

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

New York, 21 May 1997

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 17 August 2014, in accordance with article 36(1).

REGISTRATION: 17 August 2014, No. 52106.

STATUS: Signatories: 16. Parties: 40.¹

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2999, p. 77. Doc. A/51/869. C.N.353.2008.TREATIES-1 of 6 May 2008 (Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (Arabic version) and to the Certified True Copies) and C.N.675.2008.TREATIES-2 of 24 September 2008 (corrections).

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>Approval(AA), Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Ratification</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Approval(AA), Acceptance(A), Accession(a), Ratification</i>
Benin.....		5 Jul 2012 a	Namibia	19 May 2000	29 Aug 2001
Burkina Faso.....		22 Mar 2011 a	Netherlands (Kingdom of the).....	9 Mar 2000	9 Jan 2001 A
Chad.....		26 Sep 2012 a	Niger		20 Feb 2013 a
Côte d'Ivoire	25 Sep 1998	25 Feb 2014	Nigeria		27 Sep 2010
Denmark		30 Apr 2012 a	Norway	30 Sep 1998	30 Sep 1998
Finland	31 Oct 1997	23 Jan 1998 A	Paraguay	25 Aug 1998	
France		24 Feb 2011 a	Portugal.....	11 Nov 1997	22 Jun 2005
Gambia.....		17 Jul 2023 a	Qatar		28 Feb 2002 a
Germany	13 Aug 1998	15 Jan 2007	South Africa.....	13 Aug 1997	26 Oct 1998
Ghana.....		22 Jun 2020 a	Spain		24 Sep 2009 a
Greece.....		2 Dec 2010 a	State of Palestine		2 Jan 2015 a
Guinea-Bissau.....		19 May 2010 a	Sweden.....		15 Jun 2000 a
Hungary	20 Jul 1999	26 Jan 2000 AA	Syrian Arab Republic	11 Aug 1997	2 Apr 1998
Iraq.....		9 Jul 2001 a	Tunisia	19 May 2000	22 Apr 2009
Ireland.....		20 Dec 2013 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....		13 Dec 2013 a
Italy.....		30 Nov 2012 a	Uzbekistan		4 Sep 2007 a
Jordan.....	17 Apr 1998	22 Jun 1999	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	22 Sep 1997	
Kazakhstan.....		18 Nov 2024 a	Viet Nam.....		19 May 2014 a
Lebanon		25 May 1999 a	Yemen.....	17 May 2000	
Libya.....		14 Jun 2005 a	Zimbabwe.....		19 Jul 2024 a
Luxembourg.....	14 Oct 1997	8 Jun 2012			
Montenegro.....		24 Sep 2013 a			
Morocco.....		13 Apr 2011 a			

Declarations and Reservations
(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations were made upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.)

DENMARK

Until further notice, the Convention shall not apply to the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

HUNGARY

" The Government of the Republic of Hungary declares itself bound by either of the two means for the settlement of disputes (International Court of Justice, arbitration), reserving its right to agree on the competent body of jurisdiction, as the case may be."

MONTENEGRO

"Montenegro declares that in respect of any dispute not resolved in accordance with Article 33 paragraph 2 of the said Convention, Montenegro recognizes as compulsory ipso facto, and without special agreement in relationship to any party accepting the same obligation:

1. Submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice; and/or

2. Arbitration by an arbitral tribunal established and operating, unless the parties to the dispute otherwise

agreed, in accordance with the procedure laid down in the annex to the present Convention."

NETHERLANDS (KINGDOM OF THE)

"The Kingdom of the Netherlands declares, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Article 33 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, that it accepts both means of dispute settlement referred to in that paragraph as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting one or both means of dispute settlement."

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

The acceptance by the Syrian Arab Republic of this Convention and its ratification by the Government shall not under any circumstances be taken to imply recognition of Israel and shall not lead to its entering into relations therewith that are governed by its provisions.

VIET NAM

"The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam reserves the right to choose the appropriate means of dispute settlement notwithstanding the decision of the other party to the concerned dispute."

Objections

(Unless otherwise indicated, the objections were made upon ratification, acceptance approval or accession.)

ISRAEL

In regard to the reservation made by the Syrian Arab Republic upon ratification:

"In view of the Government of the State of Israel such reservation, which is explicitly of a political nature, is incompatible with the purposes and objectives of this Convention and cannot in any way affect whatever

obligations are binding upon the Syrian Arab Republic under general international treaty law or under particular conventions. The Government of the State of Israel will, in so far as concerns the substance of the matter, adopt towards the Syrian Arab Republic an attitude of complete reciprocity."

Notes:

¹ For the purpose of entry into force of the [Convention/Protocol] , any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession deposited by a regional

economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of that Organization.