001 a
Saudi Arabia		31 Jan 2005 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....		18 Feb 2005 a
Senegal.....		20 Jul 2001 a	Viet Nam.....	3 Dec 1998	25 Sep 2002
Serbia.....		19 Oct 2007 a	Yemen.....		15 Sep 2004 a
Seychelles	20 Mar 1998	22 Jul 2002	Zambia	5 Aug 1998	7 Jul 2006
Sierra Leone.....		10 Nov 2006 a			
Singapore		12 Apr 2006 a			
Slovakia	26 Feb 1999	31 May 2002			
Slovenia	21 Oct 1998	2 Aug 2002			
Solomon Islands.....	29 Sep 1998	13 Mar 2003			
South Africa.....		31 Jul 2002 a			
Spain	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002			
Sri Lanka.....		3 Sep 2002 a			

**Amendment to Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations
Framework Convention on Climate Change**
(Nairobi, 17 November 2006)

KEY PROVISIONS

Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Protocol) lists the States with quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments (QELRCs) and their respective QELRCs, in accordance with article 3 of the Protocol. The Amendment includes Belarus among the States listed in Annex B with a QELRC of 92. Belarus is one of the countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment has not yet entered into force. The Amendment to Annex B of the Protocol shall enter into force for those Parties having accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the depositary of an instrument of acceptance by at least three fourths of the Parties to the Protocol. The Amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits with the depositary its instrument of acceptance of the Amendment (article 20 of the Protocol).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Parties to the Protocol may consent to be bound by the Amendment by depositing instruments of acceptance with the depositary.

**Amendment to Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change**

Nairobi, 17 November 2006

NOT YET IN FORCE: see paragraphs (4) and (5) of article 20 of the Protocol which read as follows: "The Amendment to Annex B of the Protocol, shall enter into force for those Parties having accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the Depositary of an instrument of acceptance by at least three fourths of the Parties to this Protocol. The Amendment shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party deposits with the Depositary its instrument of acceptance of the said Amendment."

STATUS:

Parties: 4.

TEXT:

Doc. Decision 10/CMP/2.

Note: At the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Nairobi, Kenya from 6 to 17 November 2006, the Parties adopted an Amendment to Annex B to the Protocol by Decision 10/CMP/2, in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Protocol.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Acceptance(A)</i>
Australia	12 Dec 2007 A
Belarus	6 Jun 2007 A
Czech Republic	18 Apr 2007 A
Uzbekistan.....	16 Oct 2007 A

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity *(Montreal, 29 January 2000)*

OBJECTIVES

One of the key agreements adopted at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro was the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention), which sets out commitments for maintaining the world's ecological underpinnings in parallel with economic development. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Protocol) is a supplementary agreement to the Convention. The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. This Protocol establishes an advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory. The Protocol contains reference to a precautionary approach and reaffirms the precautionary language in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The Protocol also establishes a Biosafety Clearing-House to facilitate the exchange of information on living modified organisms and to assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Recognizing that modern biotechnology has great potential for human well-being if developed and used with adequate safety measures for the environment and human health, the Parties undertake to ensure that the development, handling, transport, use, transfer and release of any living modified organisms is undertaken in a manner that prevents or reduces the risks to biological diversity, and to human health.

The transboundary movements of living modified organisms are subject to an AIA procedure under which transboundary movement is only allowed after advanced written consent by the competent national authority of the importing Party. This procedure involves several distinct requirements, namely: notification by the exporting Party, acknowledgement of notification by the importing Party, a decision-making procedure by the importing Party, and the right to review such decisions in the light of new scientific information. When the transboundary movement is authorized, the Parties are obligated to take necessary measures to require that living modified organisms are handled, packaged and transported under conditions of safety.

The Protocol provides for several exceptions to that procedure including the transboundary movements of pharmaceuticals; living modified organisms that are solely transiting through the territory of a Party or that are destined for contained use only or living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing.

In any circumstances, lack of scientific certainty due to insufficient relevant scientific information and knowledge regarding the extent of the potential adverse effects of a living modified organism shall not prevent the Parties from taking a decision, as appropriate, with regard to the import of the living modified organism in question in order to avoid or minimize such potential adverse effects.

A Biosafety Clearing-House is established for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of information on, and experience with, living modified organisms to assist Parties to implement the Protocol, taking into account the special needs of developing country Parties. Each Party shall make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House copies of any national laws, regulations and guidelines applicable to the import of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing, if available.

Lastly, the Parties undertake to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety, including biotechnology to the extent that it is required for biosafety, for the purpose of the effective implementation of this Protocol, in developing States, and in States with economies in transition, which are Parties to the Protocol. Such assistance in capacity building in biosafety may occur through existing global, regional, sub-regional and national institutions and organizations and, as appropriate, through facilitating private sector involvement.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003 (article 37).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and is open to accession by States or regional economic integration organizations that are Parties to the Convention (articles 34 and 35 of the Convention, and article 32 of the Protocol).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party shall notify the Secretary-General of its focal point and its designated competent national authorities, or any changes thereof (article 19).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 38).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after two years from the date on which this Protocol has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Such withdrawal shall take place upon expiry of one year after the date of its receipt by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of the withdrawal (article 39).

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Montreal, 29 January 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 September 2003, in accordance with article 37(2).
REGISTRATION: 11 September 2003, No. 30619.
STATUS: Signatories: 103. Parties: 148.
TEXT: Depository notification C.N.251.2000.TREATIES-1 of 27 April 2000; C.N. 1471.2003.TREATIES-41 of 22 December 2003 (Proposal of corrections to the Arabic text of the Protocol) and C.N.291.2004.TREATIES-11 of 26 March 2004 (Rectification of the Arabic text of the Protocol and transmission of the relevant Procès-Verbal) .

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 29 January 2000 by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the resumed session of its first extraordinary meeting held in Montreal from 24 to 29 January 2000. The Protocol will be open for signature by States and by regional economic integration organizations in Nairobi at the United Nations Office from 15 to 26 May 2000, and at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001, in accordance with its article 36.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		8 Feb 2005 a	Colombia.....	24 May 2000	20 May 2003
Algeria	25 May 2000	5 Aug 2004	Congo.....	21 Nov 2000	13 Jul 2006
Antigua and Barbuda	24 May 2000	10 Sep 2003	Cook Islands	21 May 2001	
Argentina	24 May 2000		Costa Rica	24 May 2000	6 Feb 2007
Armenia		30 Apr 2004 a	Croatia.....	8 Sep 2000	29 Aug 2002
Austria	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Cuba.....	24 May 2000	17 Sep 2002
Azerbaijan.....		1 Apr 2005 a	Cyprus.....		5 Dec 2003 a
Bahamas.....	24 May 2000	15 Jan 2004	Czech Republic	24 May 2000	8 Oct 2001
Bangladesh.....	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004	Democratic People's Republic of Korea ...	20 Apr 2001	29 Jul 2003
Barbados		6 Sep 2002 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a
Belarus		26 Aug 2002 a	Denmark	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002
Belgium	24 May 2000	15 Apr 2004	Djibouti.....		8 Apr 2002 a
Belize		12 Feb 2004 a	Dominica.....		13 Jul 2004 a
Benin.....	24 May 2000	2 Mar 2005	Dominican Republic		20 Jun 2006 a
Bhutan.....		26 Aug 2002 a	Ecuador	24 May 2000	30 Jan 2003
Bolivia	24 May 2000	22 Apr 2002	Egypt.....	20 Dec 2000	23 Dec 2003
Botswana.....	1 Jun 2001	11 Jun 2002	El Salvador.....	24 May 2000	26 Sep 2003
Brazil		24 Nov 2003 a	Eritrea.....		10 Mar 2005 a
Bulgaria	24 May 2000	13 Oct 2000	Estonia	6 Sep 2000	24 Mar 2004
Burkina Faso.....	24 May 2000	4 Aug 2003	Ethiopia.....	24 May 2000	9 Oct 2003
Cambodia.....		17 Sep 2003 a	European Community ...	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002 AA
Cameroon.....	9 Feb 2001	20 Feb 2003	Fiji.....	2 May 2001	5 Jun 2001
Canada	19 Apr 2001		Finland.....	24 May 2000	9 Jul 2004
Cape Verde		1 Nov 2005 a	France.....	24 May 2000	7 Apr 2003 AA
Central African Republic	24 May 2000		Gabon.....		2 May 2007 a
Chad.....	24 May 2000	1 Nov 2006	Gambia.....	24 May 2000	9 Jun 2004
Chile.....	24 May 2000		Germany.....	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2003
China	8 Aug 2000	8 Jun 2005 AA			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Ghana.....		30 May 2003 a	Monaco	24 May 2000	
Greece.....	24 May 2000	21 May 2004	Mongolia.....		22 Jul 2003 a
Grenada.....	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004	Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Guatemala		28 Oct 2004 a	Morocco	25 May 2000	
Guinea.....	24 May 2000	11 Dec 2007	Mozambique	24 May 2000	21 Oct 2002
Guyana.....		18 Mar 2008 a	Myanmar.....	11 May 2001	13 Feb 2008
Haiti	24 May 2000		Namibia.....	24 May 2000	10 Feb 2005
Honduras.....	24 May 2000		Nauru		12 Nov 2001 a
Hungary	24 May 2000	13 Jan 2004	Nepal.....	2 Mar 2001	
Iceland	1 Jun 2001		Netherlands	24 May 2000	8 Jan 2002 A
India	23 Jan 2001	17 Jan 2003	New Zealand	24 May 2000	24 Feb 2005
Indonesia.....	24 May 2000	3 Dec 2004	Nicaragua	26 May 2000	28 Aug 2002
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	23 Apr 2001	20 Nov 2003	Niger	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004
Ireland.....	24 May 2000	14 Nov 2003	Nigeria	24 May 2000	15 Jul 2003
Italy.....	24 May 2000	24 Mar 2004	Niue.....		8 Jul 2002 a
Jamaica	4 Jun 2001		Norway.....	24 May 2000	10 May 2001
Japan		21 Nov 2003 a	Oman.....		11 Apr 2003 a
Jordan.....	11 Oct 2000	11 Nov 2003	Pakistan.....	4 Jun 2001	
Kenya.....	15 May 2000	24 Jan 2002	Palau	29 May 2001	13 Jun 2003
Kiribati.....	7 Sep 2000	20 Apr 2004	Panama.....	11 May 2001	1 May 2002
Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Oct 2005 a	Papua New Guinea.....		14 Oct 2005 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		3 Aug 2004 a	Paraguay.....	3 May 2001	10 Mar 2004
Latvia		13 Feb 2004 a	Peru	24 May 2000	14 Apr 2004
Lesotho		20 Sep 2001 a	Philippines	24 May 2000	5 Oct 2006
Liberia.....		15 Feb 2002 a	Poland	24 May 2000	10 Dec 2003
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14 Jun 2005 a	Portugal.....	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004 A
Lithuania	24 May 2000	7 Nov 2003	Qatar		14 Mar 2007 a
Luxembourg.....	11 Jul 2000	28 Aug 2002	Republic of Korea	6 Sep 2000	3 Oct 2007
Madagascar.....	14 Sep 2000	24 Nov 2003	Romania	11 Oct 2000	30 Jun 2003
Malawi.....	24 May 2000		Rwanda	24 May 2000	22 Jul 2004
Malaysia.....	24 May 2000	3 Sep 2003	Saint Kitts and Nevis		23 May 2001 a
Maldives		3 Sep 2002 a	Saint Lucia		16 Jun 2005 a
Mali.....	4 Apr 2001	28 Aug 2002	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		27 Aug 2003 a
Malta		5 Jan 2007 a	Samoa	24 May 2000	30 May 2002
Marshall Islands.....		27 Jan 2003 a	Saudi Arabia		9 Aug 2007 a
Mauritania.....		22 Jul 2005 a	Senegal.....	31 Oct 2000	8 Oct 2003
Mauritius.....		11 Apr 2002 a	Serbia		8 Feb 2006 a
Mexico	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Seychelles	23 Jan 2001	13 May 2004
Moldova.....	14 Feb 2001	4 Mar 2003	Slovakia	24 May 2000	24 Nov 2003
			Slovenia	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2002
			Solomon Islands.....		28 Jul 2004 a
			South Africa.....		14 Aug 2003 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Spain	24 May 2000	16 Jan 2002	Tunisia	19 Apr 2001	22 Jan 2003
Sri Lanka.....	24 May 2000	28 Apr 2004	Turkey.....	24 May 2000	24 Oct 2003
Sudan		13 Jun 2005 a	Uganda.....	24 May 2000	30 Nov 2001
Suriname		27 Mar 2008 a	Ukraine.....		6 Dec 2002 a
Swaziland.....		13 Jan 2006 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	24 May 2000	19 Nov 2003
Sweden.....	24 May 2000	8 Aug 2002	United Republic of Tanzania.....		24 Apr 2003 a
Switzerland.....	24 May 2000	26 Mar 2002	Uruguay	1 Jun 2001	
Syrian Arab Republic....		1 Apr 2004 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	24 May 2000	13 May 2002
Tajikistan		12 Feb 2004 a	Viet Nam.....		21 Jan 2004 a
Thailand		10 Nov 2005 a	Yemen.....		1 Dec 2005 a
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	26 Jul 2000	14 Jun 2005	Zambia		27 Apr 2004 a
Togo.....	24 May 2000	2 Jul 2004	Zimbabwe	4 Jun 2001	25 Feb 2005
Tonga		18 Sep 2003 a			
Trinidad and Tobago.....		5 Oct 2000 a			

Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses *(New York, 21 May 1997)*

OBJECTIVES

Population growth and economic development have intensified demands over water resources worldwide, while pollution has caused additional problems in degrading water quality, leading to predictions of increasing future conflicts over shared water supplies. To address the essential need of the present and future generations to use and manage shared water resources in a sustainable manner, the international community has devised principles for international watercourse management. Over the past century, these principles have been refined and finally codified in the Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (the Convention).

KEY PROVISIONS

The scope of the Convention applies to the uses of international watercourses and of their waters for purposes other than navigation, and to the protection, preservation and management of those watercourses. The Convention defines the term “watercourse” as a system of surface waters and ground waters constituting by virtue of their physical relationship a unitary whole and normally flowing into a common terminus.

The Convention sets out general principles for watercourse States. Watercourse States are obliged in their respective territories to utilize international watercourses in an equitable and reasonable manner, to take all appropriate measures to prevent the causing of significant harm to other watercourse States, and to exchange data and information on the condition of the watercourse.

The Convention provides for Parties to exchange information and consult each other, and, if necessary, negotiate on the possible effects of planned measures on the condition of an international watercourse. The Convention mandates that Parties, individually and jointly, undertake to protect and preserve the ecosystems of international watercourses and to protect and preserve the marine environment.

Parties are obliged to take all appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate conditions relating to an international watercourse that may be harmful to other watercourse States, whether resulting from natural causes or human conduct. Parties are also obliged to notify without delay other potentially affected States and competent international organizations of any emergency situations originating within its territory, and shall also take all practical measures necessitated by the circumstances to prevent, mitigate and eliminate the harmful effects of such situations.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. For each State or regional economic integration organisation that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention, or accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of calculating the entry into force, any

instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States (article 36).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations (article 35).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Regional economic integration organizations shall declare, in their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention. Subsequently, such regional economic integration organizations shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 35).

When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party which is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the depositary that, in respect of any dispute not resolved in accordance with the provisions of article 33 (2), it recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice, and/or (b) arbitration by an arbitral tribunal established and operating, unless the Parties to the dispute otherwise agree, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. A Party which is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration (article 33).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

**CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL
WATERCOURSES**

New York, 21 May 1997

NOT YET IN FORCE:

see article 36 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 3. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States."

STATUS:

Signatories: 15. Parties: 14.

TEXT:

Doc. A/51/869.

Note: By resolution A/RES/51/229 of 21 May 1997, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted at its 51 session, the said Convention. In accordance with its article 34, the Convention shall be open for signature at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York, on 21 May 1997 and will remain open to all States and regional economic integration organizations for signature until 21 May 2000.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>
Côte d'Ivoire	25 Sep 1998		Paraguay.....	25 Aug 1998	
Finland.....	31 Oct 1997	23 Jan 1998 A	Portugal.....	11 Nov 1997	22 Jun 2005
Germany	13 Aug 1998	15 Jan 2007	Qatar		28 Feb 2002 a
Hungary	20 Jul 1999	26 Jan 2000 AA	South Africa.....	13 Aug 1997	26 Oct 1998
Iraq.....		9 Jul 2001 a	Sweden.....		15 Jun 2000 a
Jordan.....	17 Apr 1998	22 Jun 1999	Syrian Arab Republic..	11 Aug 1997	2 Apr 1998
Lebanon		25 May 1999 a	Tunisia	19 May 2000	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14 Jun 2005 a	Uzbekistan		4 Sep 2007 a
Luxembourg.....	14 Oct 1997		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	22 Sep 1997	
Namibia	19 May 2000	29 Aug 2001	Yemen.....	17 May 2000	
Netherlands.....	9 Mar 2000	9 Jan 2001 A			
Norway	30 Sep 1998	30 Sep 1998			

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters *(Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention recognizes that adequate protection of the environment is essential to human well-being and the enjoyment of basic human rights, including the right to life itself. It aims to ensure the rights of citizens to full information on the environment in order to contribute to the protection of the right of every person of present and future generations to live in an environment adequate to his or her health and well-being. The Convention establishes that sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders in society, by linking government accountability and environmental protection. The Convention focuses on interactions between the civil society and public authorities and forges a new process for public participation and transparency in the negotiation and implementation of international agreements.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention provides that each Party shall guarantee the rights of access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, while promoting environmental education and awareness among the public. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative, regulatory and other measures to establish and maintain a clear, transparent and consistent framework to implement the provisions of the Convention.

Public authorities, in response to a request for environmental information, shall make such information available to the public within the framework of national legislation. The public authorities shall also possess, update and disseminate information to the public without the need for a specific request through, *inter alia*, publicly accessible registers and electronic databases including national reports on the state of the environment, texts of environmental legislation, and other policies and programmes.

Practical means and opportunities for the public to participate in decision-making on a specific activity, in the development of plans, programmes and policies, and in the preparation of laws, rules and legally binding norms relating to the environment are guaranteed by the Convention. In this respect, the dissemination of information to the public is imperative.

In order to enforce the provisions under the Convention in the domestic legal system, the Convention ensures that any person who considers that his or her rights of access to information or participation in decision-making have been wrongfully refused, inadequately answered or otherwise not dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Convention shall have access to a review procedure before a court of law or another independent and impartial body established by law.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 30 October 2001.

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It remains open for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States members of the Economic Commission for Europe as well as States having a consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe and regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe.

The Convention is also open for accession by Member States of the United Nations upon approval by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.

When an organization, one or more of whose member States is a Party to the Convention, becomes a Party to the Convention, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Convention concurrently.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS

When signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party may declare that it accepts, as a means of dispute settlement, the submission of a dispute to the International Court of Justice and/or arbitration in accordance with procedures established in annex II to the Convention.

At the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, a regional economic integration organization is required to make a specific declaration on its competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent in regard to reservations.

WITHDRAWAL/DENUNCIATION

At any time after three years from the date on which the Convention has come into force with respect to a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day after the date of its receipt by the depositary.

CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-
MAKING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30 October 2001, in accordance with article 20(1).
REGISTRATION: 30 October 2001, No. 37770.
STATUS: Signatories: 41. Parties: 41.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2161, p. 447.

Note: Open for signature at Aarhus (Denmark) on 25 June 1998, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 21 December 1998, by States members of the Economic Commission for Europe as well as States having consultative status with the Economic Commission for Europe pursuant to paragraphs 8 and 11 of Economic and Social resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the Economic Commission for Europe to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by this Convention, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Albania.....	25 Jun 1998	27 Jun 2001	Lithuania.....	25 Jun 1998	28 Jan 2002
Armenia.....	25 Jun 1998	1 Aug 2001	Luxembourg.....	25 Jun 1998	25 Oct 2005
Austria.....	25 Jun 1998	17 Jan 2005	Malta.....	18 Dec 1998	23 Apr 2002
Azerbaijan.....		23 Mar 2000 a	Moldova.....	25 Jun 1998	9 Aug 1999
Belarus.....	16 Dec 1998	9 Mar 2000 AA	Monaco.....	25 Jun 1998	
Belgium.....	25 Jun 1998	21 Jan 2003	Netherlands.....	25 Jun 1998	29 Dec 2004 A
Bulgaria.....	25 Jun 1998	17 Dec 2003	Norway.....	25 Jun 1998	2 May 2003
Croatia.....	25 Jun 1998	27 Mar 2007	Poland.....	25 Jun 1998	15 Feb 2002
Cyprus.....	25 Jun 1998	19 Sep 2003	Portugal.....	25 Jun 1998	9 Jun 2003
Czech Republic.....	25 Jun 1998	6 Jul 2004	Romania.....	25 Jun 1998	11 Jul 2000
Denmark.....	25 Jun 1998	29 Sep 2000 AA	Slovakia.....		5 Dec 2005 a
Estonia.....	25 Jun 1998	2 Aug 2001	Slovenia.....	25 Jun 1998	29 Jul 2004
European Community.	25 Jun 1998	17 Feb 2005 AA	Spain.....	25 Jun 1998	29 Dec 2004
Finland.....	25 Jun 1998	1 Sep 2004 A	Sweden.....	25 Jun 1998	20 May 2005
France.....	25 Jun 1998	8 Jul 2002 AA	Switzerland.....	25 Jun 1998	
Georgia.....	25 Jun 1998	11 Apr 2000	Tajikistan.....		17 Jul 2001 a
Germany.....	21 Dec 1998	15 Jan 2007	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		22 Jul 1999 a
Greece.....	25 Jun 1998	27 Jan 2006	Turkmenistan.....		25 Jun 1999 a
Hungary.....	18 Dec 1998	3 Jul 2001	Ukraine.....	25 Jun 1998	18 Nov 1999
Iceland.....	25 Jun 1998		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	25 Jun 1998	23 Feb 2005
Ireland.....	25 Jun 1998				
Italy.....	25 Jun 1998	13 Jun 2001			
Kazakhstan.....	25 Jun 1998	11 Jan 2001			
Kyrgyzstan.....		1 May 2001 a			
Latvia.....	25 Jun 1998	14 Jun 2002			
Liechtenstein.....	25 Jun 1998				

**Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information,
Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice
in Environmental Matters**
(Almaty, 27 May 2005)

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Convention) as originally adopted, mandated that Parties provide for public participation in relation to genetically modified organisms. Such participation, however, was heavily qualified by the phrase “to the extent feasible and appropriate”. Subsequently, certain States sought to develop further the application of the Convention to the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms, which eventually resulted in the adoption of the Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Amendment).

KEY PROVISIONS

The Amendment obliges the Parties to the Convention to provide for early and effective information and public participation prior to making decisions on whether to permit the deliberate release into the environment and placing on the market of genetically modified organisms. Parties are obliged to ensure transparency of decision-making procedures and provide access to the relevant procedural information to the public.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment has not yet entered into force. Amendments to the Convention other than those to an annex shall enter into force for Parties having ratified, approved or accepted them on the ninetieth day after receipt by the depositary of notification of their ratification, approval or acceptance by at least three fourths of these Parties. Thereafter they shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after that party deposits its instrument of ratification, approval or acceptance of the amendments (article 14 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Parties to the Convention may consent to be bound by the Amendment by depositing instruments of ratification, approval or acceptance with the depositary (article 14 of the Convention).

**Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in
Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**

Almaty, 27 May 2005

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 14(4) which stipulates: "Amendments to [the] Convention other than those to an annex shall enter into force for Parties having ratified, approved or accepted them on the ninetieth day after receipt by the Depositary of notification of their ratification, approval or acceptance by at least three fourths of these Parties. Thereafter they shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after that Party deposits its instrument of ratification, approval or acceptance of the amendments."

STATUS: Parties: 11.

TEXT: Annex to the Report of the Second Meeting of the Parties (Decision II/1).

Note: At the second meeting of the Parties to the above Convention, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 25-27 May 2005, the Parties adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 14 (4) of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, the Amendment to the said Convention as set out in the Annex to the Report of the Second Meeting of the Parties (Decision II/1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Bulgaria.....	30 Apr 2007	Moldova	7 Dec 2007 A
Czech Republic	29 Jan 2008 A	Slovakia.....	1 Apr 2008
Denmark	18 Oct 2006 AA	Spain.....	21 Feb 2008 A
Estonia.....	1 Feb 2008	Sweden.....	15 Feb 2008
European Community	1 Feb 2008 AA		
Lithuania	30 Aug 2007		
Luxembourg.....	4 Jan 2007		

Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers *(Kiev, 21 May 2003)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (the Protocol) is to enhance public access to information through the establishment of coherent, integrated, nationwide pollutant release and transfer registers in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol, which could facilitate public participation in environmental decision-making as well as contribute to the prevention and reduction of pollution of the environment.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol is the first legally binding international instrument on pollutant release and transfer registers (PRTRs). PRTRs are inventories of pollution released to all media by industrial sites and other sources. Under the Protocol, each Party shall establish and maintain a publicly accessible national PRTR. Parties must ensure that the data held on the register are presented in both aggregated and non-aggregated forms, so that releases and transfers can be searched and identified according to various criteria as identified in the Protocol. In addition, Parties must ensure that the register shall be designed for maximum ease of public access through electronic means, such as the Internet. Each Party must ensure that its register includes information on the release of pollutants, off-site transfers and releases of pollutants from diffuse sources as required under the Protocol. The Protocol covers releases and transfers of at least 86 pollutants, such as greenhouse gases, acid rain pollutants, ozone-depleting substances, heavy metals and certain carcinogens. Releases and transfers from certain types of major point sources, for example, thermal power stations, mining and metallurgical industries and chemical plants, are also covered.

The Protocol establishes reporting requirements for owners or operators of facilities located within the jurisdiction of a Party that are involved in one or more of the activities specified in annex I to the Protocol and that meet other conditions. Each Party is also obliged to ensure that information required to be incorporated in its register is publicly available, compiled and presented on the register by calendar year. This reporting requirement is annual.

Each Party must also take steps to ensure appropriate opportunities for public participation in the development of its register. Each Party must ensure a review process before a court of law or other independent and impartial body established by law to address situations whereby requests for information contained in the register have been ignored, wrongfully refused, inadequately answered or otherwise not dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol. Each Party is required to promote public awareness of its register, and should also provide capacity-building to the relevant authorities. The Parties are also required to cooperate and assist each other, as appropriate.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol has not yet entered into force. The Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of such an organization. For each State or regional economic integration

organization which ratifies, accepts or approves this Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States and regional economic integration organizations. It is open to accession by States which are members of the United Nations and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the United Nations to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by the Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters (article 26).

Any regional economic integration organization, as defined by the Protocol, which becomes a Party without any of its member States being a Party, shall be bound by all the obligations under the Protocol. If one or more member States of such an organization is a Party, the organization and its member States shall decide on their respective responsibilities for the performance of their obligations under the Protocol. In such cases, the organization and the member States shall not be entitled to exercise rights under the Protocol concurrently (article 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

In their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the regional economic integration organizations referred to in the Protocol shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol. These organizations shall also inform the depositary of any substantial modifications to the extent of their competence (article 26).

When signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Protocol, or at any time thereafter, a State may declare in writing to the depositary that, for a dispute not resolved by negotiation or other peaceful means of dispute settlement, it accepts one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligations : (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice, and (b) arbitration in accordance with the procedure set out in annex IV of the Protocol (article 23).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 28).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Protocol has come into force with respect to a Party, that Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day after the date of its receipt by the depositary (article 29).

Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers

Kiev, 21 May 2003

NOT YET IN FORCE:

see article 27 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For the purposes of paragraph 1, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by the States members of such an organization. 3. For each State or regional economic integration organization which ratifies, accepts or approves this Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."

STATUS:

Signatories: 37. Parties: 6.

TEXT:

Doc. MP.PP/2003/11

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 21 May 2003 by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention of 25 June 1998 on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, held in Kiev from 21 to 23 May 2003. The Protocol was opened for signature from 21 to 23 May 2003 in Kiev and will remain open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 31 December 2003 by all States which are members of the United Nations and by regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States members of the United Nations to which their member States have transferred competence over matters governed by the Protocol, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of these matters.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Armenia	21 May 2003		Luxembourg.....	21 May 2003	7 Feb 2006
Austria	21 May 2003		Moldova.....	21 May 2003	
Belgium	21 May 2003		Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	21 May 2003		Netherlands	21 May 2003	11 Feb 2008 A
Bulgaria	21 May 2003		Norway.....	21 May 2003	
Croatia	23 May 2003		Poland	21 May 2003	
Cyprus.....	21 May 2003		Portugal.....	21 May 2003	
Czech Republic.....	21 May 2003		Romania	21 May 2003	
Denmark	21 May 2003		Serbia	21 May 2003	
Estonia	21 May 2003	15 Aug 2007 AA	Slovenia	22 May 2003	
European Community.	21 May 2003	21 Feb 2006 AA	Spain	21 May 2003	
Finland.....	21 May 2003		Sweden.....	21 May 2003	
France	21 May 2003		Switzerland	21 May 2003	27 Apr 2007
Georgia	21 May 2003		Tajikistan	21 May 2003	
Germany	21 May 2003	28 Aug 2007	The former Yugoslav Republic of		
Greece.....	21 May 2003		Macedonia.....	21 May 2003	
Hungary	21 May 2003		Ukraine.....	21 May 2003	
Ireland.....	21 May 2003		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	21 May 2003	
Italy.....	21 May 2003				
Latvia	21 May 2003				
Lithuania.....	21 May 2003				

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants *(Stockholm, 22 May 2001)*

OBJECTIVES

The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Convention) is a global treaty that aims at protecting human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants (POPs). POPs are chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms and are toxic to humans and wildlife. This Convention provides opportunities for international cooperation in the reduction of POPs emissions and, if possible, in their elimination.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties are obliged to take measures to reduce or eliminate the release of POPs from intentional production and use by prohibiting and/or taking the legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate the production and use as well as the import and export of specified POPs; restricting the production and use of specified POPs; and restricting the importation and exportation of specified POPs for certain purposes.

