15. SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, 1961

New York, 30 March 1961

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 13 December 1964, in accordance with article 41.
REGISTRATION: 13 December 1964, No. 7515.


<table>
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<tr>
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Declarations and Reservations

(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)

**ALGERIA**

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria does not approve the present wording of article 42 which might prevent the application of the Convention to "non-metropolitan" territories.

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 48, paragraph 2, which prescribe the compulsory referral of any dispute to the International Court of Justice.

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria declares that the agreement of all parties to a dispute shall in every case be necessary for the referral thereof to the International Court of Justice.

**ARGENTINA**

The Argentine Republic does not recognize the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice.

**AUSTRIA**

"The Republic of Austria interprets article 36, paragraph 1, as follows: The obligation of the Party contained therein may also be implemented by administrative regulations providing adequate sanction for the offences enumerated therein."

**BANGLADESH**

"[Subject to the reservations] referred to in article 49 (1) (a), (d) and (e) of the Convention, namely, subject to the right of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to permit temporarily in its territory:

(a) The quasi-medical use of opium,
(b) The use of cannabis, cannabis resin, extracts and tinctures of cannabis for non-medical purposes, and
(e) The production and manufacture of and trade in the drugs referred to under (a) and (d) above for the purposes mentioned therein."
International Court of Justice for decision the agreement of all the parties to the dispute shall be necessary in each case.

The Government of the French Republic declares that it accedes to this Convention while reserving the possibility provided for in article 44, paragraph 2 in fine of continuing in force article 9 of the Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs, signed at Geneva on 26 June 1936.


"(1) To allow addicts in the Shan State to smoke opium for a transitory period of 20 years, with effect from the date of coming into force of this Single Convention;

"(2) To produce and manufacture opium for the above purpose;

"(3) To furnish a list of opium consumers in the Shan State after the Shan State Government has completed the taking of such list on the 31st December, 1963."

"The Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it.

"The Polish People's Republic deems it appropriate to draw the attention to the discriminatory character of article 40, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, on the basis of which certain States have been deprived of the opportunity of becoming Parties to this Convention. The Single Convention deals with the question of interest to all States and is meant to mobilize efforts of all countries in the struggle against the social danger which is the abuse of narcotic drugs. This Convention therefore should be open to all States. In accordance with the principle of sovereign equality of States, no State has the right to deprive any other State of the opportunity to participate in a Convention of such type."

"Subject to the understanding that the Shan State is being allowed to have reservation of the right:

"(1) To allow addicts in the Shan State to smoke opium for a transitory period of 20 years, with effect from the date of coming into force of this Single Convention;

"(2) To produce and manufacture opium for the above purpose;

"(3) To furnish a list of opium consumers in the Shan State after the Shan State Government has completed the taking of such list on the 31st December, 1963."

In view of the equality from the point of view of public law between the Netherlands, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, the term "non-metropolitan" mentioned in article 42 of this Convention no longer has its original meaning so far as Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles are concerned, and will consequently be deemed to mean "non-European".

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic does not consider itself being bound by the provisions of article 12, paragraphs 2 and 3, article 13, paragraph 2, article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2 and article 31, paragraph 1 (b) of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, and concerning States deprived of the opportunity to participate in the above Convention.

"In the opinion of the Government of the Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it."

"In accordance with article 50, paragraph 2, the Government of Papua New Guinea hereby lodges a reservation in relation to article 48, paragraph 2, which provides for reference of a dispute to the International Court of Justice."

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic does not consider itself being bound by the provisions of article 12, paragraphs 2 and 3, article 13, paragraph 2, article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2 and article 31, paragraph 1 (b) of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, and concerning States deprived of the opportunity to participate in the above Convention.

"In the opinion of the Government of the Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it."

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it."

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic declares that it accedes to this Convention while reserving the possibility provided for in article 44, paragraph 2 in fine of continuing in force article 9 of the Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs, signed at Geneva on 26 June 1936.

The Indonesian Government takes of any dispute which cannot be resolved according to the terms of paragraph 1. The Indonesian Government takes the position that for any dispute to be referred to the International Court of Justice for decision the agreement of all the parties to the dispute shall be necessary in each individual case."

"In accordance with article 50, paragraph 2, the Government of Papua New Guinea hereby lodges a reservation in relation to article 48, paragraph 2, which provides for reference of a dispute to the International Court of Justice."

"In accordance with article 50, paragraph 2, the Government of Papua New Guinea hereby lodges a reservation in relation to article 48, paragraph 2, which provides for reference of a dispute to the International Court of Justice."

