

2. INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONVENTION

The Hague, 23 January 1912

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 28 June 1919.
REGISTRATION: 23 January 1922, No. 222.¹
TEXT: League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 8, p. 187.

Note: Observation ²: This Convention, although not concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations, served as a starting-point for the system devised by the League of Nations and has, in a sense, been incorporated in that system.

Schedule containing the signatures of the Convention, the signatures of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the First Opium Conference, provided for in the penultimate paragraph of Article 22 of the Convention, the ratifications of the Convention, and the signatures of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention provided under "B" of the Final Protocol of the Third International Opium Conference.

In accordance with its article 44 (1), the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 of 8 August 1975, as between the parties thereto, terminates and replaces the provisions of the above Convention. See chapter VI.18.

[The ratifications and signatures in accordance with Article 295 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles or in accordance with a similar article of other treaties of peace are marked with an asterisk ().]3,4*

Participant	Signatures of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference	Ratification of the Convention and accessions	Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)
Afghanistan.....			May 5, 1944	
Albania.....		Feb 3, 1925	Feb 3, 1925	Feb 3, 1925
Argentina		Oct 17, 1912	Apr 23, 1946	
Austria			Jul 16, 1920*	Jul 16, 1920*
Belgian Congo and Mandated Territory of Ruanda-Urundi (a).....			Jul 29, 1942	
Belgium ⁵		Jun 18, 1912	Jun 16, 1914	May 14, 1919
Bolivia		Jun 4, 1913	Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Brazil		Oct 16, 1912	Dec 23, 1914	Jan 10, 1920*
Bulgaria		Mar 2, 1914	Aug 9, 1920*	Aug 9, 1920*
Burma ⁶				
Chile.....		Jul 2, 1913	Jan 16, 1923	May 18, 1923
China ⁷	Jan 23, 1912		Feb 9, 1914	Feb 11, 1915
Colombia ⁸		Jan 15, 1913	Jun 26, 1924	Jun 30, 1924
Costa Rica.....		Apr 25, 1912	Aug 1, 1924	Jul 29, 1925
Cuba.....		May 8, 1913	Mar 8, 1920*	Mar 8, 1920*
Czechoslovakia ⁹			Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Denmark ¹⁰		Dec 17, 1912	Jul 10, 1913	Oct 21, 1921
Dominican Republic		Nov 12, 1912	Jun 7, 1923	Apr 14, 1931

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signatures of the Convention</i>	<i>Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference</i>	<i>Ratification of the Convention and accessions</i>	<i>Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)</i>
Ecuador.....		Jul 2, 1912	Feb 25, 1915	Aug 23, 1923
Egypt.....			Jun 5, 1942	
Estonia.....		Jan 9, 1923	Apr 20, 1923	Jan 21, 1931
Finland.....		Apr 24, 1922	May 16, 1922	Dec 1, 1922
France ¹¹	Jan 23, 1912		Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Germany.....	Jan 23, 1912		Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Great Britain ¹²	Jan 23, 1912		Jul 15, 1914	Jan 10, 1920*
Greece.....			Mar 30, 1920*	Mar 30, 1920*
Guatemala.....		Jun 17, 1912	Aug 27, 1913	Jan 10, 1920*
Haiti.....		Aug 21, 1912	Jun 30, 1920*	Jun 30, 1920*
Honduras.....		Jul 5, 1912	Aug 29, 1913	Apr 3, 1915
Hungary.....			Jul 26, 1921*	Jul 26, 1921*
Iran ¹³	Jan 23, 1912			
Italy.....	Jan 23, 1912		Jun 28, 1914	10 janv 1920*
Japan.....	Jan 23, 1912		Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Latvia.....		Feb 6, 1922	Mar 25, 1924	Jan 18, 1932
Liberia.....			Jun 30, 1920*	Jun 30, 1920*
Liechtenstein ¹⁴				
Lithuania.....		Apr 7, 1922		
Luxembourg.....		Jun 18, 1912	Aug 21, 1922	Aug 21, 1922
Mexico.....		May 15, 1912	Apr 2, 1925	May 8, 1925
Monaco.....		May 1, 1923	Feb 20, 1925	May 26, 1925
Netherlands.....	Jan 23, 1912		Jul 28, 1914	Feb 11, 1915
Nicaragua.....		Jul 18, 1913	Nov 10, 1914	Nov 3 1920
Norway.....		Sep 2, 1913	Nov 12, 1914	Sep 20, 1915
Panama.....		Jun 19, 1912	Nov 25, 1920*	Nov 25, 1920*
Paraguay.....		Dec 14, 1912	Mar 17, 1943	
Peru.....		Jul 24, 1913	Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Poland.....			Jan 10, 1920*	Jan 10, 1920*
Portugal.....	Jan 23, 1912		Dec 15, 1913	. Apr. 8, . 1920*
Romania.....		Dec 27, 1913	Sep 14, 1920*	Sep 14, 1920*
Russia.....	Jan 23, 1912			
Salvador.....		Jul 30, 1912	Sep 19, 1922	May 29, 1931
Saudi Arabia.....			Feb 19, 1943	
Spain.....		Oct 23, 1912	Jan 25, 1919	Feb 11, 1921
Sweden ¹⁵		Aug 27, 1913	Apr 17, 1914	Jan 13, 1921
Switzerland ¹⁶		Dec 29, 1913	Jan 15, 1925	Jan 15, 1925
Thailand ¹⁷	Jan 23, 1912		Jul 10, 1913	Jan 10, 1920*
Turkey.....	Sep 15, 1933		Sep 15, 1933	Sep 15, 1933
United States of America.....	Jan 23, 1912		Dec 15, 1913	Feb 11, 1915
Uruguay.....		Mar 9, 1914	Apr 3, 1916	Jan 10, 1920*
Venezuela.....		Sep 10, 1912	Oct 28, 1913	Jul 12, 1927