Parties maintaining specific exemptions or having an acceptable purpose shall take appropriate measures to ensure that any production or use under such exemption or purpose is carried out in a manner that prevents or minimizes human exposure and release of POPs into the environment.

Parties shall take prescribed measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production, including the development of an action plan, promotion of the development of substitute or modified materials, products and processes, and the promotion of the use of the best available techniques and the best environmental practices.

Parties are also under an obligation to take measures to reduce or eliminate releases of POPs from stockpiles and wastes. Parties are required to manage stockpiles in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner.

It is incumbent upon each Party to develop a plan for the implementation of its obligations under the Convention. For purposes of its implementation plan, Parties are obliged to cooperate with global, regional and sub regional organizations.

Parties are also obliged to facilitate the exchange of information concerning alternatives to POPs, and the reduction or elimination of the production, use and release of POPs. Parties are further obliged to promote awareness; develop and implement educational and public awareness programmes; encourage appropriate research, development, monitoring and cooperation pertaining to POPs at the national and international levels; and provide technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 17 May 2004 (article 26 (1)).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States

and by regional economic integration organizations. It remains open for accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations (article 25).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATION

When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party that is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the depositary that, with respect to any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes one or both of the following as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation: arbitration in accordance with procedures to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties and/or submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice (article 18 (2)).

A Party that is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration in accordance with the procedure referred to above (article 18 (3)).

In its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competencies in respect of matters governed by this Convention (article 25 (3)).

In its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, any Party may declare that, with respect to it, any amendment to Annex A, B or C shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 25 (4)).

RESERVATIONS

No reservation may be made to the Convention (article 27).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which this Convention has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary (article 28 (1)). Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon the expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal (article 28 (2)).

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

Stockholm, 22 May 2001

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 17 May 2004, in accordance with article 26(1)see article 26 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 3. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of that organization."

REGISTRATION: 17 May 2004, No. 40214.
STATUS: Signatories: 153. Parties: 155.
TEXT: Depository notification C.N.531.2001.TREATIES-96 of 19 June 2001; C.N.1204.2002.TREATIES-63 of 19 November 2002 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (authentic Spanish text)] and C.N.157.2003.TREATIES-6 of 21 February 2003 [Correction of the original text of the Convention (authentic Spanish text)]; C.N.618.2007.TREATIES-12 of 5 June 2007 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (authentic Russian text) and to the Certified True Copies].

Note: The Convention was adopted on 22 May 2001 at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Stockholm, 22-23 May 2001.

In accordance with its article 24, the Convention will be open for signature at Stockholm by all States and by regional economic integration organizations on 23 May 2001 at the Stockholm City Conference Centre/Folkets Hus, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 24 May 2001 to 22 May 2002.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Albania.....	5 Dec 2001	4 Oct 2004	Brunei Darussalam.....	21 May 2002	
Algeria	5 Sep 2001	22 Sep 2006	Bulgaria.....	23 May 2001	20 Dec 2004
Angola		23 Oct 2006 a	Burkina Faso	23 May 2001	31 Dec 2004
Antigua and Barbuda	23 May 2001	10 Sep 2003	Burundi	2 Apr 2002	2 Aug 2005
Argentina	23 May 2001	25 Jan 2005	Cambodia.....	23 May 2001	25 Aug 2006
Armenia	23 May 2001	26 Nov 2003	Cameroon.....	5 Oct 2001	
Australia.....	23 May 2001	20 May 2004	Canada	23 May 2001	23 May 2001
Austria	23 May 2001	27 Aug 2002	Cape Verde		1 Mar 2006 a
Azerbaijan.....		13 Jan 2004 a	Central African Republic	9 May 2002	12 Feb 2008
Bahamas.....	20 Mar 2002	3 Oct 2005	Chad.....	16 May 2002	10 Mar 2004
Bahrain.....	22 May 2002	31 Jan 2006	Chile.....	23 May 2001	20 Jan 2005
Bangladesh.....	23 May 2001	12 Mar 2007	China	23 May 2001	13 Aug 2004
Barbados		7 Jun 2004 a	Colombia.....	23 May 2001	
Belarus		3 Feb 2004 a	Comoros.....	23 May 2001	23 Feb 2007
Belgium	23 May 2001	25 May 2006	Congo.....	4 Dec 2001	12 Feb 2007
Belize	14 May 2002		Cook Islands		29 Jun 2004 a
Benin.....	23 May 2001	5 Jan 2004	Costa Rica	16 Apr 2002	6 Feb 2007
Bolivia	23 May 2001	3 Jun 2003	Côte d'Ivoire.....	23 May 2001	20 Jan 2004
Bosnia and Herzegovina	23 May 2001		Croatia.....	23 May 2001	30 Jan 2007
Botswana.....		28 Oct 2002 a	Cuba.....	23 May 2001	21 Dec 2007
Brazil	23 May 2001	16 Jun 2004	Cyprus.....		7 Mar 2005 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Czech Republic	23 May 2001	6 Aug 2002	Kiribati	4 Apr 2002	7 Sep 2004
Democratic People's Republic of Korea ...		26 Aug 2002 a	Kuwait.....	23 May 2001	12 Jun 2006
Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a	Kyrgyzstan	16 May 2002	12 Dec 2006
Denmark	23 May 2001	17 Dec 2003	Lao People's Democratic Republic	5 Mar 2002	28 Jun 2006
Djibouti	15 Nov 2001	11 Mar 2004	Latvia	23 May 2001	28 Oct 2004
Dominica.....		8 Aug 2003 a	Lebanon	23 May 2001	3 Jan 2003
Dominican Republic	23 May 2001	4 May 2007	Lesotho.....	23 Jan 2002	23 Jan 2002
Ecuador	28 Aug 2001	7 Jun 2004	Liberia		23 May 2002 a
Egypt.....	17 May 2002	2 May 2003	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14 Jun 2005 a
El Salvador.....	30 Jul 2001		Liechtenstein	23 May 2001	3 Dec 2004
Eritrea		10 Mar 2005 a	Lithuania	17 May 2002	5 Dec 2006
Ethiopia.....	17 May 2002	9 Jan 2003	Luxembourg.....	23 May 2001	7 Feb 2003
European Community ...	23 May 2001	16 Nov 2004 AA	Madagascar	24 Sep 2001	18 Nov 2005
Fiji	14 Jun 2001	20 Jun 2001	Malawi	22 May 2002	
Finland	23 May 2001	3 Sep 2002 A	Malaysia.....	16 May 2002	
France	23 May 2001	17 Feb 2004 AA	Maldives.....		17 Oct 2006 a
Gabon.....	21 May 2002	7 May 2007	Mali.....	23 May 2001	
Gambia.....	23 May 2001	28 Apr 2006	Malta	23 May 2001	
Georgia	23 May 2001	4 Oct 2006	Marshall Islands		27 Jan 2003 a
Germany	23 May 2001	25 Apr 2002	Mauritania	8 Aug 2001	22 Jul 2005
Ghana.....	23 May 2001	30 May 2003	Mauritius.....	23 May 2001	13 Jul 2004
Greece.....	23 May 2001	3 May 2006	Mexico	23 May 2001	10 Feb 2003
Guatemala	29 Jan 2002		Micronesia (Federated States of)	31 Jul 2001	15 Jul 2005
Guinea.....	23 May 2001	11 Dec 2007	Moldova.....	23 May 2001	7 Apr 2004
Guinea-Bissau.....	24 Apr 2002		Monaco	23 May 2001	20 Oct 2004
Guyana.....		12 Sep 2007 a	Mongolia.....	17 May 2002	30 Apr 2004
Haiti	23 May 2001		Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	
Honduras.....	17 May 2002	23 May 2005	Morocco	23 May 2001	15 Jun 2004
Hungary	23 May 2001	14 Mar 2008	Mozambique	23 May 2001	31 Oct 2005
Iceland	23 May 2001	29 May 2002	Myanmar.....		19 Apr 2004 a
India.....	14 May 2002	13 Jan 2006	Namibia.....		24 Jun 2005 a
Indonesia.....	23 May 2001		Nauru	9 May 2002	9 May 2002
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	23 May 2001	6 Feb 2006	Nepal.....	5 Apr 2002	6 Mar 2007
Ireland.....	23 May 2001		Netherlands	23 May 2001	28 Jan 2002 A
Israel	30 Jul 2001		New Zealand	23 May 2001	24 Sep 2004
Italy	23 May 2001		Nicaragua	23 May 2001	1 Dec 2005
Jamaica	23 May 2001	1 Jun 2007	Niger	12 Oct 2001	12 Apr 2006
Japan		30 Aug 2002 a	Nigeria	23 May 2001	24 May 2004
Jordan.....	18 Jan 2002	8 Nov 2004	Niue.....	12 Mar 2002	2 Sep 2005
Kazakhstan.....	23 May 2001	9 Nov 2007	Norway.....	23 May 2001	11 Jul 2002
Kenya.....	23 May 2001	24 Sep 2004			

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Oman	4 Mar 2002	19 Jan 2005	Suriname	22 May 2002	
Pakistan.....	6 Dec 2001	17 Apr 2008	Swaziland.....		13 Jan 2006 a
Palau	28 Mar 2002		Sweden.....	23 May 2001	8 May 2002
Panama.....	23 May 2001	5 Mar 2003	Switzerland	23 May 2001	30 Jul 2003
Papua New Guinea.....	23 May 2001	7 Oct 2003	Syrian Arab Republic....	15 Feb 2002	5 Aug 2005
Paraguay	12 Oct 2001	1 Apr 2004	Tajikistan	21 May 2002	8 Feb 2007
Peru.....	23 May 2001	14 Sep 2005	Thailand	22 May 2002	31 Jan 2005
Philippines	23 May 2001	27 Feb 2004	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	23 May 2001	27 May 2004
Poland.....	23 May 2001		Togo.....	23 May 2001	22 Jul 2004
Portugal.....	23 May 2001	15 Jul 2004 A	Tonga.....	21 May 2002	
Qatar		10 Dec 2004 a	Trinidad and Tobago.....		13 Dec 2002 a
Republic of Korea.....	4 Oct 2001	25 Jan 2007	Tunisia	23 May 2001	17 Jun 2004
Romania.....	23 May 2001	28 Oct 2004	Turkey.....	23 May 2001	
Russian Federation.....	22 May 2002		Tuvalu		19 Jan 2004 a
Rwanda		5 Jun 2002 a	Uganda.....		20 Jul 2004 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis		21 May 2004 a	Ukraine.....	23 May 2001	25 Sep 2007
Saint Lucia.....		4 Oct 2002 a	United Arab Emirates ...	23 May 2001	11 Jul 2002
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		15 Sep 2005 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	11 Dec 2001	17 Jan 2005
Samoa	23 May 2001	4 Feb 2002	United Republic of Tanzania.....	23 May 2001	30 Apr 2004
Sao Tome and Principe .	3 Apr 2002	12 Apr 2006	United States of America.....	23 May 2001	
Saudi Arabia	14 Mar 2002		Uruguay	23 May 2001	9 Feb 2004
Senegal.....	23 May 2001	8 Oct 2003	Vanuatu.....	21 May 2002	16 Sep 2005
Serbia.....	2 May 2002		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	23 May 2001	19 Apr 2005
Seychelles	25 Mar 2002		Viet Nam.....	23 May 2001	22 Jul 2002
Sierra Leone.....		26 Sep 2003 a	Yemen.....	5 Dec 2001	9 Jan 2004
Singapore.....	23 May 2001	24 May 2005	Zambia	23 May 2001	7 Jul 2006
Slovakia	23 May 2001	5 Aug 2002	Zimbabwe	23 May 2001	
Slovenia	23 May 2001	4 May 2004			
Solomon Islands.....		28 Jul 2004 a			
South Africa.....	23 May 2001	4 Sep 2002			
Spain	23 May 2001	28 May 2004			
Sri Lanka.....	5 Sep 2001	22 Dec 2005			
Sudan	23 May 2001	29 Aug 2006			

Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring *(New York, 4 June 1954)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring (the Convention) facilitates the development of international touring. It defines conditions for temporary importation of personal effects and other goods by tourists as well as specifies the maximum admissible quantities of such goods that can be imported free of duties and taxes.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention provides for temporary admission, free of import duties and import taxes, of personal effects imported by a tourist, provided that they are for personal use; they are carried on the person or in the luggage accompanying the tourist; that there is no reason to fear abuse; that the personal effects will be re-exported by the tourist on leaving the country.

The Convention defines “personal effects” and indicates the limits for other articles such as tobacco, alcohol and travel souvenirs, which can be admitted free of duties and taxes.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 11 September 1957 (article 16).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession to any Member State of the United Nations and any other State invited to attend the United Nations Conference on Customs Formalities for the Temporary Importation of Private Road Motor Vehicles and for Tourism held in New York in May and June 1954 (articles 14 and 15).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any State may, at the time of deposit of its instrument accession or at any time thereafter, declare that this Convention extends to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Any State which has made such declaration may denounce it separately in respect of that territory (article 19).

RESERVATIONS

Any reservation submitted to the depositary by a State at the time of depositing an instrument of accession shall be circulated by the depositary to all States which have at that time signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention. If one-third of these States expresses an objection within ninety days from the date of circulation, the reservation shall not be accepted (article 20).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect fifteen months after the date of its receipt (article 17).

CONVENTION CONCERNING CUSTOMS FACILITIES FOR TOURING

New York, 4 June 1954

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 September 1957, in accordance with article 16.
REGISTRATION: 11 September 1957, No. 3992.
STATUS: Signatories: 32. Parties: 79.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 276, p. 191; vol. 596, p. 542 (amendment to article 2).

Note: The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Customs Formalities for the Temporary Importation of Private Road Motor Vehicles and for Tourism, held at the Headquarters of the United Nations, New York, from 11 May to 4 June 1954. It also adopted the Additional Protocol to the said Convention, relating to the Importation of Tourist Publicity Documents and Material, and the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles. The Conference was convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with resolution 468 F (XV4) adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 15 April 1953. For the text of the Final Act of the Conference, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 276, p. 191.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Algeria		31 Oct 1963 a	Holy See.....	4 Jun 1954	
Argentina	4 Jun 1954	19 Dec 1986	Honduras.....	15 Jun 1954	
Australia.....		6 Jan 1967 a	Hungary		29 Oct 1963 a
Austria	4 Jun 1954	30 Mar 1956	India	30 Dec 1954	5 May 1958
Barbados		5 Mar 1971 d	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		3 Apr 1968 a
Belgium	4 Jun 1954	21 Feb 1955	Ireland.....		14 Aug 1967 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Israel		1 Aug 1957 a
Bulgaria		7 Oct 1959 a	Italy.....	4 Jun 1954	12 Feb 1958
Cambodia.....	4 Jun 1954	29 Nov 1955	Jamaica.....		11 Nov 1963 d
Canada		1 Jun 1955 a	Japan	2 Dec 1954	7 Sep 1955
Central African Republic		15 Oct 1962 a	Jordan.....		18 Dec 1957 a
Chile.....		15 Aug 1974 a	Lebanon		16 Mar 1971 a
Costa Rica.....	20 Jul 1954	4 Sep 1963	Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Croatia		31 Aug 1994 d	Lithuania		1 Dec 2005 a
Cuba.....	4 Jun 1954	23 Oct 1963	Luxembourg.....	6 Dec 1954	21 Nov 1956
Cyprus.....		16 May 1963 d	Malaysia.....		7 May 1958 d
Denmark		13 Oct 1955 a	Mali.....		1 Aug 1973 a
Dominican Republic ...	4 Jun 1954		Malta		29 Jul 1968 d
Ecuador.....	4 Jun 1954	30 Aug 1962	Mauritius.....		18 Jul 1969 d
Egypt.....	4 Jun 1954	4 Apr 1957	Mexico	4 Jun 1954	13 Jun 1957
El Salvador.....		18 Jun 1958 a	Monaco	4 Jun 1954	
Fiji.....		31 Oct 1972 d	Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Finland.....		21 Jun 1962 a	Morocco		25 Sep 1957 a
France	4 Jun 1954	24 Apr 1959	Nepal.....		21 Sep 1960 a
Germany	4 Jun 1954	16 Sep 1957	Netherlands.....	4 Jun 1954	7 Mar 1958
Ghana.....		16 Jun 1958 a	New Zealand.....		17 Aug 1962 a
Greece		15 Jan 1974 a	Nigeria		26 Jun 1961 d
Guatemala.....	4 Jun 1954		Norway.....		10 Oct 1961 a
Haiti	4 Jun 1954	12 Feb 1958	Panama.....	4 Jun 1954	
			Peru.....		16 Jan 1959 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Philippines	4 Jun 1954	9 Feb 1960	Syrian Arab Republic .		26 Mar 1959
Poland		16 Mar 1960 a	Tonga		11 Nov 1977 d
Portugal	4 Jun 1954	18 Sep 1958	Trinidad and Tobago...		11 Apr 1966 d
Romania		26 Jan 1961 a	Tunisia		20 Jun 1974 a
Russian Federation.....		17 Aug 1959 a	Turkey		26 Apr 1983 a
Rwanda		1 Dec 1964 d	Uganda		15 Apr 1965 a
Senegal.....		19 Apr 1972 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	4 Jun 1954	27 Feb 1956
Serbia		12 Mar 2001 d	United Republic of Tanzania		22 Jun 1964 a
Sierra Leone.....		13 Mar 1962 d	United States of America	4 Jun 1954	25 Jul 1956
Singapore		22 Nov 1966 d	Uruguay	4 Jun 1954	8 Sep 1967
Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d			
Solomon Islands.....		3 Sep 1981 d			
Spain	4 Jun 1954	18 Aug 1958			
Sri Lanka.....	4 Jun 1954	28 Nov 1955			
Sweden.....	4 Jun 1954	11 Jun 1957			
Switzerland	4 Jun 1954	23 May 1956			

Customs Convention on Containers *(Geneva, 2 December 1972)*

OBJECTIVES

The Customs Convention on Containers (the Convention) facilitates the temporary importation of containers used in transport. It minimizes administrative border procedures and defers payment of taxes and duties and, by doing so, it facilitates the movement of cargo carried in containers.

KEY PROVISIONS

The 1972 Convention, which has replaced the Convention of 1956, defers payments of taxes and duties for the temporary use of containers in a State Party that are registered in another State Party. The Convention provides authorities with surety and ensures the recovery of Customs duties if the container's re-export does not take place. While the Convention describes the temporary admission procedure (which does not include the tractor unit), there are no document requirements as the guarantee is based on an undertaking of the container owner.

The Convention also provides technical prescriptions for secure sealing of containers in line with the TIR Convention provisions. The Convention is managed by an Administrative Committee based at the World Customs Organization.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 6 December 1975 (article 19).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession to any State Member of the United Nations or of any of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency or Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and to any other State invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a Party to the present Convention (article 18).

A Customs or Economic Union, as defined in article 1 (d)bis of the Convention, may accede to the Convention and thereby become a Party.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations or notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Reservations to the Convention are permitted except those related to the provisions of articles 1 to 8, 12 to 17, 20, 25 and 26 and those related to the provisions contained in the annexes. Such reservations must be communicated in writing and, if communicated before the deposit of the instrument of accession, must be confirmed in that instrument. Any Party which has communicated a reservation may withdraw it at any time giving written notification to the depositary.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect one year from the date of such deposit (article 23).

CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON CONTAINERS, 1972

Geneva, 2 December 1972

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 6 December 1975, in accordance with article 19.
REGISTRATION: 6 December 1975, No. 14449.
STATUS: Signatories: 15. Parties: 36.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 988, p. 43 and depositary notifications C.N.358.1981.TREATIES-1 of 8 December 1981 (amendments to annexes 4 and 6); vol. 1407, p. 389 (amendments to annexes 1, 5, 6 and 7); vol. 1490, p. 531 (amendments to annex 6); vol. 1488, p. 345 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original French and Spanish texts); C.N.276.1988.TREATIES-1 of 1 December 1988 (amendments to article 1, paragraph c and annex 6); C.N.36.1994.TREATIES-1 of 10 March 1994 (amendments to the Convention and annexes 4 and 6); C.N.492.2007.TREATIES-1 of 20 April 2007 (proposal of amendments to Annexes 1 and 4).

Note: The Convention was adopted by the United Nations/IMCO Conference on Containers Traffic, held at Geneva from 13 November to 2 December 1972. The Conference was convened in pursuance of a decision taken by the Economic and Social Council on 22 May 1970 and Council resolutions 1568 (L) and 1725 (LIII). The Conference adopted a Final Act containing, *inter alia*, the texts of eight resolutions (see Doc. E/CONF.59/44). The Convention was open for signature until 15 January 1973 at the Office of the United Nations at Geneva and subsequently from 1 February 1973 until 31 December 1973 inclusive at the Headquarters of the United Nations at New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Algeria		14 Dec 1978 a	Lithuania		27 Mar 2002 a
Armenia		9 Jun 2006 a	Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Australia.....		10 Nov 1975 a	Morocco.....		14 Aug 1990 a
Austria	22 May 1973	17 Jun 1977	New Zealand.....		20 Dec 1974 a
Azerbaijan.....		17 Jan 2005 a	Poland	20 Dec 1972	29 Apr 1982
Belarus.....	22 Oct 1973	1 Sep 1976	Republic of Korea.....	15 Jan 1973	19 Oct 1984
Bulgaria	12 Jan 1973	22 Feb 1977	Romania.....	11 Dec 1973	6 Mar 1975
Burundi		4 Sep 1998 a	Russian Federation.....	18 Oct 1973	23 Aug 1976
Canada	5 Dec 1972	10 Dec 1975	Serbia		6 Sep 2001 a
China		22 Jan 1986 a	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Cuba.....		23 Nov 1984 a	Spain		16 Apr 1975 a
Czech Republic		2 Jun 1993 d	Switzerland	5 Dec 1972	12 Oct 1976
Finland.....	26 Dec 1973	22 Feb 1983 A	Trinidad and Tobago...		23 Mar 1990 a
Georgia		2 Jun 1999 a	Turkey.....	15 Dec 1972	13 Jul 1994
Greece.....	11 Jan 1973		Ukraine.....	22 Oct 1973	1 Sep 1976
Hungary	10 Jan 1973	12 Dec 1973	United States of America.....	5 Dec 1972	12 Nov 1984
Indonesia.....		11 Oct 1989 a	Uzbekistan		27 Nov 1996 a
Kazakhstan.....		25 Jan 2005 a			
Kyrgyzstan.....		22 Oct 2007 a			
Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a			

Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975)

OBJECTIVES

The Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under cover of TIR Carnets (the Convention) facilitates the international carriage of goods by road vehicles or containers. It makes it possible to avoid physical inspections of goods in transit, payments of taxes and duties for the goods en route, a national transit guarantee system, and national Customs documents and controls. In doing so, the TIR Convention reduces time spent at borders and lowers transport costs.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention, which updates the TIR Convention of 1959, makes available a procedure that permits the international carriage of goods by road vehicles or containers from one Customs office of departure to a Customs office of arrival, through as many countries as necessary, without intermediate check of the goods carried and without depositing a financial guarantee at each border.

The procedure has a number of essential elements: the use of secure vehicles or containers approved by authorities according to standards in the Convention; an international guarantee chain to cover duties and taxes at risk throughout the journey where, in each Party, a duly authorized association provides a guarantee; and the use of an international Customs document – the TIR Carnet.

The Carnet certifies the contents of the cargo as checked at the Customs office of departure and also serves as a guarantee document. The Customs authorities at borders accept the Carnet information and do not undertake checks unless deemed necessary.

Finally, the procedure features controlled access to the TIR system and foresees exclusion of those operators who misuse it. An Administrative Committee, based at the UN Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, administers the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 20 March 1978 (article 53).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. It is open for accession to any Member State of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, to any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and to any other State which has been invited to become a Party by the General Assembly of the United Nations, which has not signed the Convention (article 52).

Customs or economic unions may, together with all their member States or at any time after all their member States have become Parties to this Convention, also become Parties. However, these unions shall not have the right to vote.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of acceding to the Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 57, paragraphs 2 to 6 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by these paragraphs in respect of any Party which has entered such a reservation (article 58).

Any Party having entered a reservation as provided for in paragraph 1 of article 57 may at any time withdraw such reservation by notifying the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

No other reservation is permitted (article 57).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect fifteen months after the date of its receipt (article 54).

CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS UNDER COVER
OF TIR CARNETS (TIR CONVENTION)

Geneva, 14 November 1975

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20 March 1978, in accordance with article 53(1).
REGISTRATION: 20 March 1978, No. 16510.
STATUS: Signatories: 16. Parties: 69.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1079, p. 89, vol. 1142, p.413 (amendments to annexes 2 and 6), depositary notifications C.N.199.1980.TREATIES-4 of 25 July 1980 (amendments to annexes 1 and 6); vol. 1252, p. 332; vol. 1291, p. 298 (amendments proposed by France to annex 6); vol. 1365, p. 348 (amendments proposed by Czechoslovakia to annex 6); C.N.280.1984.TREATIES-5 of 21 November 1984 (amendments to annex 6); C.N.328.1985. TREATIES-4 of 3 February 1986 (amendments to annexes 1, 2 and 6); C.N.45.1987.TREATIES-1 of 31 March 1987 and C.N.99.1987.TREATIES-2 of 10 June 1987 (amendments to annexes 1, 6 and 7); C.N.341.1987.TREATIES-5 of 23 February 1988 (amendments to article 18 and to annexes 1 and 2) and C.N.41.1988.TREATIES-1 of 13 May 1988 (corrigendum to C.N.341.1987. TREATIES-5 of 23 February 1988); C.N.136.1987.TREATIES-4 of 12 August 1987 (corrigendum to C.N.328.1985.TREATIES-4 of 3 February 1986 and C.N.45.1987.TREATIES-1 of 31 March 1987); C.N.18.1989.TREATIES-1 of 30 March 1989 (amendments to annexes 2 and 7); C.N.352.1989.TREATIES-6 of 26 March 1990 (amendments to annexes 2, 6 and 7); C.N.313.1990. TREATIES-2 of 15 February 1991 (amendments to annex 6); C.N.465.1992.TREATIES-4 of 24 March 1993 (amendments to article 16 and annexes 6 and 8); C.N.47.1994.TREATIES-1 27 April 1994 (amendments to annexes 1, 2, 6 and 7); C.N.14.1995.TREATIES-1 of 5 April 1995 (amendments to annexes 1, 4 and 6); C.N.433.1997.TREATIES-1 of 17 November 1997 (amendments proposed to the Convention and annexes 6 and 8; C.N.336.1999.TREATIES-1 of 26 May 1999 (corrections); C.N.36.2001.TREATIES-1 of 12 February 2001 (proposal of amendments to the Convention and to annexes 1 and 6) and C.N.123.2002.TREATIES-3 of 13 February 2002 (entry into force of the amendments); C.N.37.2001.TREATIES-2 of 12 February 2001 (proposal of amendments to article 3 and to annexes 2 and 7), C.N.503.2001.TREATIES-4 of 23 May 2001 (Entry into force of amendments to annexes 2 and 7), C.N.142.2002.TRES-1 of 19 February 2002 (Entry into force of the proposal of amendments to article 3); C.N.688.2001.TREATIES-4 of 24 July 2001 (proposal of corrections to the amendments relating to annexes 2 and 7), C.N.1106.2001.TREATIES-5 of 23 October 2001 (acceptance of the proposed corrections of the amendments relating to annexes 2 and 7 of the Convention); C.N.14.2002.TREATIES-1 of 9 January 2002 (proposal of corrections relating to the French text of the amendments to annex 2 and to article 3 of the Convention) and C.N.328.2002.TREATIES-3 of 9 April 2002 (acceptance of the proposed corrections relating to the French text of the amendments to annex 2 and article 3 of the Convention); C.N.17.2002.TREATIES-2 of 9 January 2002 (proposal of corrections to the French text of the amendments to articles 11, 26 and 40 of the Convention) and C.N.329.2002.TREATIES-3 of 9 April 2002 (acceptance of the proposed corrections relating to the French text of the amendments relating to articles 11, 26 and 40 of the Convention); C.N.623.2003.TREATIES-1 of 19 June 2003 and doc. TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/63 (proposal of amendments to article 26, paragraph 1 of the Convention) and C.N.648.2004.TREATIES-1 of 21 June 2004 (Entry into force); C.N.630.2003.TREATIES-2 of 20 June 2003 and doc. TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/67 (proposal of amendments to annex 6 relating to article 38, paragraph 1 of the Convention) and C.N.807.2003.TREATIES-5 of 7 August 2003 (Entry into force); C.N.645.2003.TREATIES-3 of 23 June 2003 and doc. TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/69 and Corr.1[proposal of amendments to annex 6 relating to article 2, paragraph 1(B) of annex 2 of the Convention] and C.N.809.2003.TREATIES-5 of 7 August 2003 (Entry into force); C.N.216.2005.TREATIES-1 of 25 March 2005 and doc. Trans/WP.30/AC.2/71, Annex 2 [proposal of amendments to Article 1 (b) of the Convention] and C.N.519.2005.TREATIES-5 of 6 July 2005 (entry into force); C.N.218.2005.TREATIES-2 of 24 March 2005 and doc. TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/75, Annex 2, Corrigendum and Corrigendum 2 (Russian only) (proposal of amendments to Annex 2, Article 3, paragraphs 9 and 10 and to Annex 7, Part 1, Article 4, paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Convention) [see also C.N.218.2005.TREATIES-2 (Re-issued) of 30 September 2005] and C.N.520.2005.TREATIES-6 of 6 July 2005 (Entry into force); C.N.367.2005.TREATIES-3 of 12 May 2005 (proposal of amendments to Annexes 1 and 9 of the Convention) and C.N.1350.2005.TREATIES-6 of 5 January 2006 (Entry into force); C.N.370.2005.TREATIES-4 of 12 May 2005 (proposal of amendments with regard to the introduction of a new Article 42 ter and the amendment of Article 60 of the Convention, together with the introduction of a new Annex 10) and C.N.383.2006.TREATIES-2 of 17 May 2006 (Entry into force); C.N.99.2006.TREATIES-1 of 30 January 2006 [Proposal of amendments regarding the addition of two new Explanatory Notes to Article 6.1.bis and Annex 8, Article 10 (B)] and C.N.397.2006.TREATIES-3 of 17 May 2006 (Entry into force).