"In the opinion of the Government of the Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it."

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic declares that it accedes to this Convention while reserving the possibility provided for in article 44, paragraph 2 in fine of continuing in force article 9 of the Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs, signed at Geneva on 26 June 1936.


"(1) To allow addicts in the Shan State to smoke opium for a transitory period of 20 years, with effect from the date of coming into force of this Single Convention;

"(2) To produce and manufacture opium for the above purpose;

"(3) To furnish a list of opium consumers in the Shan State after the Shan State Government has completed the taking of such list on the 31st December, 1963."

The Hungarian People's Republic deems it necessary to state that the provisions in article 40 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs by which certain States are barred from becoming Parties to the Convention are at variance with the principle of sovereign equality of States and are detrimental to the interests attached to the universality of the Convention."

"Since the Government of India do not recognise the Nationalist Chinese authorities as the competent Government of China, they cannot regard signature of the said Convention by a Nationalist Chinese Representative as a valid signature on behalf of China."

"(1) The quasi-medical use of opium,

"(2) Opium smoking,

"(3) The production and manufacture of and trade in the drugs referred to under (a), (b), and

"(d) The use of cannabis, cannabis resin, extracts and tinctures of cannabis for non-medical purposes, and

"(e) The production and manufacture of and trade in the drugs referred to under (1) and (ii) above."

"In accordance with article 50, paragraph 2, the Government of Papua New Guinea hereby lodges a reservation in relation to article 48, paragraph 2, which provides for reference of a dispute to the International Court of Justice."

"The Government of the Polish People's Republic it is inadmissible to impose obligations contained in the mentioned provisions, upon States which in result of other provisions of the same Convention may be deprived of the opportunity to adhere to it."

"The Polish People's Republic deems it appropriate to draw the attention to the discriminatory character of article 40, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, on the basis of which certain States have been deprived of the opportunity of becoming Parties to this Convention. The Single Convention deals with the question of interest to all States and is meant to mobilize efforts of all countries in the struggle against the social danger which is the abuse of narcotic drugs. This Convention therefore should be open to all States. In accordance with the principle of sovereign equality of States, no State has the right to deprive any other State of the opportunity to participate in a Convention of such type."

"Subject to the understanding that the Shan State is being allowed to have reservation of the right:

"(1) To allow addicts in the Shan State to smoke opium for a transitory period of 20 years, with effect from the date of coming into force of this Single Convention;"
participating in a Convention of this type.

have the right to deny to other countries the possibility of
the principle of the sovereign equality of States, no States
should therefore be open to all countries. According to
social evil of the abuse of narcotics. The Convention
interest to all States and has as its objective the enlistment
The Single Convention concerns matters which are of
are not entitled to become Parties to the said Convention.

(b) The Socialist Republic of Romania does not
consider itself bound by the provisions of article 12,
paragraphs 2 and 3; article 13, paragraph 2, article 14,
paragraphs 1 and 2; article 31, paragraph 1 (b), in so far as
those provisions refer to States which are not Parties to
the Single Convention.

(a) The Council of State of the Socialist Republic of
Romania considers that the maintenance of the state of
dependence of certain territories to which the provisions
of article 42 and article 46, paragraph 1, of the
Convention apply is not in accordance with the Charter of
the United Nations and the documents adopted by the
United Nations concerning the granting of independence
to colonial countries and peoples, including the
Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning
Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in
accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,
unanimously adopted by the United Nations General
Assembly in its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 1970, which
solemnly proclaims the obligation of States to promote
realization of the principle of equal rights and self-
determination of peoples in order to bring an end to
colonialism without delay.

(b) The Council of State of the Socialist Republic of
Romania considers that the provisions of article 40 of the
Convention are not in accordance with the principle that
international multilateral treaties, the aims and objectives
of which concern the international community as a whole,
should be open to participation by all States.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics will not consider itself bound by the provisions
of article 12, paragraphs 2 and 3; article 13, paragraph 2,
article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2 and article 31, paragraph 1
(b) of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as applied
to States not entitled to become Parties to the Single
Convention on the basis of the procedure provided for in
article 40 of that Convention.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics deems it
essential to draw attention to the discriminatory character
of article 40, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on
Narcotic Drugs, under the terms of which certain States
are not entitled to become Parties to the said Convention.
The Single Convention concerns matters which are of
interest to all States and has as its objective the enlistment
of the efforts of all countries in the struggle against the
social evil of the abuse of narcotics. The Convention
should therefore be open to all countries. According to
the principle of the sovereign equality of States, no States
have the right to deny to other countries the possibility of
participating in a Convention of this type.