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signatures of the Convention</i>	<i>Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference</i>	<i>Ratification of the Convention and accessions</i>	<i>Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)</i>
Yugoslavia (former) ¹⁸			Feb 10, 1920*	Feb 10, 1920*

Actions subsequent to the assumption of depositary functions by the Secretary-General of the United Nations

<i>Participant</i> ^{19,20}	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i> ^{19,20}	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Bahamas.....	13 Aug 1975 d	Lesotho	4 Nov 1974 d
Cambodia ¹⁹	3 Oct 1951 d	Malawi.....	22 Jul 1965 d
Cameroon.....	20 Nov 1961 d	Malaysia.....	21 Aug 1958 d
Central African Republic.....	4 Sep 1962 d	Malta.....	3 Jan 1966 d
Congo.....	15 Oct 1962 d	Mauritius.....	18 Jul 1969 d
Côte d'Ivoire	8 Dec 1961 d	Niger	25 Aug 1961 d
Cyprus.....	16 May 1963 d	Nigeria	26 Jun 1961 d
Czech Republic ⁹	30 Dec 1993 d	Papua New Guinea	28 Oct 1980 d
Democratic Republic of the Congo	31 May 1962 d	Philippines	30 Sep 1959 d
Ethiopia.....	28 Dec 1948 a	Senegal.....	2 May 1963 d
Fiji	1 Nov 1971 d	Serbia.....	31 Jul 2002 d
Ghana.....	3 Apr 1958 d	Sierra Leone.....	13 Mar 1962 d
Indonesia.....	29 May 1958 a	Slovakia ⁹	28 May 1993 d
Israel	12 May 1952 a	Sri Lanka.....	4 Dec 1957 d
Jamaica	26 Dec 1963 d	Syrian Arab Republic	20 Jan 1954 d
Jordan.....	12 May 1958 a	Trinidad and Tobago	11 Apr 1966 d
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	7 Oct 1950 d	Zambia.....	9 Apr 1973 d
Lebanon	24 May 1954 d		

Notes:

¹ See League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 8, p. 187.

² The Protocol (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) does not contain any formal amendment in respect of the Convention of 23 January 1912. However, its article III provides as follows:

"The functions conferred upon the Netherlands Government under articles 21 and 25 of the International Opium Convention signed at The Hague on 23 January 1912, and entrusted to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations with the consent of the Netherlands Government, by a resolution of the League of Nations Assembly dated 15 December 1920, shall henceforward be exercised by the Secretary-General of the United Nations."

The Convention of 23 January 1912 (which, consequently, was amended in effect by the Protocol of 11 December 1946) has been included in the present chapter.

³ This Schedule which appeared in the Annexes to the Supplementary Report on the Work of the League is reproduced here for purposes of information.

⁴ The Convention came into force initially on 11 February 1915, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention.

⁵ Subject to adherence or denunciation as regards the Belgian Congo.

⁶ See note 1 under "Myanmar" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁷ See note concerning signatures, ratifications, accessions,

etc., on behalf of China (see note 1 under "China" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume).

⁸ Subject to approval of the Colombian Parliament.

⁹ See note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

¹⁰ The signature of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the Conference as well as its ratification were given by Denmark for Iceland and the Danish Antilles: the signature of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention was given by Denmark and Iceland.

¹¹ With the reservation that a separate and special ratification or denunciation may subsequently be obtained for the French Protectorates. France and Great Britain signed the Convention for the New Hebrides, August 21st, 1924.