Note: The Convention was adopted by a revising Conference convened in accordance with article 46 of the TIR Convention of 15 January 1959 (see chapter XI.A-13). In accordance with its article 52(2), it was opened for signature from 1 January 1976 until 31 December 1976 inclusive at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		23 Sep 1982 a	Lithuania.....		26 Feb 1993 a
Albania.....		4 Jan 1985 a	Luxembourg.....	23 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982
Algeria.....		28 Feb 1989 a	Malta.....		18 Feb 1977 a
Armenia.....		8 Dec 1993 a	Moldova.....		26 May 1993 a
Austria.....	27 Apr 1976	13 May 1977	Mongolia.....		1 Oct 2002 a
Azerbaijan.....		12 Jun 1996 a	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Belarus.....		5 Apr 1993 a	Morocco.....	15 Oct 1976	31 Mar 1983
Belgium.....	22 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982	Netherlands.....	28 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982 A
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Norway.....		11 Jan 1980 a
Bulgaria.....		20 Oct 1977 a	Poland.....		23 Dec 1980 a
Canada.....		21 Oct 1980 a	Portugal.....		13 Feb 1979 a
Chile.....		6 Oct 1982 a	Republic of Korea.....		29 Jan 1982 a
Croatia.....		3 Aug 1992 d	Romania.....		14 Feb 1980 a
Cyprus.....		7 Aug 1981 a	Russian Federation.....		8 Jun 1982 a
Czech Republic.....		2 Jun 1993 d	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Denmark.....	21 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
Estonia.....		21 Sep 1992 a	Slovenia.....		6 Jul 1992 d
European Community..	30 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982 AA	Spain.....		11 Aug 1982 a
Finland.....	28 Dec 1976	27 Feb 1978	Sweden.....		17 Dec 1976 s
France.....		30 Dec 1976 s	Switzerland.....	4 Aug 1976	3 Feb 1978
Georgia.....		24 Mar 1994 a	Syrian Arab Republic..		11 Jan 1999 a
Germany.....	30 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982	Tajikistan.....		11 Sep 1996 a
Greece.....	30 Dec 1976	15 May 1980	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		2 Dec 1993 d
Hungary.....	23 Nov 1976	9 Mar 1978	Tunisia.....	11 Jun 1976	13 Oct 1977
Indonesia.....		11 Oct 1989 a	Turkey.....		12 Nov 1984 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		16 Aug 1984 a	Turkmenistan.....		18 Sep 1996 a
Ireland.....	30 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982	Ukraine.....		11 Oct 1994 d
Israel.....		14 Feb 1984 a	United Arab Emirates..		20 Apr 2007 a
Italy.....	28 Dec 1976	20 Dec 1982	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	22 Dec 1976	8 Oct 1982
Jordan.....		24 Dec 1985 a	United States of America.....		18 Sep 1981 a
Kazakhstan.....		17 Jul 1995 a	Uruguay.....		24 Dec 1980 a
Kuwait.....		23 Nov 1983 a	Uzbekistan.....		28 Sep 1995 a
Kyrgyzstan.....		2 Apr 1998 a			
Latvia.....		19 Apr 1993 a			
Lebanon.....		25 Nov 1997 a			
Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a			

The International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods *(Geneva, 21 October 1982)*

OBJECTIVES

The International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods (the Convention) facilitates border crossing in the international transport of goods. By harmonizing various types of border controls and by laying down guidelines for both national and international border procedures, the Convention reduces their number and duration. In general, the Convention provides best practices for efficient controls of goods at border crossings. Its effective implementation reduces time spent at a border, lowers transport costs and public expenditures.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention sets out procedures for efficient application of all types of border controls, including Customs controls, medico-sanitary inspections, veterinary inspections, phytosanitary inspections, controls of compliance with technical standards and quality controls. The procedures call for national co-ordination of various services as well as for international co-operation between the respective border services of the adjacent countries. The Convention foresees measures such as joint controls of goods and documents through the provision of shared facilities, same opening hours and same types of services at the same border.

These procedures apply to all goods being imported, exported or in transit and to all modes of transport. An Administrative Committee, based at the UN Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, manages the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 15 October 1985 (article 17).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

This Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. It is open for accession by any State or regional integration organizations which has not signed the Convention (article 16).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of acceding to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 20, paragraphs 2 to 7 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by these paragraphs in respect of any Party which has entered such a reservation (article 21).

Any Party having entered a reservation as provided for in paragraph 1 of article 21 may at any time withdraw such reservation by giving written notification to the depositary.

No other reservation is permitted (article 21).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect six months after the date of its receipt (article 18).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE HARMONIZATION OF FRONTIER CONTROLS OF
GOODS**

Geneva, 21 October 1982

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 15 October 1985, in accordance with article 17(1).
REGISTRATION: 15 October 1985, No. 23583.
STATUS: Signatories: 13. Parties: 50.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1409, p. 3; and depositary notification C.N.81.1984.TREATIES-3 of 4 May 1984 (procès-verbal of rectification of French authentic text); C.N.222.2007.TREATIES-1 of 20 February 2007 (Proposal of a new Annex 8 to the Convention).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		28 Dec 2004 a	Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Armenia.....		8 Dec 1993 a	Lithuania.....		7 Dec 1995 a
Austria.....		22 Jul 1987 a	Luxembourg.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987
Azerbaijan.....		8 May 2000 a	Mongolia.....		2 Nov 2007 a
Belarus.....		5 Apr 1993 a	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Belgium.....	31 Jan 1984	12 Jun 1987	Netherlands.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987 A
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Norway.....		10 Jul 1985 a
Bulgaria.....		27 Feb 1998 a	Poland.....		6 Dec 1996 a
Croatia.....		20 May 1994 d	Portugal.....		10 Nov 1987 a
Cuba.....		15 Apr 1992 a	Romania.....		10 Nov 2000 a
Cyprus.....		1 Jul 2002 a	Russian Federation.....		28 Jan 1986 a
Czech Republic.....		30 Sep 1993 d	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Denmark.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
Estonia.....		4 Mar 1996 a	Slovenia.....		6 Jul 1992 d
European Community.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	South Africa.....		24 Feb 1987 a
Finland.....		8 Aug 1985 a	Spain.....		2 Jul 1984 a
France.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	Sweden.....		15 Jul 1985 a
Georgia.....		2 Jun 1999 a	Switzerland.....	25 Jan 1984	21 Jan 1986
Germany.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		20 Dec 1999 d
Greece.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	Turkey.....		21 Mar 2006 a
Hungary.....	21 Dec 1983	26 Jan 1984 AA	Ukraine.....		12 Sep 2003 a
Ireland.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987
Italy.....	1 Feb 1984	12 Jun 1987	Uzbekistan.....		27 Nov 1996 a
Kazakhstan.....		25 Jan 2005 a			
Kyrgyzstan.....		2 Apr 1998 a			
Latvia.....		18 Dec 2003 a			
Lesotho.....		30 Mar 1988 a			

Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport (21 January 1994)

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport (the Convention) facilitates the international transport of goods carried by containers. It allows container operators in a Pool agreement to continuously exchange containers for temporary importation and exportation from that Pool provided that records of the movements and status of containers in the host country are kept.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention defines the use of containers in a Pool and describes the temporary admission procedure. The Convention admits containers – belonging to a Pool – duty and tax free and it also simplifies the system set up by the Customs Convention on Containers (1972).

According to this system, each container entering a country temporarily needs to be identified and registered, must also be re-exported within a certain time period (typically 3 months), and can only be used once for domestic transport.

Under the Convention, each Party assigns a certain number of its own containers to a Pool and allows an equal number of such Pool containers to move within its territory without restrictions. The only national administrative procedure required is to verify at specific time intervals whether the number of its own Pool containers and the number of Pool containers at any moment in its country is balanced. This is beneficial as there is no need to control each and every container, but only the balance of a certain number of Pool containers.

An Administrative Committee, based at the UN Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, manages the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 17 January 1998 (article 16).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession to any Member State of the United Nations and its specialized agencies or any regional economic integration organization, and to those states to which an invitation to that effect has been addressed by the United Nations Secretary General at the request of the Administrative Committee (article 14).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Any Party may make reservations to paragraph 2 of articles 6 and 7 concerning the requirement of Customs documents and security. Any Party which makes reservations may withdraw them, in whole or in part, at any time, by giving written notification to the depositary specifying the date on which such withdrawal takes effect (article 15).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect fifteen months after the date of its receipt (article 17).

**CONVENTION ON CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF POOL CONTAINERS USED IN INTERNATIONAL
TRANSPORT**

Geneva, 21 January 1994

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 17 January 1998, in accordance with article 16(1).
REGISTRATION: 17 January 1998, No. 34301.
STATUS: Signatories: 7. Parties: 14.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2000, p. 289.

Note: The Convention was adopted on 21 January 1994 at Geneva by the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe. It was opened for signature from 15 April 1994 to 14 April 1995 inclusive, at the Office of the United Nations in Geneva, by Member States of the United Nations or its specialized agencies. Thereafter, it shall be open for accession, in accordance with its article 14 (4).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Austria		17 Jul 1997 a	Slovakia		23 Apr 1999 a
Cuba.....		12 Jun 1996 a	Slovenia		27 Oct 2000 a
Czech Republic.....		21 Jun 2000 a	Sweden.....	13 Apr 1995	29 Mar 1996
Denmark	11 Apr 1995		Switzerland	15 Feb 1995	
European Community.	11 Apr 1995	11 Apr 1995	Uganda.....	7 Nov 1994	
Italy.....	11 Apr 1995	6 Jan 1998	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	13 Apr 1995	6 May 2003
Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a	Uzbekistan		27 Nov 1996 a
Lithuania.....		3 Jan 2003 a			
Malta.....		12 Jul 1995 a			
Poland		4 Aug 2000 a			

Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) (Geneva, 19 May 1956)

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) (the CMR Convention) facilitates the international road transport. By standardizing the conditions governing the contract for the international carriage of goods by road, the CMR Convention helps to maintain competitive balance among carriers and limits the costs of road transport, including insurance costs.

KEY PROVISIONS

The CMR Convention sets the conditions governing the contract for the international carriage of goods by road. The carrier is liable for loss, damage, or delay to the goods between the time she/he takes charge of them and the time they are delivered. The carriage has to involve at least two States, one of which has to be a Party.

The Convention defines a common consignment note, including specifying the information to be contained therein and the carrier's liability limits, including the circumstances under which she/he cannot be considered liable.

The Convention also specifies the compensation limit. It is calculated in "gold francs" in relation to the value of the goods at the time and place at which they were accepted for carriage.

The Parties to the CMR Convention must ensure that transport operators registered in their countries use the consignment note as proof of the international transport contract.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 2 July 1961 (article 43).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession by any Member State of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and States admitted to the United Nations Economic Commission in a consultative capacity (article 42).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any State may, at the time of depositing its instrument of accession or at any time thereafter, declare that this Convention extends to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible.

Any State which has made such a declaration may denounce it separately in respect of that territory (article 46).

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of acceding to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 47 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by article 47 in respect of any Party which has entered such a reservation (article 48).

Any Party having entered a reservation as provided for in paragraph 1 of article 48 may at any time withdraw such reservation by notifying the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

No other reservation is permitted (article 48).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect twelve months after the date of its receipt (article 44).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

CONVENTION ON THE CONTRACT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY ROAD (CMR)

Geneva, 19 May 1956

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 2 July 1961, in accordance with article 43.
REGISTRATION: 2 July 1961, No. 5742.
STATUS: Signatories: 9. Parties: 53.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 399, p. 189.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		20 Jul 2006 a	Malta.....		21 Dec 2007 a
Armenia.....		9 Jun 2006 a	Moldova.....		26 May 1993 a
Austria.....	19 May 1956	18 Jul 1960	Mongolia.....		18 Sep 2003 a
Azerbaijan.....		18 Sep 2006 a	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Belarus.....		5 Apr 1993 a	Morocco.....		23 Feb 1995 a
Belgium.....	19 May 1956	18 Sep 1962	Netherlands.....	19 May 1956	27 Sep 1960
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Norway.....		1 Jul 1969 a
Bulgaria.....		20 Oct 1977 a	Poland.....	19 May 1956	13 Jun 1962
Croatia.....		3 Aug 1992 d	Portugal.....		22 Aug 1989 a
Cyprus.....		2 Jul 2003 a	Romania.....		23 Jan 1973 a
Czech Republic.....		2 Jun 1993 d	Russian Federation.....		2 Sep 1983 a
Denmark.....		28 Jun 1965 a	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Estonia.....		3 May 1993 a	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
Finland.....		27 Jun 1973 a	Slovenia.....		6 Jul 1992 d
France.....	19 May 1956	20 May 1959	Spain.....		12 Feb 1974 a
Georgia.....		4 Aug 1999 a	Sweden.....	19 May 1956	2 Apr 1969
Germany.....	19 May 1956	7 Nov 1961	Switzerland.....	19 May 1956	27 Feb 1970
Greece.....		24 May 1977 a	Tajikistan.....		11 Sep 1996 a
Hungary.....		29 Apr 1970 a	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		20 Jun 1997 d
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		17 Sep 1998 a	Tunisia.....		24 Jan 1994 a
Ireland.....		31 Jan 1991 a	Turkey.....		2 Aug 1995 a
Italy.....		3 Apr 1961 a	Turkmenistan.....		18 Sep 1996 a
Kazakhstan.....		17 Jul 1995 a	Ukraine.....		16 Feb 2007 a
Kyrgyzstan.....		2 Apr 1998 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....		21 Jul 1967 a
Latvia.....		14 Jan 1994 a	Uzbekistan.....		28 Sep 1995 a
Lebanon.....		22 Mar 2006 a			
Lithuania.....		17 Mar 1993 a			
Luxembourg.....	19 May 1956	20 Apr 1964			

Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (Geneva, 5 July 1978)

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (the Protocol) amends article 23 of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR Convention) concerning compensation for the partial or total loss of goods. The Protocol introduces the Special Drawing Right (SDR) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as unit of account for such compensation.

By introducing the SDR and setting up common rules, the Protocol enlarges the choice for compensation, eases the settlement of disputes and ultimately facilitates international road transport.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol defines the limit of compensation in SDR units and defines the conditions for conversion into the national currency. For IMF members, it must be calculated in accordance with the method used by the IMF in its operations. Others may, if the national law does not permit using the SDR method, use some other limit of liability (specified in the Protocol). Such states must communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the manner of calculation or the results of the conversion when depositing an instrument of accession to the Protocol. Compensation for the partial or total loss of carried goods shall not exceed 8.33 SDRs per kilogram of gross weight (article 2).

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 28 December 1980 (article 4).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

This Protocol is closed for signature. It is open for accession - to states which have acceded to the CMR Convention and are either members of the UN Economic Commission for Europe or have been admitted to it in a consultative capacity - by depositing an instrument of accession (article 3).

OPTIONAL AND MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any state may, at the time of depositing its instrument of accession or at any time thereafter, declare that this Protocol extends to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Any state which has made such a declaration may denounce it separately in respect of that territory (article 7).

RESERVATIONS

Any state may, at the time of acceding to this Protocol, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 8 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by article 8 in respect of any Party which has made such a reservation (article 9).

Any Party having made a reservation as provided for in paragraph 1 of article 9 may at any time withdraw such reservation by giving written notification to the depositary.

No other reservation is permitted (article 9).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect twelve months after the date of its receipt (article 5).

**Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods
by Road (CMR)**

Geneva, 5 July 1978

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 28 December 1980, in accordance with article 4(1).
REGISTRATION: 28 December 1980, No. 19487.
STATUS: Signatories: 6. Parties: 38.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1208, p. 427.

Note: The Protocol was adopted by the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe at its thirty-eighth (special) session held at Geneva on 5 July 1978. The Protocol is open for signature at Geneva from 1 September 1978 to 31 August 1979.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Albania.....		12 Jan 2007 a	Luxembourg.....	30 Mar 1979	1 Aug 1980
Armenia.....		9 Jun 2006 a	Malta.....		21 Dec 2007 a
Austria.....		19 Feb 1981 a	Moldova.....		31 May 2007 a
Belgium.....		6 Jun 1983 a	Netherlands.....		28 Jan 1986 a
Cyprus.....		2 Jul 2003 a	Norway.....		31 Aug 1984 a
Czech Republic.....		29 Jun 2006 a	Portugal.....		22 Aug 1979 a
Denmark.....	23 Aug 1979	20 May 1980	Romania.....	28 Aug 1979	4 May 1981
Estonia.....		17 Dec 1993 a	Slovakia.....		20 Feb 2008 a
Finland.....	17 Aug 1979	15 May 1980	Spain.....		11 Oct 1982 a
France.....		14 Apr 1982 a	Sweden.....		30 Apr 1985 a
Georgia.....		4 Aug 1999 a	Switzerland.....		10 Oct 1983 a
Germany.....	1 Nov 1978	29 Sep 1980	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		20 Jun 1997 a
Greece.....		16 May 1985 a	Tunisia.....		24 Jan 1994 a
Hungary.....		18 Jun 1990 a	Turkey.....		2 Aug 1995 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		17 Sep 1998 a	Turkmenistan.....		18 Sep 1996 a
Ireland.....		31 Jan 1991 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	25 Sep 1978	5 Oct 1979
Italy.....		17 Sep 1982 a	Uzbekistan.....		27 Nov 1996 a
Kyrgyzstan.....		2 Apr 1998 a			
Latvia.....		14 Jan 1994 a			
Lebanon.....		22 Mar 2006 a			
Lithuania.....		17 Mar 1993 a			

Convention on Road Traffic *(Vienna, 8 November 1968)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Road Traffic (the Convention) facilitates international road traffic and increases road safety through the adoption of uniform traffic rules. These traffic rules, related documents and their mutual recognition by the Parties are indispensable for facilitating international transport and trade and tourism.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention defines common rules with respect to factors influencing international road traffic and its safety, including drivers, vehicles and pedestrians. Without affecting the right of a Party to make the admission of vehicles to their territory subject to national laws, the Convention stipulates that Parties shall be bound to admit to their territories motor vehicles and drivers that fulfil the conditions laid down in the Convention such as recognition of vehicle registration certificates issued by other Parties.

The Convention stipulates that every driver shall at all times be able to control his vehicle and that every driver must hold a driving permit issued only after verification that he/she possesses the knowledge and skills necessary. In addition, the Convention prescribes various behaviour rules necessary for safe driving such as those related to speed and distance between vehicles, priority at intersections, overtaking, the use of lamps, behaviour towards pedestrians and behaviour in case of accident.

The Convention also prescribes rules to be observed by pedestrians, cyclists, moped drivers and motor cyclists. Finally, the Convention details the conditions for admission of vehicles and drivers in international traffic. These include the obligation for vehicles to be registered by a Party, for vehicles to carry a valid certificate of such registration as well as to display the distinguishing sign of the State of registration.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 21 May 1977 (article 47).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession to any Member State of the United Nations.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

When a State becomes a Party to the Convention, it must notify the depositary of the distinguishing sign its registered vehicles will use when in international traffic (article 45).

Any State may, at the time of acceding to this Convention or at any time thereafter, declare that this Convention extends to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Any State which has made such a declaration may denounce it separately in respect of that territory (article 46).

At the time of depositing its instrument of accession, any state may declare that for the purposes of the application of the Convention it treats mopeds as motorcycles (article 54 (2)).

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of acceding to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 52 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by article 52 in respect of any Party which has made such a declaration (article 54).

Any Party which has made a declaration under paragraphs 1 or 4 of article 54 may withdraw it at any time by giving written notification to the depositary.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Denunciation takes effect one year after the date of its receipt (article 50).

CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC

Vienna, 8 November 1968

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 21 May 1977, in accordance with article 47(1).
REGISTRATION: 21 May 1977, No. 15705.
STATUS: Signatories: 37. Parties: 69.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1042, p. 17; and depositary notification C.N.19.1992.TREATIES-1 of 3 March 1992 (amendments); C.N.924.2004.TREATIES-4 of 28 September 2004 (proposal of amendments) and C.N.998.2005.TREATIES-3 of 29 September 2005 (acceptance of amendments).

Note: The Convention was prepared and opened for signature by the United Nations Conference on Road Traffic, held at Vienna from 7 October to 8 November 1968. It was convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations pursuant to resolutions 1129 (XLI) and 1203 (XLII) adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 27 July 1966 and 26 May 1967, respectively. The Conference also prepared and opened for signature the Convention on Road Signs and Signals (see chapter XI.B-20) and adopted the Final Act.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		29 Jun 2000 a	Greece.....		18 Dec 1986 a
Armenia.....		8 Feb 2005 a	Guyana.....		31 Jan 1973 a
Austria.....	8 Nov 1968	11 Aug 1981	Holy See.....	8 Nov 1968	
Azerbaijan.....		3 Jul 2002 a	Hungary.....	8 Nov 1968	16 Mar 1976
Bahamas.....		14 May 1991 a	Indonesia.....	8 Nov 1968	
Bahrain.....		4 May 1973 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	8 Nov 1968	21 May 1976
Belarus.....	8 Nov 1968	18 Jun 1974	Israel.....	8 Nov 1968	11 May 1971
Belgium.....	8 Nov 1968	16 Nov 1988	Italy.....	8 Nov 1968	2 Oct 1996
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Kazakhstan.....		4 Apr 1994 a
Brazil.....	8 Nov 1968	29 Oct 1980	Kuwait.....		14 Mar 1980 a
Bulgaria.....	8 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	Kyrgyzstan.....		30 Aug 2006 a
Central African Republic.....		3 Feb 1988 a	Latvia.....		19 Oct 1992 a
Chile.....	8 Nov 1968		Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
China.....	19 Dec 1969		Lithuania.....		20 Nov 1991 a
Costa Rica.....	8 Nov 1968		Luxembourg.....	8 Nov 1968	25 Nov 1975
Côte d'Ivoire.....		24 Jul 1985 a	Mexico.....	8 Nov 1968	
Croatia.....		23 Nov 1992 d	Moldova.....		26 May 1993 a
Cuba.....		30 Sep 1977 a	Monaco.....		6 Jun 1978 a
Czech Republic.....		2 Jun 1993 d	Mongolia.....		19 Dec 1997 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		25 Jul 1977 a	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Denmark.....	8 Nov 1968	3 Nov 1986	Morocco.....		29 Dec 1982 a
Ecuador.....	8 Nov 1968		Netherlands.....		8 Nov 2007 a
Estonia.....		24 Aug 1992 a	Niger.....		11 Jul 1975 a
Finland.....	16 Dec 1969	1 Apr 1985	Norway.....	23 Dec 1969	1 Apr 1985
France.....	8 Nov 1968	9 Dec 1971	Pakistan.....		19 Mar 1986 a
Georgia.....		23 Jul 1993 a	Peru.....		6 Oct 2006 a
Germany.....	8 Nov 1968	3 Aug 1978	Philippines.....	8 Nov 1968	27 Dec 1973
Ghana.....	22 Aug 1969		Poland.....	8 Nov 1968	23 Aug 1984
			Portugal.....	8 Nov 1968	

Convention on Road Signs and Signals *(Vienna, 8 November 1968)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Road Signs and Signals (the Convention) facilitates international road traffic and increases road safety by adopting the uniform system of road signs, signals, symbols and road markings. These common signs and signals allow road users to understand the “messages” announced by them and adapt their behaviour accordingly.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention establishes a set of commonly agreed road signs and signals. It requires Parties within a certain time period to replace those that previously had a different meaning from that assigned to them in the Convention and those that do not conform to the system provided for in the Convention.

The Convention classifies road signs in three main categories: danger warning, regulatory and informative. It provides their definitions and physical appearance including dimensions, shape, colours, graphic symbols and norms to ensure visibility and legibility.

In addition, the Convention prescribes common standards for traffic light signals, including non-flashing and flashing lights as well as signals for pedestrians. Finally, the Convention prescribes uniform conditions for road marking, signs for road works as well as special signals and gates for level crossings.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 6 June 1978 (article 39).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is open for accession to any Member State of the United Nations or of any of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a Party to the Convention (article 37).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any State may, at the time of acceding to this Convention or at any time thereafter, declare that this Convention extends to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Any state which has made such a declaration may denounce it separately in respect of that territory (article 38).

At the time of depositing its instrument of accession, every State shall, by notifying the depositary, declare for the purposes of the application of this Convention which models it chooses as a danger warning sign and as a stop sign (article 46.2 (a)).

At the time of depositing its instrument of accession, any State may, by notifying the depositary, declare that for the purposes of the application of the Convention it treats mopeds as motorcycles (article 46.2 (b)).

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of depositing its instrument of accession, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 44 (dispute settlement). Other Parties shall not be bound by article 44 with respect to any Party which has made such a declaration (article 46.1).

Any Party, which has made a declaration under article 46.1, may withdraw it at any time by giving written notification to the depositary (article 46.5).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. The denunciation takes effect one year after the date of its receipt (article 42).

CONVENTION ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS

Vienna, 8 November 1968

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 6 June 1978, in accordance with article 39(1).
REGISTRATION: 6 June 1978, No. 16743.
STATUS: Signatories: 36. Parties: 58.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1091, p. 3; and depositary notifications C.N.61.1994.TREATIES-1 of 31 May 1994 (amendments); C.N.1015.2004.TREATIES-5 of 28 September 2004 (proposal of amendments) and C.N.1000.2005.TREATIES-2 of 29 September 2005 (acceptance of amendments); C.N.828.2007.TREATIES-2 of 19 October 2007 (Proposal of corrections to the Convention, as amended).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		6 Feb 2004 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	8 Nov 1968	21 May 1976
Austria.....	8 Nov 1968	11 Aug 1981	Iraq.....		18 Dec 1988 a
Bahrain.....		4 May 1973 a	Italy.....	8 Nov 1968	7 Feb 1997
Belarus.....	8 Nov 1968	18 Jun 1974	Kazakhstan.....		4 Apr 1994 a
Belgium.....	8 Nov 1968	16 Nov 1988	Kuwait.....		13 May 1980 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		12 Jan 1994 d	Kyrgyzstan.....		30 Aug 2006 a
Brazil.....	8 Nov 1968		Latvia.....		19 Oct 1992 a
Bulgaria.....	8 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	Liberia.....		16 Sep 2005 a
Central African Republic.....		3 Feb 1988 a	Lithuania.....		20 Nov 1991 a
Chile.....	8 Nov 1968	27 Dec 1974	Luxembourg.....	8 Nov 1968	25 Nov 1975
China.....			Mexico.....	8 Nov 1968	
Costa Rica.....	8 Nov 1968		Mongolia.....		19 Dec 1997 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....		24 Jul 1985 a	Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d
Croatia.....		2 Nov 1993 d	Morocco.....		29 Dec 1982 a
Cuba.....		30 Sep 1977 a	Netherlands.....		8 Nov 2007 a
Czech Republic.....		2 Jun 1993 d	Norway.....	23 Dec 1969	1 Apr 1985
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		25 Jul 1977 a	Pakistan.....		14 Jan 1980 a
Denmark.....	8 Nov 1968	3 Nov 1986	Philippines.....	8 Nov 1968	27 Dec 1973
Ecuador.....	8 Nov 1968		Poland.....	8 Nov 1968	23 Aug 1984
Estonia.....		24 Aug 1992 a	Portugal.....	8 Nov 1968	
Finland.....	16 Dec 1969	1 Apr 1985	Republic of Korea.....	29 Dec 1969	
France.....	8 Nov 1968	9 Dec 1971	Romania.....	8 Nov 1968	9 Dec 1980
Georgia.....		15 May 2001 a	Russian Federation.....	8 Nov 1968	7 Jun 1974
Germany.....	8 Nov 1968	3 Aug 1978	San Marino.....	8 Nov 1968	20 Jul 1970
Ghana.....	22 Aug 1969		Senegal.....		19 Apr 1972 a
Greece.....		18 Dec 1986 a	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 d
Holy See.....	8 Nov 1968		Seychelles.....		11 Apr 1977 a
Hungary.....	8 Nov 1968	16 Mar 1976	Slovakia.....		28 May 1993 d
India.....		10 Mar 1980 a	Spain.....	8 Nov 1968	
Indonesia.....	8 Nov 1968		Sweden.....	8 Nov 1968	25 Jul 1985
			Switzerland.....	8 Nov 1968	11 Dec 1991
			Tajikistan.....		9 Mar 1994 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Thailand	8 Nov	1968	Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		20 Dec 1999 d	Uzbekistan		17 Jan 1995 a
Tunisia		5 Jan 2004 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	8 Nov	1968
Turkmenistan		14 Jun 1993 a			
Ukraine	8 Nov	1968			
United Arab Emirates .		10 Jan 2007 a			
United Kingdom of	8 Nov	1968			

Convention on Transit Trade of Land-Locked States *(New York, 8 July 1965)*

OBJECTIVES

As a result of depleting resources on land, Member States of the United Nations have begun looking to the ocean as a new, diverse supply of raw materials. This has raised the issue of giving land-locked States equal access to the sea and its resources.