SAUDI ARABIA24

"The accession of the Government of Saudi Arabia to
the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs shall not be
construed as implying recognition of the so-called State of
Israel nor does the accession, in any way, imply the
intention of the Government of Saudi Arabia to enter into
any intercourse whatsoever with the latter in matters
bearing on this Convention."

SLOVAKIA7

SOUTH AFRICA

"Subject to a reservation in respect of article 48 of the
Convention, as provided for in article 50, paragraph 2."

SRI LANKA

The Government of Ceylon notified the Secretary-
General that in respect of article 17 of the Convention,
"the existing administration will be maintained for the
purpose of applying the provisions of the Convention
without setting up a ‘special administration’ for the
purpose."
The Government added that this was to be considered
a statement and not a reservation.

SWITZERLAND

Switzerland maintains in force article 9 of the
Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in
Dangerous Drugs, signed at Geneva on 26 June 1956.

UKRAINE

The Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist
Republic will not consider itself bound by the provisions
of article 12, paragraphs 2 and 3; article 13, paragraph 2;
article 14, paragraphs 1 and 2; and article 31, paragraph 1
(b) of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as applied
to States not entitled to become Parties to the Single
Convention on the basis of the procedure provided for in
article 40 of that Convention.

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic deems it
essential to draw attention to the discriminatory character
of article 40, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on
Narcotic Drugs, under the terms of which certain States
are not entitled to become Parties to the said Convention.
The Single Convention concerns matters which are of
interest to all States and has as its objective the enlistment
of the efforts of all countries in the struggle against the
social evil of the abuse of narcotics. The Convention
should therefore be open to all countries. According to
the principle of the sovereign equality of States, no States
have the right to deny to other countries the possibility of
participating in a Convention of this type.

Territorial Application

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<td>Australia</td>
<td>1 Dec 1967</td>
<td>All non-metropolitan territories for the international relations of which Australia is responsible, namely, the territories of Papua, Norfolk Island, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Heard and MacDonald Islands, Ashmore and Cartier Islands, the Australian Antarctic Territory and the Trust Territories of New Guinea and Nauru</td>
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<td>19 Feb 1969</td>
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<td>13 Dec 1964</td>
<td>Sikkim</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>16 Jul 1965</td>
<td>For the Kingdom in Europe, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>26 Mar 1963</td>
<td>Cook Islands (including Niue) and the Tokelau Islands, being non-metropolitan territories for the international relations of which the Government of New Zealand is responsible</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</td>
<td>26 Jan 1965</td>
<td>Antigua, Bahamas, Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, British Solomon Islands, British Virgin Islands, Brunei, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Grenada, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Montserrat, Seychelles, Southern Rhodesia, St. Christopher and Nevis, St. Helena, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Swaziland, Tonga and Turks and Caicos Islands</td>
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<td>United States of America</td>
<td>25 May 1967</td>
<td>Colony of Aden and Protectorate of South Arabia</td>
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<td>Channel Islands and Isle of Man</td>
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<td>24 Jun 1977</td>
<td>All areas for the international relations of which the United States is responsible</td>
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Notes:
2. Signed and ratified on behalf of the Republic of China on 30 March 1961 and 12 May 1969 respectively. See note concerning signatures, ratifications, accessions, etc. on behalf of China (note 1 under “China” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume). See also the declaration made by the Government of India upon ratification.
3. On 27 April 1999, the Government of Portugal informed the Secretary-General that the Convention would apply to Macao.

Subsequently, on 19 October and 21 October 1999, the Secretary-General received communications regarding the status of Macao from China and Portugal (see also note 3 under “China” and note 1 under “Portugal” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume). Upon resuming the exercise of sovereignty over Macao, China notified the Secretary-General that the Convention will also apply to the Macao Special Administrative Region.

In addition, the communication by the Government of the People's Republic of China contained the following reservation:

The Government of the People's Republic of China has reservation to paragraph 2 of Article 48 of the Convention.

Within the above ambit, the Government of the People's Republic of China will assume the responsibility for the international rights and obligations that place on a Party to the Convention.

4. See note 2 under “United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland” regarding Hong Kong in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.
5. The Republic of Viet-Nam had acceded to the Convention on 14 September 1970. In this regard, see also note 1 under “Viet Nam” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

In a communication received by the Secretary-General on 23 November 1970, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania had stated that the Albanian Government considered the above-mentioned accession to be without any legal validity, since the only representative of the people of South Viet-Nam qualified to speak on its behalf and to enter into international commitments were the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam.

