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CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD  
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ON 20 NOVEMBER 1989

PROPOSED AMENDMENT BY COSTA RICA

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

On 17 April 1995, the Government of Costa Rica proposed, in accordance with article 50, paragraph 1, of the above Convention, an amendment to article 43, paragraph 2, thereof.

The text of the proposed amendment, in the English and French ..... languages, is transmitted as an annex to this notification.

In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to draw attention to article 50 of the said Convention, which reads as follows:

"1. Any State Party may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to States Parties, with a request that they indicate whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that, within four months from the date of such communication, at least one third of the States Parties favour such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

2. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of the present article shall enter into force when it has been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of States Parties.

3. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted it, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Convention and any earlier amendments which they have accepted."

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned



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Consequently, and pursuant to paragraph 1 of the said article 50, the States Parties are requested to indicate within four months from the date of the present notification, i.e. not later than 22 September 1995, whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposed amendment by Costa Rica.

22 May 1995

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'SR' followed by a horizontal line.

*El Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto*

  
DGPE/SGPM  
215-03-95

San José, March 1, 1995

Mr. Secretary General:

I have to honor to inform Your Excellency, that the Government of Costa Rica has decided to request, once again, a revision of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with the purpose to increase the membership of the Committee of the Rights of the Child.

Therefore, in accordance to Article 50, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the Government of Costa Rica would like to submit an amendment to Article 43, paragraph 2 of the Convention.

"2. The Committee shall consist of eighteen experts of high moral standing and recognized competence in the field covered by this Convention. The members of the Committee shall be elected by States Parties from among their nationals and shall serve in their personal capacity, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution, as well as to the principal legal systems".

My Government would very much appreciate it, if the necessary steps could be taken in order to make it possible to convene a Special Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, so as to consider this amendment and take a decision on it, on or about November, 1995, or whenever feasible.

I would like to add that, in view of the recent outcome and from the experience drawn after the elections which took place during the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties held in New York on February the 21st, 1995 when about thirty candidates took part for election to only five seats available in the Committee, there is a most valid reason to try to increase the membership of this important legal body to deal with the protection and promotion of the rights of the child by the compliance with the Convention.

I avail myself of this opportunity to present to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration and personal esteem.



Fernando Narainjo V.  
Minister of Foreign Relations and Worship  
of Costa Rica

Le Ministre des relations extérieures et du culte  
République du Costa Rica

DGPE/SGPM  
215-03-95

San José, le 1er mars 1995

Monsieur le Secrétaire général,

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement costa-ricien a décidé de demander à nouveau une révision de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant, dans le but d'accroître le nombre des membres du Comité des droits de l'enfant.

Par conséquent, conformément au paragraphe 1 de l'article 50 de la Convention, le Gouvernement costa-ricien souhaiterait présenter un amendement au paragraphe 2 de l'article 43 de la Convention, qui serait ainsi libellé :

"2. Le Comité se compose de 18 experts de haute moralité et possédant une compétence reconnue dans le domaine visé par la présente Convention. Ses membres sont élus par les États parties parmi leurs ressortissants et siègent à titre personnel, compte tenu de la nécessité d'assurer une répartition géographique équitable et eu égard aux principaux systèmes juridiques."

Mon gouvernement se féliciterait que les mesures voulues soient prises pour convoquer, en novembre 1995 ou lorsque cela serait possible, une réunion extraordinaire des États parties à la Convention afin d'examiner cet amendement et d'adopter une décision à ce sujet.

Je souhaiterais ajouter que les élections qui se sont déroulées pendant la cinquième réunion des États parties à New York le 21 février 1995, auxquelles 30 candidats se sont présentés pour cinq sièges vacants au Comité, montrent qu'il est tout à fait justifié d'augmenter le nombre des membres de cet important organe délibérant afin d'assurer la protection et la promotion des droits de l'enfant grâce au respect de la Convention.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire général, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

Le Ministre des relations  
extérieures et du culte

(Signé) Fernando NARANJO V.