The objective of the Convention on Transit Trade of Land-Locked States (the Convention) is to promote, at all appropriate levels the protection of the right of each land-locked State of free access to the sea, and to encourage all States to accelerate the evolution of a universal approach to the solution of the special and particular problems of trade and development of land-locked countries in the different geographical areas.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention guarantees freedom of transit for “traffic in transit” and “means of transport”, as defined by the Convention. Parties must undertake regulating measures which have the effect of facilitating traffic in transit in routes in use mutually acceptable for transit to the Parties concerned. The Parties must also authorize the passage of persons whose movement is necessary for traffic in transit.

Traffic in transit shall be exempt from all customs duties and taxes chargeable by reason of importation or exportation nor to any special dues in respect of transit. Parties may, however, levy charges intended solely to defray expenses associated with the administration entailed by such transit.

Parties undertake to provide, subject to availability, at the points of entry and exit, and as required at points of trans-shipment, adequate means of transport and handling equipment for the movement of traffic in transit without unnecessary delay. In this regard, the Parties undertake to apply to traffic in transit, using facilities operated or administered by the State, reasonable tariffs or charges as defined by the Convention.

The Parties shall also apply administrative and customs measures permitting the carrying out of free, uninterrupted and continuous traffic in transit. When necessary, they should undertake negotiations to agree on measures that ensure and facilitate the said transit.

This Convention also contains provisions on the storage of goods in transit, and free zones and other customs facilities. It also provides for exceptions on the grounds of public health, security, the protection of intellectual property, and in the case of national security.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 9 June 1967 (article 20).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification and is open to accession to all Member States of the United Nations or of any specialized agencies or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State invited by General Assembly of the United Nations (articles 18 and 19).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

CONVENTION ON TRANSIT TRADE OF LAND-LOCKED STATES

New York, 8 July 1965

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 9 June 1967, in accordance with article 20.
REGISTRATION: 9 June 1967, No. 8641.
STATUS: Parties: 6.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 597, p. 3.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Transit Trade of Land-locked Countries, which had been convened pursuant to the decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations taken at its 1328th plenary meeting on 10 February 1965. The Conference met at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York from 7 June to 8 July 1965.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	8 Jul 1965		Malawi		12 Dec 1966 a
Argentina	29 Dec 1965		Mali.....		11 Oct 1967 a
Australia.....		2 May 1972 a	Mongolia.....		26 Jul 1966 a
Belarus	28 Dec 1965	11 Jul 1972	Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Belgium	30 Dec 1965	21 Apr 1970	Nepal.....	9 Jul 1965	22 Aug 1966
Bolivia	29 Dec 1965		Netherlands	30 Dec 1965	30 Nov 1971
Brazil	4 Aug 1965		Niger		3 Jun 1966 a
Burkina Faso.....		23 Mar 1987 a	Nigeria		16 May 1966 a
Burundi		1 May 1968 a	Norway.....		17 Sep 1968 a
Cameroon.....	10 Aug 1965		Paraguay.....	23 Dec 1965	
Central African Republic	30 Dec 1965	9 Aug 1989	Russian Federation.....	28 Dec 1965	21 Jul 1972
Chad.....		2 Mar 1967 a	Rwanda	23 Jul 1965	13 Aug 1968
Chile.....	20 Dec 1965	25 Oct 1972	San Marino.....	23 Jul 1965	12 Jun 1968
Croatia		3 Aug 1992 d	Senegal.....		5 Aug 1985 a
Czech Republic		30 Sep 1993 d	Serbia		12 Mar 2001 d
Denmark		26 Mar 1969 a	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Finland.....		22 Jan 1971 a	Sudan	11 Aug 1965	
Georgia		2 Jun 1999 a	Swaziland.....		26 May 1969 a
Germany	20 Dec 1965		Sweden.....		16 Jun 1971 a
Holy See	30 Dec 1965		Switzerland	10 Dec 1965	
Hungary	30 Dec 1965	20 Sep 1967	Turkey.....		25 Mar 1969 a
Italy.....	31 Dec 1965		Uganda.....	21 Dec 1965	
Kazakhstan.....		1 Nov 2007 a	Ukraine.....	31 Dec 1965	21 Jul 1972
Lao People's Democratic Republic	8 Jul 1965	29 Dec 1967	United States of America.....	30 Dec 1965	29 Oct 1968
Lesotho		28 May 1969 a	Uzbekistan		7 Feb 1996 a
Luxembourg.....	28 Dec 1965		Zambia	23 Dec 1965	2 Dec 1966

United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts

(New York, 23 November 2005)

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (the Convention) aims at removing obstacles to the use of electronic communications in international contracting, including obstacles that might arise under existing international trade law treaties, most of which were negotiated long before the development of new technology, such as e-mail, electronic data interchange (EDI) and the Internet. Thus, the Convention will assure companies and traders around the world that contracts negotiated electronically are as valid and enforceable as traditional paper-based transactions.

While the Convention may complement any treaty relating to international trade, the benefits arising from its application are particularly evident with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958, and the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, 1980.

KEY PROVISIONS

Prepared by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the Convention builds upon earlier instruments prepared by the same Commission, and, in particular, on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce, 1996, and on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures, 2001. Fundamental principles shared with those model laws include the principle of non-discrimination, preventing disparity of treatment of electronic communications based exclusively on their nature; the principle of technological neutrality, ensuring that all existing and future technologies would be equally acceptable under the Convention provided they meet certain minimal standards; and the principle of functional equivalence between electronic communications and paper documents (including “original” paper documents), as well as between electronic authentication methods and hand-written signatures.

The Convention deals also with determining a party’s location in an electronic environment and the time and place of dispatch and receipt of electronic communications. Other provisions address needs typical of the electronic world and include: de-linking the place of business of a party from its use of a domain name or an electronic mail address connected to a specific country; ensuring the enforceability of contracts concluded with the interaction of automated message systems; and providing for the consequences of input errors in electronic communications.

The Convention does not apply to consumer contracts and other contracts and communications concluded for personal, family or household purposes, such as those relating to family law and the law of succession. It also excludes from its scope of application certain financial transactions, as well as negotiable instruments and documents of title.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It will enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to the Convention after

the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention enters into force in respect of that State on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 23).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance, or approval by signatory States. It is open for accession by all States that are not signatory States as from the date it is open for signature (article 16).

A regional economic integration organization that is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by the Convention may similarly sign, ratify, accept or accede to the Convention. Where the number of States is relevant, the regional economic integration organization shall not count as a Party in addition to its member States that are Parties (article 17).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The regional economic integration organization shall, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, make a declaration specifying the matters governed by this Convention in respect of which competence has been transferred to that organization by its member States. The regional economic integration organization shall promptly notify the depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration (article 17).

Any Party may declare, in accordance with article 21, that it will apply this Convention only when the States referred to in article 1, paragraph 1, are Parties to this Convention or when the Parties have agreed that it applies. Any Party may exclude from the scope of application of this Convention the matters it specifies in a declaration made in accordance with article 21 (article 19).

A Party may declare that it is not bound by paragraph 2 of article 20, which provides that the provisions of the Convention apply to electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of a contract to which another international convention not specifically referred to in paragraph 1 of article 20 applies, and to which a Party to this Convention may become a Party. A Party that makes the above declaration may also declare that it will nevertheless apply the provisions of the Convention to the use of electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of any contract to which a specified international convention applies to which the Party is or may become a Party. Any State may declare that it will not apply the provisions of the Convention to the use of electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of a contract to which any international convention specified in that Party's declaration, to which the Party is or may become a Party, applies, including any of the conventions referred to in paragraph 1 of article 20, even if such a Party has not excluded the application of paragraph 2 of article 20 (article 20).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention (article 22).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce this Convention by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such denunciation takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of twelve months after the notification is received by the depositary. Where a longer period for the denunciation to take effect is specified in the notification, the denunciation takes effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the notification is received by the depositary (article 25).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS IN
INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS

New York, 23 November 2005

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 23 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Convention after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention enters into force in respect of that State on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."
STATUS: Signatories: 17.
TEXT: Doc. A/60/515.

Note: The above Convention was adopted on 23 November 2005 during the 53rd plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/60/21. In accordance with its article 16, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 16 January 2006 to 16 January 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA)</i>
Central African Republic	27 Feb	2006
China.....	6 Jul	2006
Colombia.....	27 Sep	2007
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	26 Sep	2007
Lebanon	22 May	2006
Madagascar.....	19 Sep	2006
Montenegro.....	27 Sep	2007
Panama.....	25 Sep	2007
Paraguay	26 Mar	2007
Philippines	25 Sep	2007
Russian Federation.....	25 Apr	2007
Saudi Arabia	12 Nov	2007
Senegal.....	7 Apr	2006
Sierra Leone.....	21 Sep	2006
Singapore	6 Jul	2006
Sri Lanka.....	6 Jul	2006

**Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain
Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or
to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III)
(Geneva, 10 October 1980)**

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (the Convention), also known as the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) comprises a framework convention and five protocols, which ban or restrict the use of various types of weapons that are considered to cause unnecessary suffering or that affect either soldiers or civilians indiscriminately.

KEY PROVISIONS

The weapons currently covered include weapons leaving undetectable fragments in the human body (Protocol I), mines, booby-traps and other devices (Protocol II), incendiary weapons (Protocol III), blinding laser weapons (Protocol IV) and explosive remnants of war (Protocol V).

Each Party undertakes to disseminate the Convention and its Protocols by which it is bound as widely as possible in its territory and, in particular, to feature them as a subject of study in its military academies.

Nothing in this Convention or its annexed Protocols shall be interpreted as detracting from other obligations imposed upon the Parties by international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts.

The Convention was amended in 2001 to expand the scope of the application of the Convention to non-international armed conflicts (see summary to follow).

ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Convention entered into force on 2 December 1983 (article 5).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by any Signatories. It is open to accession by any State which has not signed the Convention (article 4).

Expressions of consent to be bound by any of the Protocols annexed to this Convention shall be optional for each State, provided that at the time of the deposit of its instruments of accession thereto, that State shall notify the Depositary of its consent to be bound by any two or more of these Protocols. At any time after the deposit of its instrument of accession a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary). The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9).

The denunciation shall take effect one year after the receipt of the instrument of denunciation by the depositary. If, however, a Party is engaged in a situation of armed conflict or occupation at the expiry of that year, the Party shall continue to be bound by the obligations of the Convention and relevant Protocols until the end of the armed conflict or occupation. Any denunciation shall not affect obligations already incurred, by reason of armed conflict, in respect of any act committed before the denunciation becomes effective (article 9).

**Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of
Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to
have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)**

Vienna, 13 October 1995

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30 July 1998, in accordance with article 2 of the Additional Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 30 July 1998, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 89.
TEXT: Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 Part I).

Note: At its 8 plenary meeting on 13 October 1995, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects adopted pursuant to article 8.3 (b) of the Convention an additional Protocol entitled "Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)".

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....	28 Aug 2002 P	Germany.....	27 Jun 1997 P
Argentina.....	21 Oct 1998 P	Greece.....	5 Aug 1997 P
Australia.....	22 Aug 1997 P	Guatemala.....	30 Aug 2002 P
Austria.....	27 Jul 1998 P	Holy See.....	22 Jul 1997 P
Bangladesh.....	6 Sep 2000 P	Honduras.....	30 Oct 2003 P
Belarus.....	13 Sep 2000 P	Hungary.....	30 Jan 1998 P
Belgium.....	10 Mar 1999 P	India.....	2 Sep 1999 P
Bolivia.....	21 Sep 2001 P	Ireland.....	27 Mar 1997 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	11 Oct 2001 P	Israel.....	30 Oct 2000 P
Brazil.....	4 Oct 1999 P	Italy.....	13 Jan 1999 P
Bulgaria.....	3 Dec 1998 P	Japan.....	10 Jun 1997 P
Burkina Faso.....	26 Nov 2003 P	Latvia.....	11 Mar 1998 P
Cambodia.....	25 Mar 1997 P	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 P
Cameroon.....	7 Dec 2006 P	Liechtenstein.....	19 Nov 1997 P
Canada.....	5 Jan 1998 P	Lithuania.....	3 Jun 1998 P
Cape Verde.....	16 Sep 1997 P	Luxembourg.....	5 Aug 1999 P
Chile.....	15 Oct 2003 P	Madagascar.....	14 Mar 2008 P
China.....	4 Nov 1998 P	Maldives.....	7 Sep 2000 P
Colombia.....	6 Mar 2000 P	Mali.....	24 Oct 2001 P
Costa Rica.....	17 Dec 1998 P	Malta.....	24 Sep 2004 P
Croatia.....	25 Apr 2002 P	Mauritius.....	24 Dec 2002 P
Cyprus.....	22 Jul 2003 P	Mexico.....	10 Mar 1998 P
Czech Republic.....	10 Aug 1998 P	Moldova.....	8 Sep 2000 P
Denmark.....	30 Apr 1997 P	Mongolia.....	6 Apr 1999 P
Ecuador.....	16 Dec 2003 P	Montenegro.....	23 Oct 2006 d
El Salvador.....	26 Jan 2000 P	Morocco.....	19 Mar 2002 P
Estonia.....	20 Apr 2000 P	Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001 P
Finland.....	11 Jan 1996 P	Netherlands.....	25 Mar 1999 P
France.....	30 Jun 1998 P	New Zealand.....	8 Jan 1998 P
Georgia.....	14 Jul 2006 P	Nicaragua.....	5 Dec 2000 P

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Niger	18 Sep 2007 P
Norway.....	20 Apr 1998 P
Pakistan.....	5 Dec 2000 P
Panama.....	26 Mar 1997 P
Peru	3 Jul 1997 P
Philippines.....	12 Jun 1997 P
Poland	23 Sep 2004 P
Portugal.....	12 Nov 2001 P
Romania	25 Aug 2003 P
Russian Federation.....	9 Sep 1999 P
Saudi Arabia.....	7 Dec 2007 P
Serbia	12 Aug 2003 P
Seychelles	8 Jun 2000 P
Sierra Leone.....	30 Sep 2004 P
Slovakia.....	30 Nov 1999 P
Slovenia.....	3 Dec 2002 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
South Africa	26 Jun 1998 P
Spain.....	19 Jan 1998 P
Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 P
Sweden	15 Jan 1997 P
Switzerland.....	24 Mar 1998 P
Tajikistan.....	12 Oct 1999 P
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	19 Mar 2007 P
Tunisia.....	23 Mar 2006 P
Turkey	2 Mar 2005 P
Ukraine.....	28 May 2003 P
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Feb 1999 P
Uruguay.....	18 Sep 1998 P
Uzbekistan.....	29 Sep 1997 P

Amendment of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Geneva, 21 December 2001)

OBJECTIVES

The Amendment of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (the Amendment) amends article 1 of the Convention to expand the scope of treaty application to non-international armed conflicts.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Amendment expands the scope of the Convention's application to non-international armed conflicts. The Convention and the annexed Protocols shall not, however, apply to situations of internal disturbances and tensions, such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence, and other acts of similar nature. Nothing in the Convention shall be invoked for the purpose of affecting the sovereignty of a State.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment entered into force on 18 May 2004 (article 8 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Amendments shall be adopted and shall enter into force in the same manner as the Convention and the annexed Protocols, provided, that amendments to the Convention may be adopted only by the Parties and that amendments to a specific annexed Protocol may be adopted only by the Parties which are bound by that Protocol (article 8 of the Convention).

**Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain
Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have
Indiscriminate Effects**

Geneva, 21 December 2001

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 18 May 2004, in accordance with article 8, paragraph 1 (b) of the Convention which reads, in part, as follows: "amendments ... shall enter into force in the same manner as the Convention and the annexed Protocols (i.e. ... six months after the date of deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. ".
18 May 2004, No. 22495.

REGISTRATION: Parties: 61.
STATUS: Doc. CCW/CONF/II/2 and depositary notification C.N.104.2002.TREATIES-1 of 11 February 2002;
TEXT: C.N.1329.2005.TREATIES-9 of 3 January 2006 (Proposal of correction to the authentic Russian text) and C.N.130.2006.TREATIES-1 of 9 February 2006 (Correction to the Authentic Russian text).

Note: At the Second Review Conference, held in Geneva from 11 to 21 December 2001, the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Convention Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects concluded at Geneva on 10 October 1980 adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 8 (1) (b) of the Convention, the Amendment to Article 1 of the said Convention as set out in the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference (Doc. CCW/CONF/II/2).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Albania.....	12 May 2006 a	Hungary.....	27 Dec 2002
Argentina.....	25 Feb 2004 a	India.....	18 May 2005 a
Australia.....	3 Dec 2002 A	Ireland.....	8 Nov 2006 A
Austria.....	25 Sep 2003 A	Italy.....	1 Sep 2004
Belarus.....	27 Mar 2008 P	Japan.....	10 Jul 2003 A
Belgium.....	12 Feb 2004	Latvia.....	23 Apr 2003 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	17 Mar 2008 a	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 a
Bulgaria.....	28 Feb 2003	Liechtenstein.....	18 Jun 2004 A
Burkina Faso.....	26 Nov 2003 a	Lithuania.....	12 May 2003 A
Canada.....	22 Jul 2002 A	Luxembourg.....	13 Jun 2005
Chile.....	27 Sep 2007 A	Malta.....	24 Sep 2004 a
China.....	11 Aug 2003	Mexico.....	22 May 2003 A
Croatia.....	27 May 2003	Moldova.....	5 Jan 2005 a
Cuba.....	17 Oct 2007 A	Montenegro.....	23 Oct 2006 d
Czech Republic.....	6 Jun 2006	Netherlands.....	19 May 2004 A
Denmark.....	15 Sep 2004 A	Nicaragua.....	6 Sep 2007
El Salvador.....	13 Sep 2007 a	Niger.....	18 Sep 2007 P
Estonia.....	12 May 2003	Norway.....	18 Nov 2003 AA
Finland.....	22 Jun 2004 A	Panama.....	16 Aug 2004 a
France.....	10 Dec 2002 AA	Peru.....	14 Feb 2005
Germany.....	26 Jan 2005 A	Poland.....	15 Sep 2006
Greece.....	26 Nov 2004	Portugal.....	22 Feb 2008
Holy See.....	9 Dec 2002 A	Republic of Korea.....	13 Feb 2003 A

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Romania	25 Aug 2003 a
Russian Federation.....	24 Jan 2007 A
Serbia	11 Nov 2003 A
Sierra Leone	30 Sep 2004
Slovakia.....	11 Feb 2004
Slovenia.....	7 Feb 2008
Spain	9 Feb 2004
Sri Lanka.....	24 Sep 2004 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Sweden.....	3 Dec 2002 A
Switzerland.....	19 Jan 2004 A
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	11 Jul 2007 a
Turkey	2 Mar 2005
Ukraine.....	29 Jun 2005 A
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25 Jul 2002 A

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Geneva, 3 May 1996)

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended) makes each Party responsible for all mines, booby-traps or other devices it uses. It obligates each Party to clear, remove, destroy or maintain all mines, booby-traps or other devices in accordance with the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Protocol II as amended applies to the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices on land, beaches or river crossings, but not to anti-ship mines at sea or in inland waterways. It is applicable in internal as well as international armed conflicts.

It prohibits the use of any mine, booby-trap or other device which causes superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering, is designed to detonate under the non-contact influence of commonly available mine detectors, or is aimed at civilians or civilian objects.

Protocol II as amended provides that the anti-handling device on a self-deactivating mine must not function after the mine has deactivated. In addition, it provides that mines, booby-traps and other devices must only be used in relation to specific, individual military objectives whose destruction, capture or neutralisation offers a definite military advantage at the time. Mines must not be delivered by indiscriminate means, and may not be placed in a way likely to cause excessive impact on civilians in comparison to the anticipated military advantage. All feasible precautions should be taken to protect civilians from the impact of mines, booby-traps and other devices and effective advance warning should be given to civilians wherever possible.

Pursuant to Protocol II as amended, records of minefields, mined areas, mines and booby-traps must be kept, including specific coordinates and estimated dimensions of affected areas. The following information must also be reported by the Parties: the types of mines used, numbers, emplacing methods, types of fuse and their life, date of emplacement, anti-handling devices, the location of mines, and the location and mechanism of all booby traps.

Parties to a conflict must – after such conflict – protect civilians from the effect of mines in areas under their control. Parties are also obligated to provide annual reports to the United Nations on matters such as mine clearance and rehabilitation programs, steps taken to apply the Protocol, and technological co-operation. The Parties are encouraged to exchange information on mine clearance techniques and allow the transfer of clearance technology.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Protocol entered into force on 3 December 1998 (article 2 of Protocol II as amended and article 8 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol II as amended is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol II as amended is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9).

**Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other
Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons
which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects**

Geneva, 3 May 1996

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 December 1998, in accordance with article 2of the Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 3 December 1998, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 90.
TEXT: Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I).

Note: At its 14th plenary meeting on 3 May 1996, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects concluded at Geneva on 10 October 1980 adopted, pursuant to article 8 (1) (b) of the Convention, Protocol II, as amended.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....	28 Aug 2002 P	Greece	20 Jan 1999 P
Argentina.....	21 Oct 1998 P	Guatemala	29 Oct 2001 P
Australia.....	22 Aug 1997 P	Holy See.....	22 Jul 1997 P
Austria.....	27 Jul 1998 P	Honduras	30 Oct 2003 P
Bangladesh.....	6 Sep 2000 P	Hungary.....	30 Jan 1998 P
Belarus	2 Mar 2004 P	India	2 Sep 1999 P
Belgium.....	10 Mar 1999 P	Ireland	27 Mar 1997 P
Bolivia.....	21 Sep 2001 P	Israel.....	30 Oct 2000 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000 P	Italy	13 Jan 1999 P
Brazil.....	4 Oct 1999 P	Japan.....	10 Jun 1997 P
Bulgaria.....	3 Dec 1998 P	Jordan	6 Sep 2000 P
Burkina Faso	26 Nov 2003 P	Latvia	22 Aug 2002 P
Cambodia	25 Mar 1997 P	Liberia	16 Sep 2005 P
Cameroon.....	7 Dec 2006 P	Liechtenstein	19 Nov 1997 P
Canada.....	5 Jan 1998 P	Lithuania	3 Jun 1998 P
Cape Verde.....	16 Sep 1997 P	Luxembourg	5 Aug 1999 P
Chile.....	15 Oct 2003 P	Madagascar	14 Mar 2008 P
China.....	4 Nov 1998 P	Maldives.....	7 Sep 2000 P
Colombia.....	6 Mar 2000 P	Mali	24 Oct 2001 P
Costa Rica	17 Dec 1998 P	Malta	24 Sep 2004 P
Croatia.....	25 Apr 2002 P	Moldova	16 Jul 2001 P
Cyprus.....	22 Jul 2003 P	Monaco.....	12 Aug 1997 P
Czech Republic	10 Aug 1998 P	Morocco	19 Mar 2002 P
Denmark.....	30 Apr 1997 P	Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001 P
Ecuador	14 Aug 2000 P	Netherlands	25 Mar 1999 P
El Salvador.....	26 Jan 2000 P	New Zealand	8 Jan 1998 P
Estonia.....	20 Apr 2000 P	Nicaragua	5 Dec 2000 P
Finland	3 Apr 1998 P	Niger.....	18 Sep 2007 P
France.....	23 Jul 1998 P	Norway.....	20 Apr 1998 P
Germany.....	2 May 1997 P	Pakistan	9 Mar 1999 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Panama	3 Nov 1999 P
Paraguay.....	22 Sep 2004 P
Peru	3 Jul 1997 P
Philippines.....	12 Jun 1997 P
Poland	14 Oct 2003 P
Portugal.....	31 Mar 1999 P
Republic of Korea	9 May 2001 P
Romania	25 Aug 2003 P
Russian Federation.....	2 Mar 2005 P
Senegal.....	29 Nov 1999 P
Seychelles	8 Jun 2000 P
Sierra Leone.....	30 Sep 2004 P
Slovakia.....	30 Nov 1999 P
Slovenia.....	3 Dec 2002 P
South Africa	26 Jun 1998 P
Spain	27 Jan 1998 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 P
Sweden.....	16 Jul 1997 P
Switzerland.....	24 Mar 1998 P
Tajikistan.....	12 Oct 1999 P
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	31 May 2005 P
Tunisia.....	23 Mar 2006 P
Turkey	2 Mar 2005 P
Turkmenistan.....	19 Mar 2004 P
Ukraine.....	15 Dec 1999 P
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Feb 1999 P
United States of America	24 May 1999 P
Uruguay.....	18 Aug 1998 P
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	19 Apr 2005 P

**Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions
on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to
be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV,
Entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)**
(Vienna, 13 October 1995)

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV) is to prohibit the use of laser weapons that cause permanent blindness as at least one of their combat functions.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties are prohibited from employing laser weapons as described in article 1 of Protocol IV and shall not transfer such weapons to any State or non-State entity. Blinding as an incidental or collateral effect of the legitimate military employment of laser systems is not covered by the prohibition of Protocol IV. In accordance with its article 4, “permanent blindness” means irreversible and uncorrectable loss of vision.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Protocol IV entered into force on 30 July 1998 (article 5 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol IV is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol IV is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9 of the Convention).

**Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of
Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to
have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)**

Vienna, 13 October 1995

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30 July 1998, in accordance with article 2 of the Additional Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 30 July 1998, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 89.
TEXT: Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 Part I).

Note: At its 8 plenary meeting on 13 October 1995, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects adopted pursuant to article 8.3 (b) of the Convention an additional Protocol entitled "Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)".

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....	28 Aug 2002 P	Germany.....	27 Jun 1997 P
Argentina.....	21 Oct 1998 P	Greece.....	5 Aug 1997 P
Australia.....	22 Aug 1997 P	Guatemala.....	30 Aug 2002 P
Austria.....	27 Jul 1998 P	Holy See.....	22 Jul 1997 P
Bangladesh.....	6 Sep 2000 P	Honduras.....	30 Oct 2003 P
Belarus.....	13 Sep 2000 P	Hungary.....	30 Jan 1998 P
Belgium.....	10 Mar 1999 P	India.....	2 Sep 1999 P
Bolivia.....	21 Sep 2001 P	Ireland.....	27 Mar 1997 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	11 Oct 2001 P	Israel.....	30 Oct 2000 P
Brazil.....	4 Oct 1999 P	Italy.....	13 Jan 1999 P
Bulgaria.....	3 Dec 1998 P	Japan.....	10 Jun 1997 P
Burkina Faso.....	26 Nov 2003 P	Latvia.....	11 Mar 1998 P
Cambodia.....	25 Mar 1997 P	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 P
Cameroon.....	7 Dec 2006 P	Liechtenstein.....	19 Nov 1997 P
Canada.....	5 Jan 1998 P	Lithuania.....	3 Jun 1998 P
Cape Verde.....	16 Sep 1997 P	Luxembourg.....	5 Aug 1999 P
Chile.....	15 Oct 2003 P	Madagascar.....	14 Mar 2008 P
China.....	4 Nov 1998 P	Maldives.....	7 Sep 2000 P
Colombia.....	6 Mar 2000 P	Mali.....	24 Oct 2001 P
Costa Rica.....	17 Dec 1998 P	Malta.....	24 Sep 2004 P
Croatia.....	25 Apr 2002 P	Mauritius.....	24 Dec 2002 P
Cyprus.....	22 Jul 2003 P	Mexico.....	10 Mar 1998 P
Czech Republic.....	10 Aug 1998 P	Moldova.....	8 Sep 2000 P
Denmark.....	30 Apr 1997 P	Mongolia.....	6 Apr 1999 P
Ecuador.....	16 Dec 2003 P	Montenegro.....	23 Oct 2006 d
El Salvador.....	26 Jan 2000 P	Morocco.....	19 Mar 2002 P
Estonia.....	20 Apr 2000 P	Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001 P
Finland.....	11 Jan 1996 P	Netherlands.....	25 Mar 1999 P
France.....	30 Jun 1998 P	New Zealand.....	8 Jan 1998 P
Georgia.....	14 Jul 2006 P	Nicaragua.....	5 Dec 2000 P

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
Niger	18 Sep 2007 P
Norway.....	20 Apr 1998 P
Pakistan.....	5 Dec 2000 P
Panama.....	26 Mar 1997 P
Peru	3 Jul 1997 P
Philippines.....	12 Jun 1997 P
Poland	23 Sep 2004 P
Portugal.....	12 Nov 2001 P
Romania	25 Aug 2003 P
Russian Federation.....	9 Sep 1999 P
Saudi Arabia.....	7 Dec 2007 P
Serbia	12 Aug 2003 P
Seychelles	8 Jun 2000 P
Sierra Leone.....	30 Sep 2004 P
Slovakia.....	30 Nov 1999 P
Slovenia.....	3 Dec 2002 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound(P), Succession(d)</i>
South Africa	26 Jun 1998 P
Spain.....	19 Jan 1998 P
Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 P
Sweden	15 Jan 1997 P
Switzerland.....	24 Mar 1998 P
Tajikistan.....	12 Oct 1999 P
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	19 Mar 2007 P
Tunisia.....	23 Mar 2006 P
Turkey	2 Mar 2005 P
Ukraine.....	28 May 2003 P
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Feb 1999 P
Uruguay.....	18 Sep 1998 P
Uzbekistan.....	29 Sep 1997 P

**Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Protocol V)
(Geneva, 28 November 2003)**

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol on explosive remnants of war to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects (Protocol V) recognizes the serious post-conflict humanitarian problems caused by explosive remnants of war and addresses post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature in order to minimize the occurrence, effects and the risk of explosive remnants of war.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties which become participants in an armed conflict bear responsibility with respect to all explosive remnants of war in territory under their control. After the cessation of active hostilities, and as soon as feasible, such a Party to an armed conflict shall mark and clear, remove or destroy explosive remnants of war in affected territories under its control. Parties shall also cooperate among themselves and with other States and organizations in order to fulfill their duty of clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 12 November 2006 (article 5 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the Secretary-General of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol V is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol V is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9 of the Convention).

**Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or
Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be
Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V)**

Geneva, 28 November 2003

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 12 November 2006, in accordance with article 5(3) and (4) of the Convention.
REGISTRATION: 12 November 2006, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 43.
TEXT: Doc.CCW/MSP/2003/2 and depositary notification C.N.42.2004.TREATIES-2 of 11 March 2004; C.N.181.2004.TREATIES-9 of 26 February 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Chinese version)] and C.N.542.2004.TREATIES-10 of 27 May 2004 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Chinese version); C.N.693.2004.TREATIES-8 of 6 July 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)] and C.N.1084.TREATIES-12 of 7 October 2004 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)]; C.N.1076.2004.TREATIES-11 of 4 October 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)], C.N.1347.2004.TREATIES-12 of 18 February 2005 (Objection to the proposed corrections to the authentic French text of the Protocol) and C.N.105.2005.TREATIES-2 of 18 February 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)]; C.N.1110.2004.TREATIES-11 OF 26 October 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)] and C.N.37.2005.TREATIES-1 of 25 January 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)]; C.N.375.2006.TREATIES-4 of 15 May 2006 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)]; C.N.123.2005.TREATIES-2 of 24 February 2005 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)] and C.N.222.2005.TREATIES-4 of 29 March 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)]; C.N.138.2006.TREATIES-1 of 10 February 2006 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Russian version) and C.N.385.2006.TREATIES-7 of 16 May 2006 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Russian version); C.N.437.2006.TREATIES-9 of 1 June 2006, C.N.241.2006.TREATIES-1 of 22 March 2006, C.N.440.2006.TREATIES-9 of 1 June 2006 and C.N.379.2006.TREATIES-4 of 16 May 2006, (Corrected versions of the Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts of the Protocol, respectively).

Note: The above Protocol was adopted by the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects held in Geneva on 28 November 2003. The Protocol shall be open to all States for consent to be bound in accordance with article 4 of the Convention.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Albania.....	12 May 2006 P	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 P
Australia.....	4 Jan 2007 P	Liechtenstein.....	12 May 2006 P
Austria.....	1 Oct 2007 P	Lithuania.....	29 Sep 2004 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	28 Nov 2007 P	Luxembourg.....	13 Jun 2005 P
Bulgaria.....	7 Nov 2005 P	Madagascar.....	14 Mar 2008 P
Croatia.....	7 Feb 2005 P	Malta.....	22 Sep 2006 P
Czech Republic.....	6 Jun 2006 P	Netherlands.....	18 Jul 2005 P
Denmark.....	28 Jun 2005 P	New Zealand.....	2 Oct 2007 P
El Salvador.....	23 Mar 2006 P	Nicaragua.....	15 Sep 2005 P
Estonia.....	18 Dec 2006 P	Norway.....	8 Dec 2005 P
Finland.....	23 Mar 2005 P	Portugal.....	22 Feb 2008 P
France.....	31 Oct 2006 P	Republic of Korea.....	23 Jan 2008 P
Germany.....	3 Mar 2005 P	Romania.....	29 Jan 2008 P
Guatemala.....	28 Feb 2008 P	Sierra Leone.....	30 Sep 2004 P
Hungary.....	13 Nov 2006 P	Slovakia.....	23 Mar 2006 P
India.....	18 May 2005 P	Slovenia.....	22 Feb 2007 P
Ireland.....	8 Nov 2006 P	Spain.....	9 Feb 2007 P

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Sweden.....	2 Jun 2004 P
Switzerland	12 May 2006 P
Tajikistan.....	18 May 2006 P
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	19 Mar 2007 P
Tunisia.....	7 Mar 2008 P

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Succession(d), Consent to be bound(P)</i>
Ukraine.....	17 May 2005 P
Uruguay.....	7 Aug 2007 P

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction *(Oslo, 18 September 1997)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the Convention) is a cornerstone in the effort to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. The Convention includes a comprehensive ban on anti-personnel mines, a framework of action to address the humanitarian impact of mines and mechanisms to facilitate cooperation in implementing the Convention.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention prohibits the use, development, production, acquiring, stockpiling, retaining of or transferring to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines. Parties are also prohibited from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in activities banned by the Convention.

Each Party is obligated to destroy all stockpiled mines as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party (article 4). Each Party is also obligated to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than ten years after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party. Parties are additionally required to make every effort to identify and mark areas in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced, and take other measures to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians. Parties which are unable to destroy all mines within the ten-year timeframe may request an extension of the deadline.

Parties are permitted to retain or transfer a minimal number of anti-personnel mines solely for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques.

The Convention requires that Parties cooperate and provide technical and financial assistance to achieve the objectives of the Convention. Parties have the right to seek and receive assistance from other Parties, where feasible. Parties that are able to do so are required to provide assistance for mine victims, mine awareness programmes, mine clearance and related activities and other forms of assistance.

Each Party is also required to submit a report, no later than 180 days after the Convention enters into force for such Party, to the Secretary-General detailing, *inter alia*, national implementation measures, quantity of all stockpiled mines owned or possessed, location of all mined areas, types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred, status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines, and types and quantities of all mines destroyed. Each Party is required to update its report annually.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999 (article 17).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

This Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. It is open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention (article 16).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

This Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Reservations are prohibited under this Convention (article 19).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving notice, including a full explanation of the motivations for the withdrawal, to all other Parties, the depositary, and the United Nations Security Council. The withdrawal shall take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six-month period, the withdrawing Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict (article 20).

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Oslo, 18 September 1997

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 March 1999, in accordance with article 17(1).
REGISTRATION: 1 March 1999, No. 35597.
STATUS: Signatories: 133. Parties: 156.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, p. 211; C.N.163.2003.TREATIES-2 of 3 March 2003 [Proposal of corrections to the original of the Convention (authentic Arabic text)] and C.N.270.2003.TREATIES-4 of 7 April 2003 (acceptance).

Note: The Convention was concluded by the Diplomatic Conference on an International Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Land Mines at Oslo on 18 September 1997. In accordance with its article 15, the Convention was opened for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and will remain open thereafter at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until its entry into force. By resolution 52/38/A, the General Assembly of the United Nations welcomed the conclusion of the Convention at Oslo and requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be necessary to fulfil the tasks entrusted to him.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		11 Sep 2002 a	Cameroon.....	3 Dec 1997	19 Sep 2002
Albania.....	8 Sep 1998	29 Feb 2000	Canada	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997
Algeria	3 Dec 1997	9 Oct 2001	Cape Verde	4 Dec 1997	14 May 2001
Andorra.....	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	Central African Republic		8 Nov 2002 a
Angola	4 Dec 1997	5 Jul 2002	Chad.....	6 Jul 1998	6 May 1999
Antigua and Barbuda	3 Dec 1997	3 May 1999	Chile.....	3 Dec 1997	10 Sep 2001
Argentina	4 Dec 1997	14 Sep 1999	Colombia.....	3 Dec 1997	6 Sep 2000
Australia.....	3 Dec 1997	14 Jan 1999	Comoros.....		19 Sep 2002 a
Austria	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	Congo.....		4 May 2001 a
Bahamas.....	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998	Cook Islands	3 Dec 1997	15 Mar 2006
Bangladesh.....	7 May 1998	6 Sep 2000	Costa Rica	3 Dec 1997	17 Mar 1999
Barbados	3 Dec 1997	26 Jan 1999	Côte d'Ivoire.....	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Belarus		3 Sep 2003 a	Croatia.....	4 Dec 1997	20 May 1998
Belgium	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	Cyprus.....	4 Dec 1997	17 Jan 2003
Belize	27 Feb 1998	23 Apr 1998	Czech Republic	3 Dec 1997	26 Oct 1999
Benin.....	3 Dec 1997	25 Sep 1998	Democratic Republic of the Congo		2 May 2002 a
Bhutan.....		18 Aug 2005 a	Denmark.....	4 Dec 1997	8 Jun 1998
Bolivia	3 Dec 1997	9 Jun 1998	Djibouti.....	3 Dec 1997	18 May 1998
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 1998	Dominica.....	3 Dec 1997	26 Mar 1999
Botswana.....	3 Dec 1997	1 Mar 2000	Dominican Republic	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Brazil	3 Dec 1997	30 Apr 1999	Ecuador	4 Dec 1997	29 Apr 1999
Brunei Darussalam.....	4 Dec 1997	24 Apr 2006	El Salvador.....	4 Dec 1997	27 Jan 1999
Bulgaria	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	Equatorial Guinea		16 Sep 1998 a
Burkina Faso.....	3 Dec 1997	16 Sep 1998	Eritrea.....		27 Aug 2001 a
Burundi	3 Dec 1997	22 Oct 2003	Estonia		12 May 2004 a
Cambodia.....	3 Dec 1997	28 Jul 1999			

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<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Ethiopia.....	3 Dec	1997	17 Dec	2004	Mexico	3 Dec	1997	9 Jun	1998
Fiji	3 Dec	1997	10 Jun	1998	Moldova	3 Dec	1997	8 Sep	2000
France	3 Dec	1997	23 Jul	1998	Monaco	4 Dec	1997	17 Nov	1998
Gabon.....	3 Dec	1997	8 Sep	2000	Montenegro			23 Oct	2006 d
Gambia.....	4 Dec	1997	23 Sep	2002	Mozambique	3 Dec	1997	25 Aug	1998
Germany	3 Dec	1997	23 Jul	1998	Namibia.....	3 Dec	1997	21 Sep	1998
Ghana.....	4 Dec	1997	30 Jun	2000	Nauru			7 Aug	2000 a
Greece.....	3 Dec	1997	25 Sep	2003	Netherlands	3 Dec	1997	12 Apr	1999 A
Grenada.....	3 Dec	1997	19 Aug	1998	New Zealand.....	3 Dec	1997	27 Jan	1999
Guatemala.....	3 Dec	1997	26 Mar	1999	Nicaragua.....	4 Dec	1997	30 Nov	1998
Guinea.....	4 Dec	1997	8 Oct	1998	Niger	4 Dec	1997	23 Mar	1999
Guinea-Bissau.....	3 Dec	1997	22 May	2001	Nigeria			27 Sep	2001 a
Guyana.....	4 Dec	1997	5 Aug	2003	Niue.....	3 Dec	1997	15 Apr	1998
Haiti	3 Dec	1997	15 Feb	2006	Norway.....	3 Dec	1997	9 Jul	1998
Holy See	4 Dec	1997	17 Feb	1998	Palau			19 Nov	2007 a
Honduras.....	3 Dec	1997	24 Sep	1998	Panama.....	4 Dec	1997	7 Oct	1998
Hungary	3 Dec	1997	6 Apr	1998	Papua New Guinea.....			28 Jun	2004 a
Iceland	4 Dec	1997	5 May	1999	Paraguay.....	3 Dec	1997	13 Nov	1998
Indonesia.....	4 Dec	1997	16 Feb	2007	Peru	3 Dec	1997	17 Jun	1998
Iraq.....			15 Aug	2007 a	Philippines	3 Dec	1997	15 Feb	2000
Ireland.....	3 Dec	1997	3 Dec	1997	Poland	4 Dec	1997		
Italy.....	3 Dec	1997	23 Apr	1999	Portugal.....	3 Dec	1997	19 Feb	1999
Jamaica	3 Dec	1997	17 Jul	1998	Qatar	4 Dec	1997	13 Oct	1998
Japan	3 Dec	1997	30 Sep	1998 A	Romania.....	3 Dec	1997	30 Nov	2000
Jordan.....	11 Aug	1998	13 Nov	1998	Rwanda	3 Dec	1997	8 Jun	2000
Kenya.....	5 Dec	1997	23 Jan	2001	Saint Kitts and Nevis	3 Dec	1997	2 Dec	1998
Kiribati.....			7 Sep	2000 a	Saint Lucia	3 Dec	1997	13 Apr	1999
Kuwait			30 Jul	2007 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....	3 Dec	1997	1 Aug	2001
Latvia			1 Jul	2005 a	Samoa	3 Dec	1997	23 Jul	1998
Lesotho	4 Dec	1997	2 Dec	1998	San Marino.....	3 Dec	1997	18 Mar	1998
Liberia.....			23 Dec	1999 a	Sao Tome and Principe .	30 Apr	1998	31 Mar	2003
Liechtenstein.....	3 Dec	1997	5 Oct	1999	Senegal.....	3 Dec	1997	24 Sep	1998
Lithuania.....	26 Feb	1999	12 May	2003	Serbia			18 Sep	2003 a
Luxembourg.....	4 Dec	1997	14 Jun	1999	Seychelles	4 Dec	1997	2 Jun	2000
Madagascar	4 Dec	1997	16 Sep	1999	Sierra Leone.....	29 Jul	1998	25 Apr	2001
Malawi	4 Dec	1997	13 Aug	1998	Slovakia	3 Dec	1997	25 Feb	1999 AA
Malaysia.....	3 Dec	1997	22 Apr	1999	Slovenia	3 Dec	1997	27 Oct	1998
Maldives	1 Oct	1998	7 Sep	2000	Solomon Islands.....	4 Dec	1997	26 Jan	1999
Mali.....	3 Dec	1997	2 Jun	1998	South Africa.....	3 Dec	1997	26 Jun	1998
Malta.....	4 Dec	1997	7 May	2001	Spain	3 Dec	1997	19 Jan	1999
Marshall Islands.....	4 Dec	1997			Sudan	4 Dec	1997	13 Oct	2003
Mauritania.....	3 Dec	1997	21 Jul	2000	Suriname	4 Dec	1997	23 May	2002
Mauritius.....	3 Dec	1997	3 Dec	1997					

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Swaziland.....	4 Dec 1997	22 Dec 1998
Sweden.....	4 Dec 1997	30 Nov 1998
Switzerland	3 Dec 1997	24 Mar 1998
Tajikistan		12 Oct 1999 a
Thailand	3 Dec 1997	27 Nov 1998
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		9 Sep 1998 a
Timor-Leste		7 May 2003 a
Togo.....	4 Dec 1997	9 Mar 2000
Trinidad and Tobago.....	4 Dec 1997	27 Apr 1998
Tunisia	4 Dec 1997	9 Jul 1999
Turkey.....		25 Sep 2003 a
Turkmenistan	3 Dec 1997	19 Jan 1998
Uganda.....	3 Dec 1997	25 Feb 1999

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Ukraine.....	24 Feb 1999	27 Dec 2005
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998
United Republic of Tanzania	3 Dec 1997	13 Nov 2000
Uruguay	3 Dec 1997	7 Jun 2001
Vanuatu.....	4 Dec 1997	16 Sep 2005
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	3 Dec 1997	14 Apr 1999
Yemen.....	4 Dec 1997	1 Sep 1998
Zambia	12 Dec 1997	23 Feb 2001
Zimbabwe	3 Dec 1997	18 Jun 1998

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty *(New York, 10 September 1996)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (the Treaty) is to secure an end to all nuclear weapons testing and other forms of nuclear explosions. The Treaty, by prohibiting all nuclear explosions, constitutes an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and therefore contributes to the enhancement of international peace and security.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Treaty prohibits nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosion, and obligates Parties to prohibit and prevent any such nuclear explosion at any place under their jurisdiction or control. In addition, Parties are obligated to refrain from causing, encouraging, or in any way participating in the carrying out of any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion.

The Treaty sets up a verification regime which consists of the international monitoring system comprising 337 monitoring facilities, consultation and clarification, on-site inspections and confidence-building measures. The purpose of the international monitoring system is to detect and identify any activity prohibited under the Treaty. The consultation and clarification process encourages Parties to resolve possible violations before requesting an on-site inspection. If this mechanism fails, each Party has a right to request an on-site inspection. The Treaty specifies various guidelines concerning the request and approval for such an inspection, as well as how such an inspection shall be conducted. The Treaty also establishes the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (the CTBTO), which will implement the Treaty and provide a forum for consultation and cooperation.

The Protocol to the Treaty is an integral part of the Treaty and it contains detailed provisions. The provisions addressing an international monitoring system and international data centre functions set forth an obligation on the Parties to cooperate in an international exchange of seismological data, hydroacoustic data, infrasound data, and data on radionuclides in the atmosphere. The Protocol also provides for technical assistance to the Parties to the Treaty.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Treaty has not yet entered into force. According to article XIV, the Treaty will enter into force 180 days after the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by all of the 44 States listed in annex 2 to the Treaty (article XIV).

Currently, the Preparatory Commission of the CTBTO, which was established by resolution of the States Signatories to the Treaty on 19 November 1996, is carrying out the necessary preparation for the effective implementation of the Treaty pending its entry into force.

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Treaty is currently open for signature and will remain open to all States for signature before its entry into force. The Treaty is subject to ratification by signatory States. Any State which does not sign this

Treaty before its entry into force may accede to it at any time thereafter. Upon signature of the Treaty, States become members of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which was established in 1996 to prepare for the entry into force of the Treaty (articles XI, XII and XIII).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party shall designate a National Authority and shall so inform the CTBTO upon entry into force of the Treaty for it. The National Authority shall serve as the national focal point for liaison with the CTBTO and with the other Parties (article III).

Each Party, no later than 30 days after the entry into force of the Treaty for it, shall notify the Director-General of the names, dates of birth, sex, ranks, qualifications and professional experience of the persons proposed by the Party for designation as inspectors and inspector assistants (Part II, Section B of the Protocol to the Treaty).

Each Party must also immediately acknowledge receipt of the initial list of inspectors and inspection assistants proposed for designation. Any inspector or inspection assistant included in this list shall be regarded as accepted unless the Party declares its non-acceptance in writing within 30 days after acknowledgement of receipt of the list (Part II, Section B of the Protocol to the Treaty).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations to the articles and annexes to the Treaty are prohibited. The provisions of the Protocol to the Treaty and the Annexes to the Protocol shall not be subject to reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Treaty (article XV).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may withdraw from the Treaty by giving notice six months in advance to all other Parties, the Executive Council, the depositary, and the United Nations Security Council. The notice of withdrawal shall also include a statement of the extraordinary event or events which the Party regards as jeopardizing its supreme interests (article IX).

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

New York, 10 September 1996

NOT YET IN FORCE:

[see article XIV]. This Treaty will enter into force 180 days after the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by all States listed in Annex 2 to this Treaty (that is to say: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Zaire), but in no case earlier than two years after its opening for signature. 2. If this Treaty has not entered into force three years after the date of the anniversary of its opening for signature, the Depositary shall convene a Conference of the States that have already deposited their instruments of ratification upon the request of a majority of those States. That Conference shall examine the extent to which the requirement set out in paragraph 1 has been met and shall consider and decide by consensus what measure consistent with international law may facilitate the early entry into force of this Treaty. 3. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference referred to in paragraph 2 or other such conferences, this process shall be repeated at subsequent anniversaries of the opening for signature of this Treaty, until its entry into force. 4. All States Signatories shall be invited to attend the Conference referred to in paragraph 2 and any subsequent conferences as referred to in paragraph 3, as observers. 5. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, it shall enter into force on the 30th day following the date of deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession."

**STATUS:
TEXT:**

Signatories: 177. Parties: 146.
Doc. A/50/1027; and C.N.429.2002.TREATIES-3 of 6 May 2002 [proposed corrections to the original text of the treaty (Arabic text)] and C.N.629.2002.TREATIES-4 of 11 June 2002 [procès-verbal of rectification (Arabic text)].

Note: At its 50th session, the General Assembly adopted, on 10 September 1996 by resolution A/RES/50/245 the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as contained in document A/50/1027. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Treaty, to open it for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York at the earliest possible date. The Treaty was opened for signature on 24 September 1996 and it will remain open for signature until its entry into force, in accordance with article XI.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2003	Bosnia and Herzegovina	24 Sep 1996	26 Oct 2006
Albania.....	27 Sep 1996	23 Apr 2003	Botswana.....	16 Sep 2002	28 Oct 2002
Algeria	15 Oct 1996	11 Jul 2003	Brazil.....	24 Sep 1996	24 Jul 1998
Andorra.....	24 Sep 1996	12 Jul 2006	Brunei Darussalam.....	22 Jan 1997	
Angola	27 Sep 1996		Bulgaria.....	24 Sep 1996	29 Sep 1999
Antigua and Barbuda	16 Apr 1997	11 Jan 2006	Burkina Faso	27 Sep 1996	17 Apr 2002
Argentina	24 Sep 1996	4 Dec 1998	Burundi	24 Sep 1996	
Armenia	1 Oct 1996	12 Jul 2006	Cambodia.....	26 Sep 1996	10 Nov 2000
Australia.....	24 Sep 1996	9 Jul 1998	Cameroon.....	16 Nov 2001	6 Feb 2006
Austria	24 Sep 1996	13 Mar 1998	Canada	24 Sep 1996	18 Dec 1998
Azerbaijan.....	28 Jul 1997	2 Feb 1999	Cape Verde	1 Oct 1996	1 Mar 2006
Bahamas.....	4 Feb 2005	30 Nov 2007	Central African Republic	19 Dec 2001	
Bahrain.....	24 Sep 1996	12 Apr 2004	Chad.....	8 Oct 1996	
Bangladesh.....	24 Oct 1996	8 Mar 2000	Chile.....	24 Sep 1996	12 Jul 2000
Barbados	14 Jan 2008	14 Jan 2008	China.....	24 Sep 1996	
Belarus	24 Sep 1996	13 Sep 2000	Colombia.....	24 Sep 1996	29 Jan 2008
Belgium	24 Sep 1996	29 Jun 1999	Comoros.....	12 Dec 1996	
Belize	14 Nov 2001	26 Mar 2004	Congo.....	11 Feb 1997	
Benin.....	27 Sep 1996	6 Mar 2001			
Bolivia	24 Sep 1996	4 Oct 1999			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>
Cook Islands	5 Dec 1997	6 Sep 2005	Jordan.....	26 Sep 1996	25 Aug 1998
Costa Rica.....	24 Sep 1996	25 Sep 2001	Kazakhstan.....	30 Sep 1996	14 May 2002
Côte d'Ivoire	25 Sep 1996	11 Mar 2003	Kenya.....	14 Nov 1996	30 Nov 2000
Croatia	24 Sep 1996	2 Mar 2001	Kiribati.....	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Cyprus.....	24 Sep 1996	18 Jul 2003	Kuwait.....	24 Sep 1996	6 May 2003
Czech Republic.....	12 Nov 1996	11 Sep 1997	Kyrgyzstan.....	8 Oct 1996	2 Oct 2003
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4 Oct 1996	28 Sep 2004	Lao People's Democratic Republic	30 Jul 1997	5 Oct 2000
Denmark	24 Sep 1996	21 Dec 1998	Latvia.....	24 Sep 1996	20 Nov 2001
Djibouti.....	21 Oct 1996	15 Jul 2005	Lebanon	16 Sep 2005	
Dominican Republic	3 Oct 1996	4 Sep 2007	Lesotho.....	30 Sep 1996	14 Sep 1999
Ecuador.....	24 Sep 1996	12 Nov 2001	Liberia.....	1 Oct 1996	
Egypt.....	14 Oct 1996		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	13 Nov 2001	6 Jan 2004
El Salvador.....	24 Sep 1996	11 Sep 1998	Liechtenstein.....	27 Sep 1996	21 Sep 2004
Equatorial Guinea	9 Oct 1996		Lithuania	7 Oct 1996	7 Feb 2000
Eritrea	11 Nov 2003	11 Nov 2003	Luxembourg.....	24 Sep 1996	26 May 1999
Estonia	20 Nov 1996	13 Aug 1999	Madagascar	9 Oct 1996	15 Sep 2005
Ethiopia.....	25 Sep 1996	8 Aug 2006	Malawi	9 Oct 1996	
Fiji	24 Sep 1996	10 Oct 1996	Malaysia.....	23 Jul 1998	17 Jan 2008
Finland.....	24 Sep 1996	15 Jan 1999	Maldives.....	1 Oct 1997	7 Sep 2000
France	24 Sep 1996	6 Apr 1998	Mali.....	18 Feb 1997	4 Aug 1999
Gabon.....	7 Oct 1996	20 Sep 2000	Malta	24 Sep 1996	23 Jul 2001
Gambia.....	9 Apr 2003		Marshall Islands	24 Sep 1996	
Georgia	24 Sep 1996	27 Sep 2002	Mauritania	24 Sep 1996	30 Apr 2003
Germany	24 Sep 1996	20 Aug 1998	Mexico	24 Sep 1996	5 Oct 1999
Ghana.....	3 Oct 1996		Micronesia (Federated States of)	24 Sep 1996	25 Jul 1997
Greece.....	24 Sep 1996	21 Apr 1999	Moldova.....	24 Sep 1997	16 Jan 2007
Grenada.....	10 Oct 1996	19 Aug 1998	Monaco	1 Oct 1996	18 Dec 1998
Guatemala.....	20 Sep 1999		Mongolia.....	1 Oct 1996	8 Aug 1997
Guinea.....	3 Oct 1996		Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Guinea-Bissau.....	11 Apr 1997		Morocco.....	24 Sep 1996	17 Apr 2000
Guyana.....	7 Sep 2000	7 Mar 2001	Mozambique	26 Sep 1996	
Haiti	24 Sep 1996	1 Dec 2005	Myanmar.....	25 Nov 1996	
Holy See	24 Sep 1996	18 Jul 2001	Namibia.....	24 Sep 1996	29 Jun 2001
Honduras.....	25 Sep 1996	30 Oct 2003	Nauru	8 Sep 2000	12 Nov 2001
Hungary	25 Sep 1996	13 Jul 1999	Nepal.....	8 Oct 1996	
Iceland	24 Sep 1996	26 Jun 2000	Netherlands	24 Sep 1996	23 Mar 1999
Indonesia.....	24 Sep 1996		New Zealand	27 Sep 1996	19 Mar 1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	24 Sep 1996		Nicaragua	24 Sep 1996	5 Dec 2000
Ireland.....	24 Sep 1996	15 Jul 1999	Niger	3 Oct 1996	9 Sep 2002
Israel	25 Sep 1996		Nigeria	8 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2001
Italy.....	24 Sep 1996	1 Feb 1999	Norway.....	24 Sep 1996	15 Jul 1999
Jamaica	11 Nov 1996	13 Nov 2001	Oman.....	23 Sep 1999	13 Jun 2003
Japan	24 Sep 1996	8 Jul 1997			

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession(d)</i>
Palau	12 Aug 2003	1 Aug 2007	Swaziland.....	24 Sep 1996	
Panama.....	24 Sep 1996	23 Mar 1999	Sweden.....	24 Sep 1996	2 Dec 1998
Papua New Guinea.....	25 Sep 1996		Switzerland	24 Sep 1996	1 Oct 1999
Paraguay	25 Sep 1996	4 Oct 2001	Tajikistan	7 Oct 1996	10 Jun 1998
Peru.....	25 Sep 1996	12 Nov 1997	Thailand	12 Nov 1996	
Philippines	24 Sep 1996	23 Feb 2001	The former Yugoslav Republic of		
Poland.....	24 Sep 1996	25 May 1999	Macedonia.....	29 Oct 1998	14 Mar 2000
Portugal.....	24 Sep 1996	26 Jun 2000	Togo.....	2 Oct 1996	2 Jul 2004
Qatar	24 Sep 1996	3 Mar 1997	Tunisia	16 Oct 1996	23 Sep 2004
Republic of Korea.....	24 Sep 1996	24 Sep 1999	Turkey.....	24 Sep 1996	16 Feb 2000
Romania.....	24 Sep 1996	5 Oct 1999	Turkmenistan	24 Sep 1996	20 Feb 1998
Russian Federation.....	24 Sep 1996	30 Jun 2000	Uganda.....	7 Nov 1996	14 Mar 2001
Rwanda	30 Nov 2004	30 Nov 2004	Ukraine.....	27 Sep 1996	23 Feb 2001
Saint Kitts and Nevis	23 Mar 2004	27 Apr 2005	United Arab Emirates ...	25 Sep 1996	18 Sep 2000
Saint Lucia.....	4 Oct 1996	5 Apr 2001	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	24 Sep 1996	6 Apr 1998
Samoa	9 Oct 1996	27 Sep 2002	United Republic of Tanzania.....	30 Sep 2004	30 Sep 2004
San Marino.....	7 Oct 1996	12 Mar 2002	United States of America.....	24 Sep 1996	
Sao Tome and Principe .	26 Sep 1996		Uruguay	24 Sep 1996	21 Sep 2001
Senegal.....	26 Sep 1996	9 Jun 1999	Uzbekistan	3 Oct 1996	29 May 1997
Serbia.....	8 Jun 2001	19 May 2004	Vanuatu.....	24 Sep 1996	16 Sep 2005
Seychelles	24 Sep 1996	13 Apr 2004	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	3 Oct 1996	13 May 2002
Sierra Leone.....	8 Sep 2000	17 Sep 2001	Viet Nam.....	24 Sep 1996	10 Mar 2006
Singapore.....	14 Jan 1999	10 Nov 2001	Yemen.....	30 Sep 1996	
Slovakia	30 Sep 1996	3 Mar 1998	Zambia	3 Dec 1996	23 Feb 2006
Slovenia	24 Sep 1996	31 Aug 1999	Zimbabwe	13 Oct 1999	
Solomon Islands.....	3 Oct 1996				
South Africa.....	24 Sep 1996	30 Mar 1999			
Spain	24 Sep 1996	31 Jul 1998			
Sri Lanka.....	24 Oct 1996				
Sudan	10 Jun 2004	10 Jun 2004			
Suriname.....	14 Jan 1997	7 Feb 2006			

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court *(Rome, 17 July 1998)*

OBJECTIVES

The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (the Statute) was adopted on 17 July 1998 at a United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court. The Statute establishes an international criminal court to try individuals for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole and seeks to establish a fair and just international criminal justice system with competent and impartial judges and an independent prosecutor. Unlike an *ad hoc* tribunal, the Court is a permanent institution, which ensures that the international community can make immediate use of its services in the event of atrocities occurring and also acts as a deterrent to those who would perpetrate such crimes.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Statute establishes a Court composed of the following organs: the Presidency, an Appeals Division, a Trial Division and a Pre-trial Division, the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry. Its judges will be persons of high moral character and integrity and in their selection the Parties will take into account the need for the representation of the principal legal systems of the world, equitable geographical distribution and a fair representation of female and male judges.