A similar communication was received by the Secretary-General on 11 January 1971 from the Permanent Representative of the Mongolian People's Republic to the United Nations.

6. The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Convention on 30 March 1961 and 27 August 1963, respectively. 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.

7. Czechoslovakia had signed and ratified the Convention on 31 July 1961 and 20 March 1964, respectively, with reservations. For the text of the reservations, see United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, pp. 361 and 412. See also note 1 under “Czech Republic” and note 1 under “Slovakia” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

The Secretary-General had also received on 15 March 1976 a communication from the Government of the German Democratic Republic stating in part as follows:

In acceding to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 30 March 1961, the German Democratic Republic started solely from the provisions on accession to this Convention as set forth in its article 40. There was no intention of acceding to the Convention as amended by the Protocol of 25 March 1972.

Later, upon its accession to the 1972 Protocol, the Government of the German Democratic Republic declared that the said communication was to be considered as withdrawn.

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

By a communication received by the Secretary-General on 11 March 1980, the Government of Liechtenstein confirmed that it was not its intention to become a Party to the Convention as modified by the Protocol of 23 March 1972.

For the Kingdom in Europe, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles. See also notes 1 and 2 under “Netherlands” regarding Aruba/Netherlands Antilles in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

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

For the Kingdom in Europe, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles. See also notes 1 and 2 under “Netherlands” regarding Aruba/Netherlands Antilles in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

On 12 April 1994, the Secretary-General received from the Government of Greece the following communication:


For the text of that reservation, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, p. 353.)


In a notification received on 6 May 1994, the Government of Bulgaria notified the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservations made by Bulgaria upon ratification with respect to article 48 (2). For the text of the reservations, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 649, p. 362.

In a notification received on 18 January 1980, the Government of Egypt informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the declaration relating to Israel. For the text of the said declaration, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 568 p. 364. The notification indicates 25 January 1980 as the effective date of the withdrawal.

A communication was received by the Secretary-General on 21 September 1966 from the Government of Israel with reference to the above-mentioned declaration. For the text of the communication see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 573, p. 347.

In a communication received on 8 December 1989, the Government of Hungary notified the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservation in respect of article 48 (2) of the Convention made upon ratification. For the text of the reservation, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, p. 364.

In its instrument of ratification the Government of Indonesia withdraws the declarations made upon signature regarding its intention to make reservations with respect to article 40 (1) and article 42 of the said Convention. For the text of these declarations, corresponding to paragraphs 1 and 2, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, p. 368.

Inasmuch as the reservation in question was not formulated by Australia at the time the Convention was originally extended to Papua and New Guinea, it will become effective on the date when it would have done so, pursuant to article 41 (2) and 50 (2) of the Convention, had it been formulated on accession, that is to say the thirtieth day after the deposit of the notification of succession by the Government of Papua New Guinea, i.e., on 27 November 1980.

In a communication received on 19 September 2007, the Government of Romania notified the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservation in respect of article 48 (2) of the Convention made upon accession. For the text of the reservation, see United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 908, p. 91.

In a communication received by the Secretary-General on 23 May 1972 the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations made the following declaration:

"The Government of Israel has noted the political character of the reservation made by the Government of Saudi Arabia on that occasion. In the view of the Government of Israel, this Convention is not the proper place for making such political pronouncements. Moreover, the said pronouncement by the Government of Saudi Arabia cannot in any way affect whatever
obligations are binding upon Saudi Arabia, under general international law or under particular treaties. The Government of Israel will, in so far as concerns the substance of the matter, adopt towards the Government of Saudi Arabia an attitude of complete reciprocity."

25 On 3 October 1983, the Secretary-General received from the Government of Argentina the following objection:

[The Government of Argentina makes a] formal objection to the declaration of territorial extension issued by the United Kingdom with regard to the Malvinas Islands (and dependencies), which that country is illegally occupying and refers to as the "Falkland Islands".

The Argentine Republic rejects and considers null and void the [said declaration] of territorial extension.

With reference to the above-mentioned objection the Secretary-General received, on 28 February 1985, from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the following declaration:

"The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have no doubt as to their right, by notification to the Depositary under the relevant provisions of the above-mentioned Convention, to extend the application of the Convention in question to the Falkland Islands or to the Falkland Islands Dependencies, as the case may be.

For this reason alone, the Government of the United Kingdom are unable to regard the Argentine [communication] under reference as having any legal effect."