¹² Subject to the following declaration:

The articles of the present Convention, if ratified by His Britannic Majesty's Government, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, Hong-Kong, and Wei-Hai-Wei in every respect in the same way as they shall apply to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland: but His Britannic Majesty's Government reserve the right of signing or denouncing separately the said Convention in the name of any Dominion, Colony, Dependency, or Protectorate of His Majesty other than those which have been specified.

In virtue of the above-mentioned reservation, Great Britain signed the Convention for the following Dominions, Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates: on December 17th, 1912, for Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Brunei, Cyprus, the East Africa Protectorate, Falkland Islands, Malay Protectorates, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Jamaica, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan Perlis, Trengganu, Malta, Northern Nigeria, Northern Borneo, Nyasaland, St. Helena, Sarawak, Seychelles, Somaliland, Southern Nigeria, Trinidad, Uganda; on February 27th, 1913, for the Colony of Fiji; on April 22nd, 1913, for the Colony of Sierra Leone, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate and the Solomon Islands Protectorate; on June 25th, 1913, for the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia; on November 14th, 1913, for the Bahama Islands and for the three Colonies of the Windward Islands, that is to say, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent; on January 30th, 1914, for the Leeward Islands; on February 11th, 1914, for British Guiana as well as for British Honduras; on March 28th, 1914, for the Government of the Union of South Africa; on March 28th, 1914, for Zanzibar, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland; on April 4th, 1914, for the Colony of Barbados; on April 8th, 1914, for Mauritius and its dependencies; on July 11th, 1914, for the Bermuda Islands; on August 21st, 1924, for Palestine and together with France for the Newbrides; on October 20th, 1914, for Iraq.

¹³ With the reservation of articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Iran having no treaty with China) and paragraph (a) of article 3.

¹⁴ The Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs, by a letter dated October 14th, 1936, transmitted to the Secretariat, at the

request of the Swiss Legation at The Hague, the following declaration:

"Under the terms of the arrangements concluded between the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Swiss Government in 1929 and 1935, in application of the Customs Union Treaty concluded between these two countries on March 29th, 1923, the Swiss legislation on narcotic drugs, including all the measures taken by the Federal authorities to give effect to the different international Conventions on dangerous drugs, will be applicable to the territory of the Principality in the same way as to the territory of the Confederation, as long as the said Treaty remains in force. The Principality of Liechtenstein will accordingly participate, so long as the said Treaty remains in force, in the international Conventions which have been or may hereafter be concluded in the matter of narcotic drugs, it being neither necessary nor advisable for that country to accede to them separately."

¹⁵ Subject to the following declaration:

"Opium not being manufactured in Sweden, the Swedish Government will for the moment confine themselves to prohibiting the importation of prepared opium, but they declare at the same time that they are ready to take the measures indicated in Article 8 of the Convention if experience proves their expediency."

¹⁶ Subject to ratification and with the declaration that the Swiss Government will be unable to issue the necessary legal enactments within the terms fixed by the Convention.

¹⁷ With the reservation of articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Thailand having no treaty with China).

¹⁸ See also note 1 under "Bosnia and Herzegovina", "Croatia", "former Yugoslavia", "Slovenia", "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and "Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

¹⁹ By joint notifications received from the Governments of France and Viet-Nam on 11 August 1950; from the Governments of France and Laos, on 7 October 1950; and from the Governments of France and Cambodia on 3 October 1951, notice was given of the transfer of functions by the French Government to the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia of the duties and obligations arising from the application of the Convention in these countries. It should be noted that the Republic of Viet-Nam succeeded to the Convention on 11 August 1950. See also note 1 under "Viet Nam" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

²⁰ In a notification received on 21 February 1974, the Government of the German Democratic Republic stated that the German Democratic Republic had declared the reapplication of the Convention as from 16 December 1957.

In this connexion, the Secretary-General received on 16 March 1976 the following communication from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

With reference to the communication by the German Democratic Republic of 7 February 1974 concerning the

application, as from 16 December 1957, of the International Opium Convention of 23 January 1912, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany declares that in the relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic this declaration has no retroactive effect beyond 21 June 1973.

Subsequently, in a communication received on 17 June 1976, the Government of the German Democratic Republic declared:

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic takes the view that in accordance with the applicable rules of international law and the international practice of States the regulations on the reapplication of agreements concluded under international law are an internal affair of the successor State concerned. Accordingly, the German Democratic Republic was entitled to determine the date of reapplication of the International Opium Convention, January 23rd, 1912, to which it established its status as a party by way of succession."

See also note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