The Court is complementary to national criminal jurisdictions. It is not intended to supersede their jurisdiction. It will act only when the national jurisdiction is unable or unwilling to genuinely prosecute, or in the case of referral by the Security Council.

The Court has jurisdiction over the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression. With respect to the crime of aggression, however, the Court will exercise jurisdiction once a definition of aggression that is consistent with the Charter of the United Nations is agreed upon and is adopted in accordance with the Statute.

In conformity with the principle of legality, the crimes are specified and defined in the Statute. A few examples of specific crimes include murder, extermination, conscripting or enlisting children under the age of fifteen, attacks against United Nations personnel and crimes of sexual violence such as rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution and forced pregnancy.

In addition, the Preparatory Commission has elaborated Elements of Crimes, which are intended to assist the Court in the interpretations and applications of the articles defining the crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court.

The Statute applies equally to all persons without any distinction based on official capacity. Thus a Head of State or Government, a member of Government or parliament, an elected representative or a Government official is not exempt from criminal responsibility under the Statute.

Once a State ratifies or accedes to the Statute, it thereby accepts the jurisdiction of the Court. The Court may exercise its jurisdiction over a specific case when either the State in whose territory the crime was committed or the State of nationality of the accused is a Party to the Statute. A State which is not a Party to the Statute may also accept the jurisdiction of the Court on a case-by-case basis.

The Court may exercise jurisdiction with respect to a crime through a referral of a situation by a Party, the Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, or by the Prosecutor

acting pursuant to powers accorded under the Statute. The jurisdiction of the Court or the admissibility of a case is subject to challenge pursuant to provisions of the Statute.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Statute entered into force on 1 July 2002 (article 126).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Statute is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. It is open to accession by all States (article 125).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Court shall have the authority to make requests to Parties for cooperation. The requests shall be transmitted through the diplomatic channel or any other appropriate channel as may be designated by each Party upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Requests for cooperation and any documents supporting the request shall either be or be accompanied by a translation into an official language of the requested State or one of the working languages of the Court, in accordance with the choice made by that State upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 87).

A sentence of imprisonment shall be served in a State designated by the Court from a list of States which have indicated to the Court their willingness to accept sentenced persons. At the time of declaring its willingness to accept sentenced persons, a State may attach conditions to its acceptance as agreed by the Court and in accordance with Part 10 of the Statute (article 103).

On becoming a Party to the Statute, a State may declare that for a period of seven years after entry into force of the Statute for the State concerned, it does not accept the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the category of crimes referred to in article 8 (war crimes) when a crime is alleged to have been committed by its national or on its territory. Such declaration under this provision may be withdrawn at any time (article 124).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Statute (article 120).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may withdraw from the Statute by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The withdrawal shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification, unless the notification specifies a later date (article 127).

ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

*Rome, 17 July 1998***ENTRY INTO FORCE:
REGISTRATION:
STATUS:
TEXT:**

1 July 2002, in accordance with article 126.

1 July 2002, No. 38544.

Signatories: 139. Parties: 106.

United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, p. 3; depositary notifications C.N.577.1998.TREATIES-8 of 10 November 1998 and CN.604.1999.TREATIES-18 of 12 July 1999 [procès-verbaux of rectification of the original of the Statute (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.1075.1999.TREATIES-28 of 30 November 1999 [procès-verbal of rectification of the original text of the Statute (French and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.266.2000.TREATIES-8 of 8 May 2000 [procès-verbal of rectification of the original text of the Statute (French and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.17.2001.TREATIES-1 of 17 January 2001 [procès-verbal of rectification of the Statute (authentic French, Russian and Spanish texts)]; C.N.765.2001.TREATIES-18 of 20 September 2001 (Proposals for corrections to the original text of the Statute (Spanish authentic text)] and C.N.1439.2001.TREATIES-28 of 16 January 2002 (Procès-verbal).

Note: The Statute was adopted on 17 July 1998 by the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court. In accordance with its article 125, the Statute was opened for signature by all States in Rome at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on 17 July 1998. Thereafter, it was opened for signature in Rome at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy until 17 October 1998. After that date, the Statute was opened for signature in New York, at United Nations Headquarters, where it will be until 31 December 2000.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		10 Feb 2003 a	Burundi	13 Jan 1999	21 Sep 2004
Albania.....	18 Jul 1998	31 Jan 2003	Cambodia.....	23 Oct 2000	11 Apr 2002
Algeria	28 Dec 2000		Cameroon.....	17 Jul 1998	
Andorra	18 Jul 1998	30 Apr 2001	Canada	18 Dec 1998	7 Jul 2000
Angola	7 Oct 1998		Cape Verde	28 Dec 2000	
Antigua and Barbuda	23 Oct 1998	18 Jun 2001	Central African Republic	7 Dec 1999	3 Oct 2001
Argentina	8 Jan 1999	8 Feb 2001	Chad.....	20 Oct 1999	1 Nov 2006
Armenia	1 Oct 1999		Chile.....	11 Sep 1998	
Australia.....	9 Dec 1998	1 Jul 2002	Colombia.....	10 Dec 1998	5 Aug 2002
Austria	7 Oct 1998	28 Dec 2000	Comoros.....	22 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2006
Bahamas.....	29 Dec 2000		Congo.....	17 Jul 1998	3 May 2004
Bahrain.....	11 Dec 2000		Costa Rica	7 Oct 1998	7 Jun 2001
Bangladesh.....	16 Sep 1999		Côte d'Ivoire.....	30 Nov 1998	
Barbados	8 Sep 2000	10 Dec 2002	Croatia.....	12 Oct 1998	21 May 2001
Belgium	10 Sep 1998	28 Jun 2000	Cyprus.....	15 Oct 1998	7 Mar 2002
Belize	5 Apr 2000	5 Apr 2000	Czech Republic	13 Apr 1999	
Benin.....	24 Sep 1999	22 Jan 2002	Democratic Republic of the Congo	8 Sep 2000	11 Apr 2002
Bolivia	17 Jul 1998	27 Jun 2002	Denmark	25 Sep 1998	21 Jun 2001
Bosnia and Herzegovina	17 Jul 2000	11 Apr 2002	Djibouti	7 Oct 1998	5 Nov 2002
Botswana.....	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	Dominica.....		12 Feb 2001 a
Brazil	7 Feb 2000	20 Jun 2002	Dominican Republic	8 Sep 2000	12 May 2005
Bulgaria	11 Feb 1999	11 Apr 2002	Ecuador	7 Oct 1998	5 Feb 2002
Burkina Faso.....	30 Nov 1998	16 Apr 2004			

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
Egypt.....	26 Dec 2000			Moldova.....	8 Sep 2000		
Eritrea.....	7 Oct 1998			Monaco.....	18 Jul 1998		
Estonia.....	27 Dec 1999	30 Jan 2002		Mongolia.....	29 Dec 2000	11 Apr 2002	
Fiji.....	29 Nov 1999	29 Nov 1999		Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006	d
Finland.....	7 Oct 1998	29 Dec 2000		Morocco.....	8 Sep 2000		
France.....	18 Jul 1998	9 Jun 2000		Mozambique.....	28 Dec 2000		
Gabon.....	22 Dec 1998	20 Sep 2000		Namibia.....	27 Oct 1998	25 Jun 2002	
Gambia.....	4 Dec 1998	28 Jun 2002		Nauru.....	13 Dec 2000	12 Nov 2001	
Georgia.....	18 Jul 1998	5 Sep 2003		Netherlands.....	18 Jul 1998	17 Jul 2001	A
Germany.....	10 Dec 1998	11 Dec 2000		New Zealand.....	7 Oct 1998	7 Sep 2000	
Ghana.....	18 Jul 1998	20 Dec 1999		Niger.....	17 Jul 1998	11 Apr 2002	
Greece.....	18 Jul 1998	15 May 2002		Nigeria.....	1 Jun 2000	27 Sep 2001	
Guinea.....	7 Sep 2000	14 Jul 2003		Norway.....	28 Aug 1998	16 Feb 2000	
Guinea-Bissau.....	12 Sep 2000			Oman.....	20 Dec 2000		
Guyana.....	28 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2004		Panama.....	18 Jul 1998	21 Mar 2002	
Haiti.....	26 Feb 1999			Paraguay.....	7 Oct 1998	14 May 2001	
Honduras.....	7 Oct 1998	1 Jul 2002		Peru.....	7 Dec 2000	10 Nov 2001	
Hungary.....	15 Jan 1999	30 Nov 2001		Philippines.....	28 Dec 2000		
Iceland.....	26 Aug 1998	25 May 2000		Poland.....	9 Apr 1999	12 Nov 2001	
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	31 Dec 2000			Portugal.....	7 Oct 1998	5 Feb 2002	
Ireland.....	7 Oct 1998	11 Apr 2002		Republic of Korea.....	8 Mar 2000	13 Nov 2002	
Israel.....	31 Dec 2000			Romania.....	7 Jul 1999	11 Apr 2002	
Italy.....	18 Jul 1998	26 Jul 1999		Russian Federation.....	13 Sep 2000		
Jamaica.....	8 Sep 2000			Saint Kitts and Nevis.....		22 Aug 2006	a
Japan.....		17 Jul 2007	a	Saint Lucia.....	27 Aug 1999		
Jordan.....	7 Oct 1998	11 Apr 2002		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		3 Dec 2002	a
Kenya.....	11 Aug 1999	15 Mar 2005		Samoa.....	17 Jul 1998	16 Sep 2002	
Kuwait.....	8 Sep 2000			San Marino.....	18 Jul 1998	13 May 1999	
Kyrgyzstan.....	8 Dec 1998			Sao Tome and Principe.....	28 Dec 2000		
Latvia.....	22 Apr 1999	28 Jun 2002		Senegal.....	18 Jul 1998	2 Feb 1999	
Lesotho.....	30 Nov 1998	6 Sep 2000		Serbia.....	19 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2001	
Liberia.....	17 Jul 1998	22 Sep 2004		Seychelles.....	28 Dec 2000		
Liechtenstein.....	18 Jul 1998	2 Oct 2001		Sierra Leone.....	17 Oct 1998	15 Sep 2000	
Lithuania.....	10 Dec 1998	12 May 2003		Slovakia.....	23 Dec 1998	11 Apr 2002	
Luxembourg.....	13 Oct 1998	8 Sep 2000		Slovenia.....	7 Oct 1998	31 Dec 2001	
Madagascar.....	18 Jul 1998	14 Mar 2008		Solomon Islands.....	3 Dec 1998		
Malawi.....	2 Mar 1999	19 Sep 2002		South Africa.....	17 Jul 1998	27 Nov 2000	
Mali.....	17 Jul 1998	16 Aug 2000		Spain.....	18 Jul 1998	24 Oct 2000	
Malta.....	17 Jul 1998	29 Nov 2002		Sudan.....	8 Sep 2000		
Marshall Islands.....	6 Sep 2000	7 Dec 2000		Sweden.....	7 Oct 1998	28 Jun 2001	
Mauritius.....	11 Nov 1998	5 Mar 2002		Switzerland.....	18 Jul 1998	12 Oct 2001	
Mexico.....	7 Sep 2000	28 Oct 2005		Syrian Arab Republic.....	29 Nov 2000		

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Tajikistan	30 Nov 1998	5 May 2000	United Republic of Tanzania	29 Dec 2000	20 Aug 2002
Thailand	2 Oct 2000		United States of America	31 Dec 2000	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	7 Oct 1998	6 Mar 2002	Uruguay	19 Dec 2000	28 Jun 2002
Timor-Leste		6 Sep 2002 a	Uzbekistan	29 Dec 2000	
Trinidad and Tobago.....	23 Mar 1999	6 Apr 1999	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	14 Oct 1998	7 Jun 2000
Uganda.....	17 Mar 1999	14 Jun 2002	Yemen.....	28 Dec 2000	
Ukraine	20 Jan 2000		Zambia	17 Jul 1998	13 Nov 2002
United Arab Emirates ...	27 Nov 2000		Zimbabwe	17 Jul 1998	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	30 Nov 1998	4 Oct 2001			

United Nations Convention against Corruption *(New York, 31 October 2003)*

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (the Convention) is the first global response to corruption, a universally recognized impediment to development. The stated purposes of the Convention are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively; to facilitate international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including asset recovery; and to promote integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property.

KEY PROVISIONS

Although the Convention addresses various existing forms of corruption (such as bribery, embezzlement, trading in influence, abuse of functions), it does not define corruption, and in so doing, enables States to be flexible in confronting other forms of corruption that may emerge in the future. The Convention, however, broadly defines the term “public official” to include those persons performing a public function or providing a public service as defined in the domestic law of a Party.

The Convention addresses the prevention of corruption with measures directed at both the public and private sectors. These include model preventive policies, such as the establishment of anticorruption bodies and enhanced transparency in the financing of election campaigns and political parties. Parties must endeavour to ensure that their public services are subject to safeguards that promote efficiency, transparency and recruitment based on merit. The Convention obliges Parties, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, to promote actively the involvement of non-governmental and community-based organizations, as well as other elements of civil society, and to undertake public information activities and education programmes for the purpose of raising public awareness of the threats posed by corruption and the most suitable methods to combat it.

Being the first global legally binding instrument against corruption, the Convention requires Parties to establish criminal and other offences to cover a wide range of acts of corruption, including corruption in the public sector, if these acts are not already criminalized under domestic law. In some cases, Parties are required to consider adopting legislative and other measures to establish other offences. In addition, the Convention offers a platform not only for making national substantive provisions compatible, but also for ensuring a minimum level of deterrence through specific provisions on the prosecution, adjudication and sanctions in corruption-related cases. Going beyond previous instruments of this kind designed to operate in a more limited environment, the Convention intends to serve as the normative basis for the creation of universally recognized criminalization standards that would facilitate convergence in national priorities and attitudes and enable the elaboration of comparatively symmetric national policies for addressing corruption from a criminal law point of view.

The Convention incorporates detailed and extensive provisions on international cooperation, covering all its forms and modalities, namely extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons, transfer of criminal proceedings, law enforcement cooperation, joint investigations and cooperation for using special investigative techniques. These provisions are generally based on the precedent of the United

Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and provide a much more comprehensive legal framework on relevant matters than that of the existing regional instruments.

In what has been recognized as a major breakthrough, the Convention contains a chapter on asset recovery as a comprehensive form of international cooperation in corruption-related cases (chapter V). Beginning by stating that the return of assets pursuant to that chapter is a “fundamental principle” and that Parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard, the Convention includes substantive provisions laying down specific measures and mechanisms for cooperation for asset recovery, while maintaining the flexibility in recovery action that might be warranted by particular circumstances.

With regard to the return and disposition of assets, chapter V of the Convention incorporates a series of provisions that favour the return of assets to the requesting Party, depending on how closely the assets are linked to that Party. In the case of embezzlement of public funds, confiscated property shall be returned to the requesting Party. In the case of proceeds of any other offence covered by the Convention, confiscated property would be returned provided there is proof of prior ownership or recognition of damage to a requesting Party. In all other cases, priority consideration would be given to the return of confiscated property to the requesting Party for the purpose of returning such property to the prior legitimate owners or compensating the victims.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 14 December 2005 (article 68).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatories States and regional economic integration organizations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. The Convention is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one Member State is a Party to this Convention (article 67).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party shall inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the name and address of the authority or authorities that may assist other Parties in developing and implementing specific measures for the prevention of corruption (article 6 (3)).

A Party that makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall at the time of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations whether it will take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition with other Parties to this Convention (article 44 (6)).

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be notified of the central authority designated by a Party to receive, execute or process requests for mutual legal assistance, as well as of the language or languages acceptable to a Party when receiving a request for mutual legal assistance (article 46 (13) and (14)).

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Convention. Such organizations shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 67 (3) and (4)).

RESERVATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 66 (2) regarding the settlement of disputes (article 66 (3)). The other Parties shall not be bound by article 66 (2) with respect to any Party that has made such a reservation. Any Party that has made a reservation in accordance with article 66 (3) may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 66 (4)).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 70 (1)). A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Convention when all of its member States have denounced it (article 70 (2)).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

*New York, 31 October 2003***ENTRY INTO FORCE:**

14 December 2005, in accordance with article 68(1) which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of such action, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Convention enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is later."

REGISTRATION:

14 December 2005, No. 42146.

STATUS:

Signatories: 141. Parties: 108.

TEXT:

Doc. A/58/422.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 31 October 2003 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. It shall be open to all States for signature from 9 to 11 December 2003 in Merida, Mexico, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 9 December 2005, in accordance with article 67 (1) of the Convention. The Convention shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Convention in accordance with its article 67 (2).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	20 Feb 2004		Burundi		10 Mar 2006 a
Albania.....	18 Dec 2003	25 May 2006	Cambodia.....		5 Sep 2007 a
Algeria	9 Dec 2003	25 Aug 2004	Cameroon.....	10 Dec 2003	6 Feb 2006
Angola	10 Dec 2003	29 Aug 2006	Canada	21 May 2004	2 Oct 2007
Antigua and Barbuda ..		21 Jun 2006 a	Cape Verde	9 Dec 2003	
Argentina	10 Dec 2003	28 Aug 2006	Central African Republic	11 Feb 2004	6 Oct 2006
Armenia	19 May 2005	8 Mar 2007	Chile.....	11 Dec 2003	13 Sep 2006
Australia.....	9 Dec 2003	7 Dec 2005	China	10 Dec 2003	13 Jan 2006
Austria	10 Dec 2003	11 Jan 2006	Colombia.....	10 Dec 2003	27 Oct 2006
Azerbaijan.....	27 Feb 2004	1 Nov 2005	Comoros.....	10 Dec 2003	
Bahamas.....		10 Jan 2008 a	Congo.....		13 Jul 2006 a
Bahrain.....	8 Feb 2005		Costa Rica.....	10 Dec 2003	21 Mar 2007
Bangladesh.....		27 Feb 2007 a	Côte d'Ivoire.....	10 Dec 2003	
Barbados	10 Dec 2003		Croatia.....	10 Dec 2003	24 Apr 2005
Belarus	28 Apr 2004	17 Feb 2005	Cuba.....	9 Dec 2005	9 Feb 2007
Belgium	10 Dec 2003		Cyprus.....	9 Dec 2003	
Benin.....	10 Dec 2003	14 Oct 2004	Czech Republic	22 Apr 2005	
Bhutan.....	15 Sep 2005		Denmark	10 Dec 2003	26 Dec 2006
Bolivia	9 Dec 2003	5 Dec 2005	Djibouti.....	17 Jun 2004	20 Apr 2005
Bosnia and Herzegovina	16 Sep 2005	26 Oct 2006	Dominican Republic ...	10 Dec 2003	26 Oct 2006
Brazil	9 Dec 2003	15 Jun 2005	Ecuador	10 Dec 2003	15 Sep 2005
Brunei Darussalam.....	11 Dec 2003		Egypt.....	9 Dec 2003	25 Feb 2005
Bulgaria	10 Dec 2003	20 Sep 2006	El Salvador.....	10 Dec 2003	1 Jul 2004
Burkina Faso.....	10 Dec 2003	10 Oct 2006	Ethiopia.....	10 Dec 2003	

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>		<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>		<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	
European Community .	15 Sep	2005			Mauritania.....			25 Oct	2006 a
Finland.....	9 Dec	2003	20 Jun	2006 A	Mauritius.....	9 Dec	2003	15 Dec	2004
France.....	9 Dec	2003	11 Jul	2005	Mexico.....	9 Dec	2003	20 Jul	2004
Gabon.....	10 Dec	2003	1 Oct	2007	Moldova.....	28 Sep	2004	1 Oct	2007
Germany.....	9 Dec	2003			Mongolia.....	29 Apr	2005	11 Jan	2006
Ghana.....	9 Dec	2004	27 Jun	2007	Montenegro.....			23 Oct	2006 d
Greece.....	10 Dec	2003			Morocco.....	9 Dec	2003	9 May	2007
Guatemala.....	9 Dec	2003	3 Nov	2006	Mozambique.....	25 May	2004		
Guinea.....	15 Jul	2005			Myanmar.....	2 Dec	2005		
Guinea-Bissau.....			10 Sep	2007 a	Namibia.....	9 Dec	2003	3 Aug	2004
Haiti.....	10 Dec	2003			Nepal.....	10 Dec	2003		
Honduras.....	17 May	2004	23 May	2005	Netherlands.....	10 Dec	2003	31 Oct	2006 A
Hungary.....	10 Dec	2003	19 Apr	2005	New Zealand.....	10 Dec	2003		
India.....	9 Dec	2005			Nicaragua.....	10 Dec	2003	15 Feb	2006
Indonesia.....	18 Dec	2003	19 Sep	2006	Nigeria.....	9 Dec	2003	14 Dec	2004
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	9 Dec	2003			Norway.....	9 Dec	2003	29 Jun	2006
Ireland.....	9 Dec	2003			Pakistan.....	9 Dec	2003	31 Aug	2007
Israel.....	29 Nov	2005			Panama.....	10 Dec	2003	23 Sep	2005
Italy.....	9 Dec	2003			Papua New Guinea.....	22 Dec	2004	16 Jul	2007
Jamaica.....	16 Sep	2005	5 Mar	2008	Paraguay.....	9 Dec	2003	1 Jun	2005
Japan.....	9 Dec	2003			Peru.....	10 Dec	2003	16 Nov	2004
Jordan.....	9 Dec	2003	24 Feb	2005	Philippines.....	9 Dec	2003	8 Nov	2006
Kenya.....	9 Dec	2003	9 Dec	2003	Poland.....	10 Dec	2003	15 Sep	2006
Kuwait.....	9 Dec	2003	16 Feb	2007	Portugal.....	11 Dec	2003	28 Sep	2007
Kyrgyzstan.....	10 Dec	2003	16 Sep	2005	Qatar.....	1 Dec	2005	30 Jan	2007
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	10 Dec	2003			Republic of Korea.....	10 Dec	2003		
Latvia.....	19 May	2005	4 Jan	2006	Romania.....	9 Dec	2003	2 Nov	2004
Lesotho.....	16 Sep	2005	16 Sep	2005	Russian Federation.....	9 Dec	2003	9 May	2006
Liberia.....			16 Sep	2005 a	Rwanda.....	30 Nov	2004	4 Oct	2006
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....	23 Dec	2003	7 Jun	2005	Sao Tome and Principe.....	8 Dec	2005	12 Apr	2006
Liechtenstein.....	10 Dec	2003			Saudi Arabia.....	9 Jan	2004		
Lithuania.....	10 Dec	2003	21 Dec	2006	Senegal.....	9 Dec	2003	16 Nov	2005
Luxembourg.....	10 Dec	2003	6 Nov	2007	Serbia.....	11 Dec	2003	20 Dec	2005
Madagascar.....	10 Dec	2003	22 Sep	2004	Seychelles.....	27 Feb	2004	16 Mar	2006
Malawi.....	21 Sep	2004	4 Dec	2007	Sierra Leone.....	9 Dec	2003	30 Sep	2004
Malaysia.....	9 Dec	2003			Singapore.....	11 Nov	2005		
Maldives.....			22 Mar	2007 a	Slovakia.....	9 Dec	2003	1 Jun	2006
Mali.....	9 Dec	2003			South Africa.....	9 Dec	2003	22 Nov	2004
Malta.....	12 May	2005			Spain.....	16 Sep	2005	19 Jun	2006
					Sri Lanka.....	15 Mar	2004	31 Mar	2004
					Sudan.....	14 Jan	2005		
					Swaziland.....	15 Sep	2005		
					Sweden.....	9 Dec	2003	25 Sep	2007

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Switzerland	10 Dec 2003		United Arab Emirates .	10 Aug 2005	22 Feb 2006
Syrian Arab Republic..	9 Dec 2003		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	9 Dec 2003	9 Feb 2006
Tajikistan		25 Sep 2006 a	United Republic of Tanzania	9 Dec 2003	25 May 2005
Thailand	9 Dec 2003		United States of America	9 Dec 2003	30 Oct 2006
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	18 Aug 2005	13 Apr 2007	Uruguay	9 Dec 2003	10 Jan 2007
Timor-Leste	10 Dec 2003		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	10 Dec 2003	
Togo	10 Dec 2003	6 Jul 2005	Viet Nam.....	10 Dec 2003	
Trinidad and Tobago...	11 Dec 2003	31 May 2006	Yemen	11 Dec 2003	7 Nov 2005
Tunisia	30 Mar 2004		Zambia	11 Dec 2003	7 Dec 2007
Turkey.....	10 Dec 2003	9 Nov 2006	Zimbabwe	20 Feb 2004	8 Mar 2007
Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a			
Uganda.....	9 Dec 2003	9 Sep 2004			
Ukraine	11 Dec 2003				

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations *(New York, 13 February 1946)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (the Convention) is to guarantee that the Organization enjoys in the territory of each of its Members such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfillment of its purpose. Similarly, the Convention guarantees that representatives of the Members of the United Nations and officials of the Organization are accorded such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Organization.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention provides that the Organization shall possess juridical personality, with the capacity to contract; acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property; and to institute legal proceedings. The Convention guarantees that the United Nations, its property and assets, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process, except in cases where the Organization has waived its immunity. It also guarantees that the premises of the Organization shall be inviolable. Its property and assets shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of governmental interference. The same guarantees apply to the archives of the United Nations and all documentation, funds, gold and currency held by the Organization and the transfer of such funds, gold or currency. In general, the assets, income and other property of the United Nations shall likewise be exempt from all direct taxes, and customs duties, prohibitions and restrictions on articles imported or exported by the Organization for its official use and with respect to publications of the Organization. The Convention provides that the Organization shall enjoy with respect to official communications treatment not less favourable than that accorded by the Government concerned to any other Government.

Moreover, the Convention provides that representatives of Members to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and to conferences convened by the United Nations, shall, while exercising their functions and during their journey to and from the place of the meeting, enjoy various privileges and immunities. Some of these privileges and immunities include the immunity from personal arrest or detention, inviolability for all papers and documents, exemption from immigration restrictions, freedom of speech and independence in the discharge of their duties. Certain categories of United Nations officials are also accorded various privileges and immunities, which include, for example, exemption from taxation on salaries and emoluments paid by the United Nations, immunity from national service obligations, and immunity, together with their spouses and dependents, from immigration restrictions and alien registration. Privileges and immunities are also accorded to experts on mission for the United Nations during the period of their missions.

The Secretary-General and all Assistant Secretaries-General shall additionally be accorded the privileges, immunities, exemptions and facilities accorded by a State to diplomatic envoys.

The Convention provides that United Nations laissez-passers issued to its officials shall be recognized and accepted as valid travel documents by the authorities of its Members.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 17 September 1946.

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for accession by any Member of the United Nations.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 13 February 1946

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 17 September 1946, in accordance with section 32. The Convention first entered into force in regard to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by the deposit of its instrument of accession.

REGISTRATION: 14 December 1946, No. 4.

STATUS: Parties: 156.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1, p. 15, and vol. 90, p. 327 (corrigendum to vol. 1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan	5 Sep 1947 a	Croatia	12 Oct 1992 d
Albania	2 Jul 1957 a	Cuba	9 Sep 1959 a
Algeria	31 Oct 1963 a	Cyprus	5 Nov 1963 d
Angola	9 Aug 1990 a	Czech Republic	22 Feb 1993 d
Antigua and Barbuda..	25 Oct 1988 d	Democratic Republic of the Congo	8 Dec 1964 a
Argentina	12 Oct 1956 a	Denmark	10 Jun 1948 a
Armenia	29 Apr 2004 a	Djibouti	6 Apr 1978 d
Australia	2 Mar 1949 a	Dominica	24 Nov 1987 d
Austria	10 May 1957 a	Dominican Republic...	7 Mar 1947 a
Azerbaijan	13 Aug 1992 a	Ecuador	22 Mar 1956 a
Bahamas	17 Mar 1977 d	Egypt	17 Sep 1948 a
Bahrain	17 Sep 1992 a	El Salvador	9 Jul 1947 a
Bangladesh	13 Jan 1978 d	Estonia	21 Oct 1991 a
Barbados	10 Jan 1972 d	Ethiopia	22 Jul 1947 a
Belarus	22 Oct 1953 a	Fiji	21 Jun 1971 d
Belgium	25 Sep 1948 a	Finland	31 Jul 1958 a
Belize	14 Sep 2005 a	France	18 Aug 1947 a
Bolivia	23 Dec 1949 a	Gabon	13 Mar 1964 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 Sep 1993 d	Gambia	1 Aug 1966 d
Brazil	15 Dec 1949 a	Georgia	17 Dec 2007 a
Bulgaria	30 Sep 1960 a	Germany	5 Nov 1980 a
Burkina Faso	27 Apr 1962 a	Ghana	5 Aug 1958 a
Burundi	17 Mar 1971 a	Greece	29 Dec 1947 a
Cambodia	6 Nov 1963 a	Guatemala	7 Jul 1947 a
Cameroon	20 Oct 1961 d	Guinea	10 Jan 1968 a
Canada	22 Jan 1948 a	Guyana	28 Dec 1972 a
Central African Republic	4 Sep 1962 d	Haiti	6 Aug 1947 a
Chile	15 Oct 1948 a	Honduras	16 May 1947 a
China	11 Sep 1979 a	Hungary	30 Jul 1956 a
Colombia	6 Aug 1974 a	Iceland	10 Mar 1948 a
Congo	15 Oct 1962 d	India	13 May 1948 a
Costa Rica	26 Oct 1949 a	Indonesia	8 Mar 1972 a
Côte d'Ivoire	8 Dec 1961 d	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	8 May 1947 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Iraq	15 Sep 1949 a	Panama	27 May 1947 a
Ireland	10 May 1967 a	Papua New Guinea	4 Dec 1975 d
Israel	21 Sep 1949 a	Paraguay	2 Oct 1953 a
Italy	3 Feb 1958 a	Peru	24 Jul 1963 a
Jamaica	9 Sep 1963 a	Philippines	28 Oct 1947 a
Japan	18 Apr 1963 a	Poland	8 Jan 1948 a
Jordan	3 Jan 1958 a	Portugal	14 Oct 1998 a
Kazakhstan	26 Aug 1998 a	Qatar	26 Sep 2007 a
Kenya	1 Jul 1965 a	Republic of Korea	9 Apr 1992 a
Kuwait	13 Dec 1963 a	Romania	5 Jul 1956 a
Kyrgyzstan	28 Jan 2000 a	Russian Federation	22 Sep 1953 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic.	24 Nov 1956 a	Rwanda	15 Apr 1964 a
Latvia	21 Nov 1997 a	Saint Lucia	27 Aug 1986 d
Lebanon	10 Mar 1949 a	Senegal	27 May 1963 d
Lesotho	26 Nov 1969 a	Serbia	12 Mar 2001 d
Liberia	14 Mar 1947 a	Seychelles	26 Aug 1980 a
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	28 Nov 1958 a	Sierra Leone	13 Mar 1962 d
Liechtenstein	25 Mar 1993 a	Singapore	18 Mar 1966 d
Lithuania	9 Dec 1993 a	Slovakia	28 May 1993 d
Luxembourg	14 Feb 1949 a	Slovenia	6 Jul 1992 d
Madagascar	23 May 1962 d	Somalia	9 Jul 1963 a
Malawi	17 May 1966 a	South Africa	30 Aug 2002 a
Malaysia	28 Oct 1957 d	Spain	31 Jul 1974 a
Mali	28 Mar 1968 a	Sri Lanka	19 Jun 2003 a
Malta	27 Jun 1968 d	Sudan	21 Mar 1977 a
Mauritius	18 Jul 1969 d	Sweden	28 Aug 1947 a
Mexico	26 Nov 1962 a	Syrian Arab Republic	29 Sep 1953 a
Moldova	12 Apr 1995 a	Tajikistan	19 Oct 2001 a
Monaco	8 Mar 2005 a	Thailand	30 Mar 1956 a
Mongolia	31 May 1962 a	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	18 Aug 1993 d
Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	Togo	27 Feb 1962 d
Morocco	18 Mar 1957 a	Trinidad and Tobago	19 Oct 1965 a
Mozambique	8 May 2001 a	Tunisia	7 May 1957 a
Myanmar	25 Jan 1955 a	Turkey	22 Aug 1950 a
Namibia	17 Jul 2006 a	Turkmenistan	23 Nov 2007 a
Nepal	28 Sep 1965 a	Uganda	9 Jul 2001 a
Netherlands	19 Apr 1948 a	Ukraine	20 Nov 1953 a
New Zealand	10 Dec 1947 a	United Arab Emirates	2 Jun 2003 a
Nicaragua	29 Nov 1947 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	17 Sep 1946 a
Niger	25 Aug 1961 d	United Republic of Tanzania	29 Oct 1962 a
Nigeria	26 Jun 1961 d	United States of America	29 Apr 1970 a
Norway	18 Aug 1947 a	Uruguay	16 Feb 1984 a
Pakistan	22 Sep 1948 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	21 Dec 1998 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Viet Nam.....	6 Apr 1988 a	Zambia	16 Jun 1975 d
Yemen.....	23 Jul 1963 a	Zimbabwe.....	13 May 1991 a

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies *(New York, 21 November 1947)*

OBJECTIVES

Stemming from the need to unify as far as possible the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the United Nations and by the various specialized agencies, the General Assembly of the United Nations, on 21 November 1947, approved the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (the Convention). The objective of this Convention is to guarantee the United Nations specialized agencies the enjoyment in the territory of each of its members such legal capacity as may be necessary for the exercise of their functions and the fulfillment of their purposes. Similarly, officials of United Nations specialized agencies shall enjoy such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions.

KEY PROVISIONS

Each Party to the Convention in respect to any specialized agency to which this Convention has become applicable shall accord to that agency the privileges and immunities set forth in the standard clauses, subject to any modifications contained in the provisions of the final or revised annexes relating to the specialized agencies concerned. The specialized agencies include the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Health Organization, the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International Finance Corporation, the International Development Association, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. This summary focuses on the standard clauses.

The Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall possess juridical personality, with the capacity to contract; acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property; and to institute legal proceedings. The Convention guarantees that the specialized agencies, their property and assets, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process, except in cases where they have waived their immunity. It also guarantees that the premises of the specialized agencies shall be inviolable. Moreover, the property and assets of the specialized agencies shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of governmental interference. The same guarantees apply to the archives of the specialized agencies and all documentation, funds, gold and currency held by the specialized agencies and the transfer of such funds, gold or currency. In general, the assets, income and other property of the specialized agencies shall be exempt from all direct taxes; and customs duties, prohibitions and restrictions on articles imported or exported by the specialized agencies for their official use and with respect to publications of the specialized agencies. The Convention additionally provides that the specialized agencies shall enjoy with respect to official communications treatment not less favourable than that accorded by the Government concerned to any other Government. No censorship shall be applied to the official correspondence and other official communications of the specialized agencies.

Furthermore, the Convention provides that representatives of members at meetings convened by a specialized agency shall, while exercising their functions and during their journey to and from the place

of the meeting, enjoy various privileges and immunities. Some of these privileges and immunities include the immunity from personal arrest or detention, inviolability for all papers and documents, exemption from immigration restrictions, freedom of speech and independence in the discharge of their duties. Certain categories of officials of the specialized agencies are also accorded various privileges and immunities, which include, for example, exemption from taxation on salaries and emoluments paid by the specialized agencies, exemption from national service obligations, and immunity, together with their spouses and dependents, from immigration restrictions and alien registration. The Convention contains provisions to address the situation whereby a Party to the Convention considers that there has been an abuse of a privilege or immunity.

The Convention provides that the United Nations laissez-passer issued to officials of the specialized agencies shall be recognized and accepted as valid travel documents by the Party to the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 2 December 1948.

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for accession by any Member State of the United Nations and any member State of a specialized agency. Each State shall indicate in its instrument of accession the specialized agency or agencies in respect of which it undertakes to apply the provisions of the Convention (Article XI, section 41).

Each Party to this Convention may by subsequent written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations undertake to apply the provisions of the Convention to one or more further specialized agencies (article XI, section 43).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations. Each Party, which is not, or has ceased to be, a member of a specialized agency, may notify the Secretary-General and the head of the agency concerned that it intends to withhold from that agency the benefits of the Convention as from a specified date, which shall not be earlier than three months from the date of receipt of the notification. Likewise, each Party may withhold the benefit of the Convention from any specialized agency which ceases to be in relationship with the United Nations by notification to the Secretary-General (article XI, section 47).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. It is noted, however, that, in accordance with the depositary practice, the consent of the specialized agencies with regard to a reservation lodged by a State is necessary before such a reservation altering their own privileges and immunities under the Convention could become effective.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

New York, 21 November 1947

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 2 December 1948, in accordance with section 44 . The Convention first entered into force as regards the Netherlands by the deposit of the instrument of accession undertaking to apply the provisions of the Convention to various specialized agencies.

REGISTRATION: 16 August 1949, No. 521.

STATUS: Parties: 121.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series* , vol. 33, p. 261.

Note: States that are parties to the Convention are listed in the *Participant* table below. For the lists of States applying the provisions of the Convention to the respective specialised agencies, see chapters III.2.1 to III.2.17.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....	15 Dec 2003 a	Estonia.....	8 Oct 1997 a
Algeria.....	25 Mar 1964 a	Fiji	21 Jun 1971 d
Antigua and Barbuda..	14 Dec 1988 d	Finland	31 Jul 1958 a
Argentina.....	10 Oct 1963 a	France.....	2 Aug 2000 a
Australia.....	9 May 1986 a	Gabon	29 Jun 1961 a
Austria.....	21 Jul 1950 a	Gambia	1 Aug 1966 d
Bahamas.....	17 Mar 1977 d	Georgia.....	18 Jul 2007 a
Bahrain.....	17 Sep 1992 a	Germany.....	10 Oct 1957 a
Barbados	19 Nov 1971 a	Ghana	9 Sep 1958 a
Belarus	18 Mar 1966 a	Greece	21 Jun 1977 a
Belgium.....	14 Mar 1962 a	Guatemala	30 Jun 1951 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 Sep 1993 d	Guinea	1 Jul 1959 a
Botswana.....	5 Apr 1983 a	Guyana	13 Sep 1973 a
Brazil.....	22 Mar 1963 a	Haiti.....	16 Apr 1952 a
Bulgaria.....	13 Jun 1968 a	Hungary.....	2 Aug 1967 a
Burkina Faso	6 Apr 1962 a	Iceland.....	17 Jan 2006 a
Cambodia	15 Oct 1953 a	India	10 Feb 1949 a
Cameroon.....	30 Apr 1992 a	Indonesia	8 Mar 1972 a
Central African Republic	15 Oct 1962 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	16 May 1974 a
Chile.....	21 Sep 1951 a	Iraq	9 Jul 1954 a
China	11 Sep 1979 a	Ireland	10 May 1967 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....	8 Sep 1961 a	Italy	30 Aug 1985 a
Croatia	12 Oct 1992 d	Jamaica.....	4 Nov 1963 a
Cuba.....	13 Sep 1972 a	Japan.....	18 Apr 1963 a
Cyprus.....	6 May 1964 d	Jordan.....	12 Dec 1950 a
Czech Republic	22 Feb 1993 d	Kenya	1 Jul 1965 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....	8 Dec 1964 a	Kuwait.....	13 Nov 1961 a
Denmark.....	25 Jan 1950 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	9 Aug 1960 a
Dominica.....	24 Jun 1988 a	Latvia	19 Dec 2005 a
Ecuador	8 Jun 1951 a	Lesotho.....	26 Nov 1969 a
Egypt.....	28 Sep 1954 a	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	30 Apr 1958 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Lithuania	10 Feb 1997 a	Serbia	12 Mar 2001 d
Luxembourg	20 Sep 1950 a	Seychelles.....	24 Jul 1985 a
Madagascar	3 Jan 1966 a	Sierra Leone	13 Mar 1962 d
Malawi	2 Aug 1965 a	Singapore	18 Mar 1966 d
Malaysia	29 Mar 1962 d	Slovakia	28 May 1993 d
Maldives.....	26 May 1969 a	Slovenia	6 Jul 1992 d
Mali.....	24 Jun 1968 a	South Africa	30 Aug 2002 a
Malta	27 Jun 1968 d	Spain.....	26 Sep 1974 a
Mauritius	18 Jul 1969 d	Sweden.....	12 Sep 1951 a
Mongolia.....	3 Mar 1970 a	Thailand	30 Mar 1956 a
Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	11 Mar 1996 d
Morocco	28 Apr 1958 a	Togo	15 Jul 1960 a
Nepal	23 Feb 1954 a	Tonga	17 Mar 1976 d
Netherlands	2 Dec 1948 a	Trinidad and Tobago ..	19 Oct 1965 a
New Zealand	25 Nov 1960 a	Tunisia.....	3 Dec 1957 a
Nicaragua	6 Apr 1959 a	Uganda	11 Aug 1983 a
Niger	15 May 1968 a	Ukraine.....	13 Apr 1966 a
Nigeria.....	26 Jun 1961 d	United Arab Emirates.	11 Dec 2003 a
Norway.....	25 Jan 1950 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	16 Aug 1949 a
Pakistan.....	23 Jul 1951 a	United Republic of Tanzania	29 Oct 1962 a
Paraguay.....	13 Jan 2006 a	Uruguay.....	29 Dec 1977 a
Philippines.....	20 Mar 1950 a	Uzbekistan.....	18 Feb 1997 a
Poland	19 Jun 1969 a	Vanuatu	2 Jan 2008 a
Republic of Korea	13 May 1977 a	Zambia	16 Jun 1975 d
Romania	15 Sep 1970 a	Zimbabwe.....	5 Mar 1991 a
Russian Federation.....	10 Jan 1966 a		
Rwanda	15 Apr 1964 a		
Saint Lucia	2 Sep 1986 a		
Senegal.....	2 Mar 1966 a		

United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property *(New York, 2 December 2004)*

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property (the Convention) applies to the immunity of a State and its property from the jurisdiction of the courts of another State. The Convention aims at harmonizing State practice - in particular in the dealings of States with natural and juridical persons - thus enhancing legal certainty for both States and private entities in their – mostly economic – relations.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention provides for jurisdictional immunities of States and their property as supported by principles of customary international law. The Convention mandates that Parties give effect to State immunity by refraining from exercising jurisdiction in a proceeding before its courts against another State. The Convention only applies to proceedings instituted against a State before a court of another State following the entry into force of the Convention for the States concerned. For the purposes of the Convention, the term “State” refers to the State and its various organs of government; constituent units of a federal State or political subdivisions of the State, agencies and instrumentalities of the State, and State representatives as defined in the Convention.

The Convention also provides for State immunity relating to various measures of constraint in connection with proceedings before a court. For example, a State has immunity from pre-judgment measures (for example, attachment or arrest against property of a State), and post-judgment measures (for example, attachment, arrest or execution, against property of a State). The Convention sets forth categories of property that shall not be considered as property intended for use by the State for other than government non-commercial purposes. These categories include military property, property (including any bank account) intended to be used for diplomatic missions or missions to international organizations, property of the central bank or other monetary authority of the State, and property forming part of the cultural heritage or scientific interest of the State.

Moreover, the Convention provides for a variety of proceedings relating to particular relationships in which State immunity cannot be invoked. For example, a State, unless otherwise agreed between the States concerned, cannot invoke immunity from jurisdiction before a court of another State which is otherwise competent in a proceeding which relates to (1) a contract of employment between the State and an individual for work performed in the territory of that other State; (2) monetary compensation for death or injury to the person, or damage to or loss of tangible property, caused by an act or omission which is alleged to be attributable to the State; (3) the determination of any right of the State in any intellectual or industrial property which enjoys a measure of legal protection in the State of the forum; and (4) other matters relating to the ownership, possession and use of property, participation in companies or other collective bodies, ships owned or operated by a State, and arbitration agreements. A State also cannot invoke immunity for commercial transactions with a foreign natural or juridical person. In determining whether a contract or transaction is a “commercial transaction”, reference should be made primarily to the nature of the contract or transaction, but its purpose should also be taken into account if the parties to the contract or transaction

have so agreed, or if, in the practice of the State of the forum, that purpose is relevant to determining the non-commercial character of the contract or transaction.

The Convention contains in an Annex understandings with respect to certain of its provisions. The annex is an integral part of the Convention. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/38, to which the Convention is annexed, the Convention does not cover criminal proceedings.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 30).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States and is open to accession by any State (article 29).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, the Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 27(2), according to which disputes among Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration within six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 27). The Convention is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the depositary. Denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which notification is received by the depositary. The Convention shall continue to apply to any question of jurisdictional immunities of States or their property arising in a proceeding instituted against a State before a court of another State prior to the date on which the denunciation takes effect for any of the States concerned (article 31).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON JURISDICTIONAL IMMUNITIES OF STATES AND THEIR
PROPERTY

New York, 2 December 2004

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 30 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the present Convention after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.".

STATUS: Signatories: 28. Parties: 4.

TEXT: Doc. A/59/508; depositary notification C.N.141.2005.TREATIES-4 of 28 February 2005 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (Chinese version)] and C.N.419.2005.TREATIES-6 of 31 May 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Convention (Chinese version)].

Note: The above Convention was adopted during the 65th plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/59/38 of 2 December 2004. In accordance with its articles 28 and 33, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 17 January 2005 until 17 January 2007, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</i>
Austria	17 Jan 2005	14 Sep 2006	Norway.....	8 Jul 2005	27 Mar 2006
Belgium	22 Apr 2005		Paraguay.....	16 Sep 2005	
China.....	14 Sep 2005		Portugal.....	25 Feb 2005	14 Sep 2006
Czech Republic.....	13 Oct 2006		Romania.....	14 Sep 2005	15 Feb 2007
Denmark	19 Sep 2006		Russian Federation.....	1 Dec 2006	
Estonia	30 Mar 2006		Senegal.....	21 Sep 2005	
Finland.....	14 Sep 2005		Sierra Leone.....	21 Sep 2006	
France	17 Jan 2007		Slovakia	15 Sep 2005	
Iceland	16 Sep 2005		Sweden.....	14 Sep 2005	
India	12 Jan 2007		Switzerland	19 Sep 2006	
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	17 Jan 2007		Timor-Leste	16 Sep 2005	
Japan	11 Jan 2007		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland....	30 Sep 2005	
Lebanon	11 Nov 2005				
Madagascar	15 Sep 2005				
Mexico.....	25 Sep 2006				
Morocco.....	17 Jan 2005				

Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel *(New York, 9 December 1994)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (the Convention) is to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel by requiring Parties to take all necessary measures to protect United Nations and associated personnel to establish criminal offences punishable by appropriate penalties, and to cooperate in the prevention of such crimes and in providing assistance to one another in connection with criminal proceedings.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention obliges Parties to take all appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel. The Convention provides for the prompt release and return of captured or detained United Nations and associated personnel. Parties are required to cooperate with the United Nations and other Parties in the implementation of the Convention, in particular in any case where the host State is unable to take the required measures.

The Convention requires Parties to establish as criminal offences: (a) the murder, kidnapping or any other attack upon the person or liberty of any United Nations or associated personnel; (b) a violent attack upon the official premises, the private accommodation or the means of transportation of any United Nations or associated personnel likely to endanger his or her person or liberty; (c) a threat to commit any such attack with the objective of compelling a physical or juridical person to do or refrain from doing any act; (d) an attempt to commit any such attack; and (e) an act constituting participation as an accomplice in any such attack, or in an attempt to commit such attack, or in organizing or ordering others to commit such attack. Parties are required to make the above crimes punishable by appropriate penalties.

Each Party is also required to establish jurisdiction over offences committed in its territory or onboard a ship or aircraft registered in that State, or when the alleged offender is a national of that State. A Party may establish jurisdiction over such crimes in other cases as well.

The Convention requires Parties either to prosecute or extradite offenders. A State that chooses not to extradite an alleged offender, shall promptly submit the case for prosecution to its competent authorities. Offences set forth in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences in any existing extradition treaty between Parties. Parties additionally undertake to include such crimes as extraditable offences in future extradition treaties concluded between them. The Convention itself may also be used as the legal basis for extradition in certain cases.

In addition, the Convention provides for the widest measure of mutual legal assistance between the Parties in connection with criminal proceedings brought in respect of crimes set out in the Convention. Under the Convention, an alleged offender is to be accorded fair treatment, a fair trial and full protection of his or her rights at all stages of the investigations or proceedings.

Parties are obliged to cooperate in the prevention of the crimes set out in the Convention, particularly by taking all practical measures to prevent preparations in their respective territories for the commission of those crimes within or outside their territories, and by exchanging information and coordinating the taking of administrative and other measures to prevent the commission of those crimes.

The Convention shall in no way affect the applicability of international humanitarian law and of universally recognized standards of human rights as contained in international instruments in connection with United Nations operations and United Nations and associated personnel. Similarly, nothing in the Convention shall be construed so as to derogate from the right to act in self-defence.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 15 January 1999 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by any State. The Convention is open to accession by any State (articles 25 and 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any Party which has established jurisdiction as mentioned in article 10, paragraph 2, shall notify the Secretary-General. If such Party subsequently rescinds that jurisdiction, it shall notify the Secretary-General (article 10).

Whenever a crime set out in article 9 is committed, any Party which has information concerning the victim and circumstances of the crime shall endeavour to transmit such information, under the conditions provided for in its national law, fully and promptly to the Secretary-General and the State or States concerned (article 12).

Measures taken to ensure prosecution or extradition shall be notified, in conformity with national law and without delay, to the Secretary-General (article 13).

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General (article 18).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. States may declare, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, that they are not bound by article 22(1), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice. A reservation made in accordance with article 22 may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the depositary (article 22).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the depositary. Such denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which the notification is received by the depositary (article 28).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

CONVENTION ON THE SAFETY OF UNITED NATIONS AND ASSOCIATED PERSONNEL

New York, 9 December 1994

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 15 January 1999, in accordance with article 27 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force thirty days after twenty-two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession have been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession." 15 January 1999, No. 35457.

REGISTRATION: 15 January 1999, No. 35457.

STATUS: Signatories: 43. Parties: 83.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, p. 363

Note: The Convention was adopted by resolution 49/59 of the General Assembly dated 9 December 1994. The Convention was open for signature on 15 December 1994 and will remain open for signature at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York until 31 December 1995.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Albania.....		30 Mar 2001 a	Finland.....	15 Dec 1994	5 Jan 2001
Argentina.....	15 Dec 1994	6 Jan 1997	France.....	12 Jan 1995	9 Jun 2000
Australia.....	22 Dec 1995	4 Dec 2000	Germany.....	1 Feb 1995	22 Apr 1997
Austria.....		6 Sep 2000 a	Greece.....		3 Aug 2000 a
Azerbaijan.....		3 Aug 2000 a	Guinea.....		7 Sep 2000 a
Bangladesh.....	21 Dec 1994	22 Sep 1999	Guyana.....		21 May 2004 a
Belarus.....	23 Oct 1995	29 Nov 2000	Haiti.....	19 Dec 1994	
Belgium.....	21 Dec 1995	19 Feb 2002	Honduras.....	17 May 1995	
Bolivia.....	17 Aug 1995	22 Dec 2004	Hungary.....		13 Jul 1999 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		11 Aug 2003 a	Iceland.....		10 May 2001 a
Botswana.....		1 Mar 2000 a	Ireland.....		28 Mar 2002 a
Brazil.....	3 Feb 1995	6 Sep 2000	Italy.....	16 Dec 1994	5 Apr 1999
Brunei Darussalam.....		20 Mar 2002 a	Jamaica.....		8 Sep 2000 a
Bulgaria.....		4 Jun 1998 a	Japan.....	6 Jun 1995	6 Jun 1995 A
Canada.....	15 Dec 1994	3 Apr 2002	Kenya.....		19 Oct 2004 a
Chile.....		27 Aug 1997 a	Kuwait.....		19 Jul 2004 a
China.....		22 Sep 2004 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic.....		22 Aug 2002 a
Costa Rica.....		17 Oct 2000 a	Lebanon.....		25 Sep 2003 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....		13 Mar 2002 a	Lesotho.....		6 Sep 2000 a
Croatia.....		27 Mar 2000 a	Liberia.....		22 Sep 2004 a
Cyprus.....		1 Jul 2003 a	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.....		22 Sep 2000 a
Czech Republic.....	27 Dec 1995	13 Jun 1997	Liechtenstein.....	16 Oct 1995	11 Dec 2000
Democratic People's Republic of Korea...		8 Oct 2003 a	Lithuania.....		8 Sep 2000 a
Denmark.....	15 Dec 1994	11 Apr 1995	Luxembourg.....	31 May 1995	30 Jul 2001
Ecuador.....		28 Dec 2000 a	Mali.....		2 Jan 2008 a
Estonia.....		8 Mar 2006 a	Malta.....	16 Mar 1995	
Fiji.....	25 Oct 1995	1 Apr 1999			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Approval(AA), Succession(d)</i>
Monaco		5 Mar 1999 a	Slovakia	28 Dec 1995	26 Jun 1996
Mongolia.....		25 Feb 2004 a	Slovenia		21 Jan 2004 a
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	Spain	19 Dec 1994	13 Jan 1998
Nauru		12 Nov 2001 a	Sri Lanka.....		23 Sep 2003 a
Nepal.....		8 Sep 2000 a	Sweden.....	15 Dec 1994	25 Jun 1996
Netherlands	22 Dec 1995	7 Feb 2002 A	Switzerland		9 Nov 2007 a
New Zealand	15 Dec 1994	16 Dec 1998	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		6 Mar 2002 a
Norway	15 Dec 1994	3 Jul 1995	Togo	22 Dec 1995	
Pakistan.....	8 Mar 1995		Tunisia	22 Feb 1995	12 Sep 2000
Panama.....	15 Dec 1994	4 Apr 1996	Turkey.....		9 Aug 2004 a
Philippines	27 Feb 1995	17 Jun 1997	Turkmenistan		29 Sep 1998 a
Poland.....	17 Mar 1995	22 May 2000	Ukraine.....	15 Dec 1994	17 Aug 1995
Portugal.....	15 Dec 1994	14 Oct 1998	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	19 Dec 1995	6 May 1998
Republic of Korea.....		8 Dec 1997 a	United States of America.....	19 Dec 1994	
Romania.....	27 Sep 1995	29 Dec 1997	Uruguay	17 Nov 1995	3 Sep 1999
Russian Federation.....	26 Sep 1995	25 Jun 2001	Uzbekistan		3 Jul 1996 a
Samoa	16 Jan 1995	19 Aug 2005			
Senegal.....	21 Feb 1995	9 Jun 1999			
Serbia.....		31 Jul 2003 a			
Sierra Leone.....	13 Feb 1995				
Singapore.....		26 Mar 1996 a			

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel *(New York, 8 December 2005)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (the Convention), which was adopted on 9 December 1994, is a key legal instrument in efforts to give United Nations and associated personnel the security and the environment they need to do their work. Its entry into force in 1999 was a major step forward in strengthening the legal regime surrounding United Nations protection. The scope of the Convention covered United Nations operations where such operations are for the purpose of maintaining or restoring international peace and security, or where the Security Council or the General Assembly has declared that an exceptional risk exists to the safety of the personnel participating in the operation. Humanitarian, development, and other non-peacekeeping operations were covered only through such a declaration of exceptional risk. This was considered to be a serious flaw as there are no generally agreed criteria for determining whether such a risk exists. The new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (the Optional Protocol) corrects this flaw. It expands the legal protection to all other United Nations operations, from emergency humanitarian assistance to peace building and the delivery of humanitarian, political and development assistance.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Optional Protocol expands the scope of the Convention to all other United Nations operations established by a competent organ of the United Nations in accordance with the United Nations Charter and conducted under United Nations authority and control for the purpose of (a) delivering humanitarian, political or development assistance in peace building, or (b) delivering emergency humanitarian assistance. A host State may make a declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations that it shall not apply the provisions of the Optional Protocol with respect to the delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance conducted in response to a natural disaster.

The duty of a Party to the Optional Protocol with respect to the application of article 8 of the Convention to United Nations operations as defined in the Optional Protocol shall be without prejudice to its right to take action in the exercise of its national jurisdiction over any United Nations or associated personnel who violates the laws and regulations of that Party, provided that such action is not in violation of any other international law obligation of the Party.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Optional Protocol is not in force. The Optional Protocol shall enter into force thirty days after twenty-two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession have been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article VI).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Optional Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States, and is open to accession by any non-signatory State (article V).

Any State which is not a Party to the Convention may ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Optional Protocol if at the same time it ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to the Convention in accordance with articles 25 and 26 of the Convention (article V).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Optional Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Optional Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Optional Protocol by written notification to the depositary. Denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which notification is received by the depositary (article VII).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel

New York, 8 December 2005

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 6 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force thirty days after twenty-two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession have been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."
STATUS: Signatories: 35. Parties: 14.
TEXT: Doc. A/60/518.

Note: The above Optional Protocol was adopted on 8 December 2005 during the 61st plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/60/42. In accordance with its article IV, the Optional Protocol shall be open for signature by all States from 16 January 2006 to 16 January 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Acceptance(A), Approval(AA)</i>
Australia.....	19 Sep 2006		Mali.....	5 Jan 2007	
Austria.....	14 Mar 2006	1 Oct 2007	Monaco.....		19 Apr 2007 a
Azerbaijan.....	26 Sep 2006		Netherlands.....	19 Sep 2006	12 Sep 2007 A
Belgium.....	15 Sep 2006		New Zealand.....	20 Sep 2006	
Bolivia.....	3 Aug 2006		Norway.....	20 Jan 2006	24 Feb 2006 AA
Botswana.....		13 Jun 2007 a	Poland.....	15 Sep 2006	
Bulgaria.....	20 Sep 2006		Republic of Korea.....	20 Sep 2006	
Central African Republic.....	27 Feb 2006		Romania.....	20 Sep 2006	
Chile.....	15 Sep 2006		Senegal.....	17 Jan 2006	
Cyprus.....	13 Sep 2006		Sierra Leone.....	21 Sep 2006	
Czech Republic.....	20 Sep 2006		Slovakia.....	22 Sep 2006	7 May 2007
Finland.....	15 Jan 2007		Slovenia.....	13 Oct 2006	
Germany.....	13 Sep 2006	17 Dec 2007	Spain.....	19 Sep 2006	27 Sep 2007
Kenya.....	12 Jan 2007	12 Jan 2007	Sweden.....	7 Jul 2006	30 Aug 2006
Lebanon.....	14 Mar 2006		Switzerland.....	19 Sep 2006	9 Nov 2007
Liberia.....	21 Sep 2006		Tunisia.....	19 Sep 2006	31 Jan 2008
Liechtenstein.....	16 Jan 2006	4 May 2007	Ukraine.....	19 Sep 2006	
Luxembourg.....	16 Jan 2006		Uruguay.....	15 Sep 2006	

**LIST OF MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
(AS FROM 1 MARCH 2008)**

CHAPTER I. CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

1. Charter of the United Nations. San Francisco, 26 June 1945
2. Declarations of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations
3. Statute of the International Court of Justice
4. Declarations recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court
5. a). Amendments to Articles 23, 27 and 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolutions 1991 A and B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963. New York, 17 December 1963
5. b). Amendment to Article 109 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2101 (XX) of 20 December 1965. New York, 20 December 1965
5. c). Amendment to Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971. New York, 20 December 1971

CHAPTER II. PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES

1. Revised General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. New York, 28 April 1949

CHAPTER III. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS, ETC.

1. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. New York, 13 February 1946
2. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies. New York, 21 November 1947 and annexes
3. Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Vienna, 18 April 1961
4. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning Acquisition of Nationality. Vienna, 18 April 1961
5. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Vienna, 18 April 1961
6. Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Vienna, 24 April 1963
7. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning Acquisition of Nationality. Vienna, 24 April 1963
8. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Vienna, 24 April 1963
9. Convention on special missions. New York, 8 December 1969
10. Optional Protocol to the Convention on Special Missions concerning the compulsory settlement of disputes. New York, 8 December 1969
11. Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character. Vienna, 14 March 1975
12. Vienna Convention on Succession of States in Respect of State Property, Archives and Debts. Vienna, 8 April 1983
13. United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property. New York, 2 December 2004

CHAPTER IV. HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. New York, 9 December 1948
2. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. New York, 7 March 1966
2. a). Amendment to article 8 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. New York, 15 January 1992
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
4. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
5. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
6. Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity. New York, 26 November 1968
7. International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. New York, 30 November 1973
8. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 18 December 1979

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

8. a). Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 22 December 1995
8. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 6 October 1999
9. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 10 December 1984
9. a). Amendments to articles 17 (7) and 18 (5) of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 8 September 1992
9. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 18 December 2002
10. International Convention against Apartheid in Sports. New York, 10 December 1985
11. Convention on the Rights of the Child. New York, 20 November 1989
11. a). Amendment to article 43 (2) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. New York, 12 December 1995
11. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. New York, 25 May 2000
11. c). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. New York, 25 May 2000
12. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. New York, 15 December 1989
13. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. New York, 18 December 1990
14. Agreement establishing the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Madrid, 24 July 1992
15. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006
15. a) Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006
16. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. New York, 20 December 2006

CHAPTER V. REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS

1. Constitution of the International Refugee Organization. New York, 15 December 1946
2. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Geneva, 28 July 1951
3. Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons. New York, 28 September 1954
4. Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. New York, 30 August 1961
5. Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. New York, 31 January 1967

CHAPTER VI. NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

1. Protocol amending the Agreements, Conventions and Protocols on Narcotic Drugs, concluded at The Hague on 23 January 1912, at Geneva on 11 February 1925 and 19 February 1925, and 13 July 1931, at Bangkok on 27 November 1931 and at Geneva on 26 June 1936. Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
2. International Opium Convention. The Hague, 23 January 1912
3. Agreement concerning the Suppression of the Manufacture of, Internal Trade in, and Use of, Prepared Opium. Geneva, 11 February 1925 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
4. Agreement concerning the Suppression of the Manufacture of, Internal Trade in, and Use of, Prepared Opium. Geneva, 11 February 1925
5. International Opium Convention. Geneva, 19 February 1925 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
6. a). International Opium Convention. Geneva, 19 February 1925
6. b). Protocol. Geneva, 19 February 1925
7. Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs. Geneva, 13 July 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
8. a). Convention for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs. Geneva, 13 July 1931
8. b). Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 13 July 1931
9. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking. Bangkok, 27 November 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
10. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking. Bangkok, 27 November 1931

11. Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs. Geneva, 26 June 1936 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
12. a). Convention of 1936 for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs. Geneva, 26 June 1936
12. b). Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 26 June 1936
13. Protocol Bringing under International Control Drugs Outside the Scope of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946. Paris, 19 November 1948
14. Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and use of Opium. New York, 23 June 1953
15. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. New York, 30 March 1961
16. Convention on psychotropic substances. Vienna, 21 February 1971
17. Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. Geneva, 25 March 1972
18. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. New York, 8 August 1975
19. United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Vienna, 20 December 1988

CHAPTER VII. TRAFFIC IN PERSONS

1. Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947, to amend the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933. Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947
2. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. Lake Success, 12 November 1947
3. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children. Geneva, 30 September 1921
4. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. Lake Success, 12 November 1947
5. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age. Geneva, 11 October 1933
6. Protocol amending the International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, and the International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
7. International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
8. International Agreement for the suppression of the “White Slave Traffic”. Paris, 18 May 1904
9. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
10. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic. Paris, 4 May 1910
11. a). Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950
11. b). Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950

CHAPTER VIII. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS

1. Protocol to amend the Convention for the suppression of the circulation of, and traffic in, obscene publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September 1923. Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947
2. Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of, and Traffic in, Obscene Publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September 1923 and amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. New York, 12 November 1947
3. International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of and Traffic in Obscene Publications. Geneva, 12 September 1923

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4. Protocol amending the Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, signed at Paris, on 4 May 1910. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
5. Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. New York, 4 May 1949
6. Agreement for the Repression of Obscene Publications. Paris, 4 May 1910

CHAPTER IX. HEALTH

1. Constitution of the World Health Organization. New York, 22 July 1946
1. a). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 28 May 1959
1. b). Amendment to article 7 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 20 May 1965
1. c). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 23 May 1967
1. d). Amendments to articles 34 and 55 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 22 May 1973
1. e). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 17 May 1976
1. f). Amendment to article 74 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 18 May 1978
1. g). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 12 May 1986
1. h). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 16 May 1998
2. Protocol concerning the Office international d'hygiène publique. New York, 22 July 1946
3. Agreement on the establishment of the International Vaccine Institute. New York, 28 October 1996
4. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Geneva, 21 May 2003

CHAPTER X. INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

1. a). General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Geneva, 30 October 1947
1. b). Havana Charter for an International Trade Organization. Havana, 24 March 1948.
1. c). Agreement on most-favoured-nation treatment for areas of Western Germany under military occupation. Geneva, 14 September 1948
1. d). Memorandum of understanding relative to application to the Western Sectors of Berlin of the Agreement on most-favoured-nation treatment for areas of Western Germany under military occupation. Annecy, 13 August 1949
2. Agreement establishing the African Development Bank. Khartoum, 4 August 1963
2. a). Amendments to the Agreement establishing the African Development Bank. Abidjan, 17 May 1979
2. b). Agreement establishing the African Development Bank done at Khartoum on 4 August 1963, as amended by resolution 05-79 adopted by the Board of Governors on 17 May 1979. Lusaka, 7 May 1982
3. Convention on Transit Trade of Land-locked States. New York, 8 July 1965
4. Agreement establishing the Asian Development Bank. Manila, 4 December 1965
5. Articles of Association for the establishment of an Economic Community of West Africa. Accra, 4 May 1967
6. Agreement establishing the Caribbean Development Bank. Kingston, 18 October 1969
7. Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods. New York, 14 June 1974
7. a). Protocol amending the Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods. Vienna, 11 April 1980
7. b). Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980. New York, 14 June 1974
8. Agreement establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Rome, 13 June 1976
9. Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. Vienna, 8 April 1979
10. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. Vienna, 11 April 1980
11. Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre. Bangkok, 1 April 1982
11. a). Amendments to the Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre. Kuala Lumpur, 16 July 1998
12. United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes. New York, 9 December 1988
13. United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade. Vienna, 17 April 1991
14. Agreement to establish the South Centre. Geneva, 1 September 1994
15. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit. New York, 11 December 1995
16. Agreement Establishing the Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa. Cairo, 28 August 1996
17. United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade. New York, 12 December 2001

18. United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts. New York, 23 November 2005

CHAPTER XI. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. *Customs Matters*

1. Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 16 June 1949
2. Additional Protocol to the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 16 June 1949
3. Additional Protocol to the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road, relating to the International Transport of goods by container under the T.I.R. Carnet Régime. Geneva, 11 March 1950
4. Additional Protocol amending certain provisions of the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 28 November 1952
5. International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material. Geneva, 7 November 1952
6. Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring. New York, 4 June 1954
7. Additional Protocol to the Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring, relating to the Importation of Tourist Publicity Documents and Material. New York, 4 June 1954
8. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles. New York, 4 June 1954
9. Customs Convention on Containers. Geneva, 18 May 1956
10. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles. Geneva, 18 May 1956
11. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation for Private Use of Aircraft and Pleasure Boats. Geneva, 18 May 1956
12. Customs Convention concerning spare parts used for repairing EUROP wagons. Geneva, 15 January 1958
13. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention). Geneva, 15 January 1959
14. European Convention on Customs Treatment of Pallets used in International Transport. Geneva, 9 December 1960
15. Customs Convention on Containers, 1972. Geneva, 2 December 1972
16. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention). Geneva, 14 November 1975
17. International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods. Geneva, 21 October 1982
18. Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport. Geneva, 21 January 1994

B. *Road Traffic*

1. Convention on Road Traffic. Geneva, 19 September 1949
2. Protocol concerning countries or territories at present occupied. Geneva, 19 September 1949
3. Protocol on Road Signs and Signals. Geneva, 19 September 1949
4. European Agreement supplementing the 1949 Convention on road traffic and the 1949 Protocol on road signs and signals. Geneva, 16 September 1950
5. European Agreement on the application of article 3 of annex 7 of the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic Concerning the Dimensions and Weights of Vehicles Permitted to Travel on Certain Roads of the Contracting Parties. Geneva, 16 September 1950
6. European Agreement on the application of article 23 of the 1949 Convention on road traffic, concerning the dimensions and weights of vehicles permitted to travel on certain roads of the Contracting Parties. Geneva, 16 September 1950
7. Declaration on the construction of main international traffic arteries. Geneva, 16 September 1950
8. General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road transport (a) Additional Protocol (b) Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 17 March 1954
8. c). Protocol relating to the adoption of Annex C. 1 to the Set of Rules annexed to the General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road transport. Geneva, 1 July 1954
9. Agreement on Signs for Road Works, amending the European Agreement of 16 September 1950 supplementing the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic and the 1949 Protocol on Road Signs and Signals 1. Geneva, 16 December 1955

10. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles for Private Use in International Traffic. Geneva, 18 May 1956
11. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). Geneva, 19 May 1956
11. a). Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). Geneva, 5 July 1978
12. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles engaged in International Goods Transport. Geneva, 14 December 1956
13. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles Engaged in International Passenger Transport. Geneva, 14 December 1956
14. European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). Geneva, 30 September 1957
14. a). Protocol amending article 14 (3) of the European Agreement of 30 September 1957 concerning the international Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). New York, 21 August 1975
14. b). Protocol amending article 1 (a), article 14 (1) and article 14 (3) (b) of the European Agreement of 30 September 1957 concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). Geneva, 28 October 1993
15. European Agreement on Road Markings. Geneva, 13 December 1957
16. Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of These Prescriptions. Geneva, 20 March 1958
17. Agreement on Special Equipment for the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Use of such Equipment for the International Transport of some of those Foodstuffs. Geneva, 15 January 1962
18. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). Geneva, 19 January 1962
19. Convention on Road Traffic. Vienna, 8 November 1968
20. Convention on road signs and signals. Vienna, 8 November 1968
21. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). Geneva, 1 July 1970
22. Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP). Geneva, 1 September 1970
23. European Agreement supplementing the Convention on road traffic opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 May 1971
24. European Agreement supplementing the Convention on road signs and signals opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 May 1971
25. Protocol on Road Markings, additional to the European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Signs and Signals opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 March 1973
26. Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by road (CVR). Geneva, 1 March 1973
26. A). Protocol to the Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by road (CVR). Geneva, 5 July 1978
27. Agreement on minimum requirements for the issue and validity of driving permits (APC). Geneva, 1 April 1975
28. European Agreement on main international traffic arteries (AGR). Geneva, 15 November 1975
29. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Establishment of an Inter-African Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability Insurance Card. New York, 1 October 1978
30. Convention on Civil Liability for Damage caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD). Geneva, 10 October 1989
31. Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections. Vienna, 13 November 1997
31. 1). Rule No. 1. "Uniform provisions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles with regard to the protection of the environment". Geneva, 14 December 2001
32. Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles. Geneva, 25 June 1998
33. Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq. Beirut, 10 May 2001
34. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network. Bangkok, 18 November 2003

C. Transport by Rail

1. International Convention to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for passengers and baggage carried by rail. Geneva, 10 January 1952

2. International Convention to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for goods carried by rail. Geneva, 10 January 1952
3. European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC). Geneva, 31 May 1985
4. Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq. Beirut, 14 April 2003
5. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network. Jakarta, 12 April 2006
6. Convention on the International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail under Cover of SMGS Consignment Notes. Geneva, 9 February 2006

D. Water Transport

1. Convention relating to the limitation of the liability of owners of inland navigation vessels (CLN). Geneva, 1 March 1973
1. a). Protocol to the Convention relating to the Limitation of the Liability of Owners of Inland Navigation Vessels (CLN). Geneva, 5 July 1978
2. Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by inland waterway (CVN). Geneva, 6 February 1976
2. A). Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Inland Waterway (CVN). Geneva, 5 July 1978
3. United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978. Hamburg, 31 March 1978
4. International Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1993. Geneva, 6 May 1993
5. European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN). Geneva, 19 January 1996
6. European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN). Geneva, 26 May 2000
7. Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq. Damascus, 9 May 2005

E. Multimodal Transport

1. United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods. Geneva, 24 May 1980
2. European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC). Geneva, 1 February 1991
2. a). Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important international Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) of 1991. Geneva, 17 January 1997

CHAPTER XII. NAVIGATION

1. Convention on the International Maritime Organization. Geneva, 6 March 1948
1. a). Amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 15 September 1964
1. b). Amendment to article 28 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 28 September 1965
1. c). Amendments to articles 10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 28, 31 and 32 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 17 October 1974
1. d). Amendments to the title and substantive provisions of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 14 November 1975 and 9 November 1977
1. e). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization relating to the institutionalization of the Committee on Technical Co-operation in the Convention. London, 17 November 1977
1. f). Amendments to articles 17, 18, 20 and 51 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 15 November 1979
1. g). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, (institutionalization of the Facilitation Committee). London, 7 November 1991
1. h). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 4 November 1993
2. Convention regarding the Measurement and Registration of Vessels Employed in Inland Navigation. Bangkok, 22 June 1956
3. Convention relating to the unification of certain rules concerning collisions in inland navigation. Geneva, 15 March 1960
4. Convention on the registration of inland navigation vessels. Geneva, 25 January 1965
5. Convention on the measurement of inland navigation vessels. Geneva, 15 February 1966
6. Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. Geneva, 6 April 1974
7. United Nations Convention on Conditions for Registration of Ships. Geneva, 7 February 1986
8. International Convention on Arrest of Ships, 1999. Geneva, 12 March 1999

CHAPTER XIII. ECONOMIC STATISTICS

1. Protocol amending the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, signed at Geneva on 14 December 1928. Paris, 9 December 1948
2. International Convention relating to economic statistics, signed at Geneva on 14 December 1928, amended by the Protocol signed at Paris on 9 December 1948. Paris, 9 December 1948
3. a). International Convention relating to Economic Statistics. Geneva, 14 December 1928
3. b). Protocol. Geneva, 14 December 1928

CHAPTER XIV. EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL MATTERS

1. Agreement for Facilitating the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character. Lake Success, New York, 15 July 1949
2. Agreement on the importation of educational, scientific and cultural materials. Lake Success, New York, 22 November 1950
3. International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations. Rome, 26 October 1961
4. Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms. Geneva, 29 October 1971
5. Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials of 22 November 1950. Nairobi, 26 November 1976
6. International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace. New York, 5 December 1980
7. Statutes of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Madrid, 13 September 1983
7. a). Protocol of the Reconvened Plenipotentiary Meeting on the Establishment of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Vienna, 4 April 1984
7. b). Amendments to Articles 6 (6) and 7(1) of the Statutes of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Trieste, Italy, 3 December 1996

CHAPTER XV. DECLARATION OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSONS

1. Convention on the declaration of death of missing persons. Lake Success, New York, 6 April 1950
2. Protocol for extending the period of validity of the Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons. New York, 16 January 1957
3. Protocol for the further extension of the period of validity of the Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons. New York, 15 January 1967

CHAPTER XVI. STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Convention on the Political Rights of Women. New York, 31 March 1953
2. Convention on the Nationality of Married Women. New York, 20 February 1957
3. Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages. New York, 10 December 1962

CHAPTER XVII. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

1. Convention on the International Right of Correction. New York, 31 March 1953

CHAPTER XVIII. PENAL MATTERS

1. Protocol amending the Slavery Convention signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926. New York, 7 December 1953
2. Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926 and amended by the Protocol. New York, 7 December 1953
3. Slavery Convention. Geneva, 25 September 1926
4. Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery. Geneva, 7 September 1956
5. International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages. New York, 17 December 1979
6. International Convention Against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries. New York, 4 December 1989

7. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents. New York, 14 December 1973
8. Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel. New York, 9 December 1994
8. a). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel. New York, 8 December 2005
9. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. New York, 15 December 1997
10. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Rome, 17 July 1998
11. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. New York, 9 December 1999
12. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. a). Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. b). Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. c). Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 31 May 2001
13. Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court. New York, 9 September 2002
14. United Nations Convention against Corruption. New York, 31 October 2003
15. International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. New York, 13 April 2005

CHAPTER XIX. COMMODITIES

1. International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956. Geneva, 17 October 1955 and New York, 15 November 1955
2. Protocol amending the International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956. Geneva, 31 March 1958 and 3 April 1958
3. International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956, as amended by the Protocol of 3 April 1958. Geneva, 3 April 1958
4. International Coffee Agreement, 1962. New York, 28 September 1962
5. International Coffee Agreement, 1968. New York, 18 and 31 March 1968
5. a). Extension with modifications of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, approved by the International Coffee Council in resolution No. 264 of 14 April 1973. 14 April 1973
5. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended with modifications by the International Coffee Council in Resolution No. 264 of 14 April 1973. 14 April 1973
5. c). Protocol for the continuation in force of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended. London, 26 September 1974
5. d). International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended by the Protocol of 26 September 1974. 26 September 1975
6. International Sugar Agreement, 1968. New York, 3 and 24 December 1968
7. Agreement establishing the Asian Coconut Community. Bangkok, 12 December 1968
8. Agreement establishing the International Pepper Community. Bangkok, 16 April 1971
9. International Cocoa Agreement, 1972. Geneva, 21 October 1972
10. International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 13 October 1973
10. a). Extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 30 September 1975
10. b). International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 30 September 1975
10. c). Second extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973, as extended. Geneva, 18 June 1976
10. d). International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 18 June 1976
10. e). Third extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973, as further extended. Geneva, 31 August 1977
11. Agreement establishing the Asian Rice Trade Fund. Bangkok, 16 March 1973
12. Protocol for the continuation in force of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended. London, 26 September 1974
13. Fifth International Tin Agreement, 1975. Geneva, 21 June 1975
14. International Cocoa Agreement, 1975. Geneva, 20 October 1975
15. International Coffee Agreement, 1976. London, 3 December 1975
15. a). Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1976. London, 25 September 1981
15. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1976, as extended. London, 25 September 1981
16. Agreement establishing the International Tea Promotion Association. Geneva, 31 March 1977
17. Agreement establishing the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre. Bangkok, 28 April 1977
18. International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Geneva, 7 October 1977

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18. a). Extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Washington, 20 November 1981 and 21 May 1982
18. b). Extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Geneva, 21 May 1982
19. Agreement establishing the International Tropical Timber Bureau. Geneva, 9 November 1977
20. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1979. Geneva, 6 October 1979
21. Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities. Geneva, 27 June 1980
22. International Cocoa Agreement, 1980. Geneva, 19 November 1980
23. Sixth International Tin Agreement. Geneva, 26 June 1981
24. International Agreement on jute and jute products, 1982. Geneva, 1 October 1982
25. International Coffee Agreement, 1983. New York, 16 September 1982
25. a). Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 3 July 1989
25. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 16 September 1982
25. c). Second Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 28 September 1990
25. d). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 16 September 1982
25. e). Third Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 27 September 1991
25. f). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 1 October 1992
25. g). Fourth Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 1 October 1993
25. h). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 1 October 1993
26. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983. Geneva, 18 November 1983
27. International Sugar Agreement, 1984. Geneva, 5 July 1984
28. a). International Wheat Agreement, 1986: (a) Wheat Trade Convention, 1986. London, 14 March 1986
28. b). International Wheat Agreement, 1986: (b) Food Aid Convention, 1986. London, 13 March 1986
29. Terms of Reference of the International Nickel Study Group. Geneva, 2 May 1986
30. International Agreement on olive oil and table olives, 1986. Geneva, 1 July 1986
30. a). Protocol of 1993 extending the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986. Geneva, 10 March 1993
30. b). International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986, as amended and extended, 1993. Geneva, 1 July 1986
31. International Cocoa Agreement, 1986. Geneva, 25 July 1986
32. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987. Geneva, 20 March 1987
33. International Sugar Agreement, 1987. London, 11 September 1987
34. Terms of Reference of the International Tin Study Group. New York, 7 April 1989
35. Terms of Reference of the International Copper Study Group. Geneva, 24 February 1989
36. International Agreement on Jute and Jute Products, 1989. Geneva, 3 November 1989
37. International Sugar Agreement, 1992. Geneva, 20 March 1992
38. International Cocoa Agreement, 1993. Geneva, 16 July 1993
39. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994. Geneva, 26 January 1994
40. International Coffee Agreement, 1994. London, 30 March 1994
40. a). International Coffee Agreement, 1994, as extended until 30 September 2001, with modifications, by Resolution No. 384 adopted by the International Coffee Council in London on 21 July 1999. London, 30 March 1994
41. a). Grains Trade Convention, 1995. London, 7 December 1994
41. b). Food Aid Convention, 1995. London, 5 December 1994
41. c). Food Aid Convention, 1999. London, 13 April 1999
42. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1994. Geneva, 17 February 1995
43. International Coffee Agreement 2001. London, 28 September 2000
44. International Cocoa Agreement, 2001. Geneva, 2 March 2001
45. Agreement establishing the Terms of Reference of the International Jute Study Group, 2001. Geneva, 13 March 2001
46. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006. Geneva, 27 January 2006

CHAPTER XX. MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS

1. Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance. New York, 20 June 1956

CHAPTER XXI. LAW OF THE SEA

1. Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone. Geneva, 29 April 1958
2. Convention on the High Seas. Geneva, 29 April 1958

3. Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas. Geneva, 29 April 1958
4. Convention on the Continental Shelf. Geneva, 29 April 1958
5. Optional Protocol of Signature concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Geneva, 29 April 1958
6. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Montego Bay, 10 December 1982
6. a). Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982. New York, 28 July 1994
7. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. New York, 4 August 1995
8. Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. New York, 23 May 1997
9. Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Seabed Authority. Kingston, 27 March 1998

CHAPTER XXII. COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

1. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. New York, 10 June 1958
2. European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration. Geneva, 21 April 1961

CHAPTER XXIII. LAW OF TREATIES

1. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Vienna, 23 May 1969
2. Vienna Convention on succession of States in respect of treaties. Vienna, 23 August 1978
3. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations. Vienna, 21 March 1986

CHAPTER XXIV. OUTER SPACE

1. Convention on registration of objects launched into outer space. New York, 12 November 1974
2. Agreement governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. New York, 5 December 1979

CHAPTER XXV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1. Convention relating to the distribution of programme-carrying signals transmitted by satellite. Brussels, 21 May 1974
2. Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 27 March 1976
2. a). Amendment to article 11, paragraph 2 (a), of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 13 November 1981
2. b). Amendments to articles 3 (5) and 9 (8) of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific telecommunity. Colombo, 29 November 1991
2. c). Amendments to the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. New Delhi, 23 October 2002
3. Agreement establishing the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development. Kuala Lumpur, 12 August 1977
3. a). Amendments to the Agreement establishing the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development. Islamabad, 21 July 1999
4. Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations. Tampere, 18 June 1998

CHAPTER XXVI. DISARMAMENT

1. Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques. New York, 10 December 1976
2. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III). Geneva, 10 October 1980
2. a). Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons). Vienna, 13 October 1995
2. b). Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of

- Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 3 May 1996
2. c). Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 21 December 2001
 2. d). Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V). Geneva, 28 November 2003
 3. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. Geneva, 3 September 1992
 4. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. New York, 10 September 1996
 5. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their destruction. Oslo, 18 September 1997

CHAPTER XXVII. ENVIRONMENT

1. Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Geneva, 13 November 1979
1. a). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Long-term Financing of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe EMEP). Geneva, 28 September 1984
1. b). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air pollution on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30 per cent. Helsinki, 8 July 1985
1. c). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution concerning the control of emissions of nitrogen oxides or their transboundary fluxes. Sofia, 31 October 1988
1. d). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes. Geneva, 18 November 1991
1. e). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions. Oslo, 14 June 1994
1. f). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Heavy Metals. Aarhus, 24 June 1998
1. g). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Aarhus, 24 June 1998
1. h). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone. Gothenburg (Sweden), 30 November 1999
2. Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Vienna, 22 March 1985
2. a). Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Montreal, 16 September 1987
2. b). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. London, 29 June 1990
2. c). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Copenhagen, 25 November 1992
2. d). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer adopted by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties. Montreal, 17 September 1997
2. e). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Beijing, 3 December 1999
3. Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel, 22 March 1989
3. a). Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Geneva, 22 September 1995
3. b). Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel, 10 December 1999
4. Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Espoo, Finland, 25 February 1991
4. a). Amendment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Sofia, 27 February 2001
4. b). Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Kiev, 21 May 2003
4. c). Amendment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Cavtat, 4 June 2004
5. Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Helsinki, 17 March 1992
5. a). Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. London, 17 June 1999

5. b). Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Geneva, 17 February 2004
6. Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Helsinki, 17 March 1992
7. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. New York, 9 May 1992
7. a). Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Kyoto, 11 December 1997
- b) Amendment to Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Nairobi, 17 November 2006.
8. Convention on Biological Diversity. Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1992
8. a). Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montreal, 29 January 2000
9. Agreement on the conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas. New York, 17 March 1992
10. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. Paris, 14 October 1994
11. Lusaka Agreement on Co-operative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. Lusaka, 8 September 1994
12. Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses. New York, 21 May 1997
13. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998
13. a). Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. Kiev, 21 May 2003
13. b). Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Almaty, 27 May 2005
14. Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade. Rotterdam, 10 September 1998
15. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Stockholm, 22 May 2001
16. Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and to the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Kiev, 21 May 2003

CHAPTER XXVIII. FISCAL MATTERS

1. a). Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties. Madrid, 13 December 1979
1. b). Additional Protocol to the Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties. Madrid, 13 December 1979

CHAPTER XXIX. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Agreement on Succession Issues. Vienna, 29 June 2001

LEAGUE OF NATIONS MULTILATERAL TREATIES

1. International Convention concerning the Use of Broadcasting in the Cause of Peace. Geneva, 23 September 1936
2. Special Protocol concerning Statelessness. The Hague, 12 April 1930
3. Protocol relating to a Certain Case of Statelessness. The Hague, 12 April 1930
4. Convention on Certain Questions relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws. The Hague, 12 April 1930
5. Protocol relating to Military Obligations in Certain Cases of Double Nationality. The Hague, 12 April 1930
6. Protocol on Arbitration Clauses. Geneva, 24 September 1923
7. Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards. Geneva, 26 September 1927
8. Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
9. Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in connection with Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
10. Convention providing a Uniform Law for Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
11. Convention providing a Uniform Law for Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
12. Convention on the Stamp Laws in connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
13. Convention on the Stamp Laws in connection with Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
14. a). International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929

14. b). Protocol to the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929
15. Optional Protocol regarding the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929
16. Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
17. Convention and Statute on the Regime of Navigable Waterways of International Concern. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
18. Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Regime of Navigable Waterways of International Concern. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
19. Declaration recognising the Right to a Flag of States having no Sea-coast. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
20. Convention and Statute on the International Régime of Maritime Ports. Geneva, 9 December 1923
21. Convention on the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles. Geneva, 30 March 1931
22. International Convention relating to the Simplification of Customs Formalities. Geneva, 3 November 1923
23. International Convention for the Campaign against Contagious Diseases of Animals. Geneva, 20 February 1935
24. International Convention concerning the Transit of Animals, Meat and Other Products of Animal Origin. Geneva, 20 February 1935
25. International Convention concerning the Export and Import of Animal Products (other than Meat, Meat Preparations, Fresh Animal Products, Milk and Milk Products). Geneva, 20 February 1935
26. Convention establishing an International Relief Union. Geneva, 12 July 1927
27. Convention on the International Régime of Railways. Geneva, 9 December 1923
28. Convention regarding the Measurement of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation. Paris, 27 November 1925
29. General Act of Arbitration (Pacific Settlement of International Disputes). Geneva, 26 September 1928
30. Convention concerning the Unification of Road Signals. Geneva, 30 March 1931
31. Agreement concerning Maritime Signals. Lisbon, 23 October 1930
32. Convention relating to the Non-Fortification and Neutralisation of the Aaland Islands. Geneva, 20 October 1921
33. Agreement concerning Manned Lightships not on their Stations. Lisbon, 23 October 1930