

**CHAPTER XXI**  
**LAW OF THE SEA**

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**1. CONVENTION ON THE TERRITORIAL SEA AND THE CONTIGUOUS ZONE**

*Geneva, 29 April 1958*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 10 September 1964, in accordance with article 29.  
**REGISTRATION:** 22 November 1964, No. 7477.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 41. Parties: 52.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 516, p. 205.

*Note:* The four Conventions and the Optional Protocol of Signature listed in this chapter were prepared and opened for signature by the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The Conference was convened pursuant to resolution [1105 \(XI\)](#)<sup>1</sup>, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 21 February 1957, and met at the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva from 24 February to 27 April 1958. The Conference also adopted the Final Act and nine resolutions for the text of which, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 450, p. 11. For the *travaux préparatoires* and the proceedings of the Conference, see *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vols. I to VII, United Nations publication, Sales No.: 58.V.4, vols. I to VII.

<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,3</sup>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,3</sup>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....	30 Oct 1958		Guatemala.....	29 Apr 1958	
Argentina .....	29 Apr 1958		Haiti .....	29 Apr 1958	29 Mar 1960
Australia.....	30 Oct 1958	14 May 1963	Holy See .....	30 Apr 1958	
Austria .....	27 Oct 1958		Hungary .....	31 Oct 1958	6 Dec 1961
Belarus .....	30 Oct 1958	27 Feb 1961	Iceland .....	29 Apr 1958	
Belgium .....		6 Jan 1972 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	28 May 1958	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of).....	17 Oct 1958		Ireland.....	2 Oct 1958	
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>4</sup> .....		1 Sep 1993 d	Israel .....	29 Apr 1958	6 Sep 1961
Bulgaria .....	31 Oct 1958	31 Aug 1962	Italy.....		17 Dec 1964 a
Cambodia.....		18 Mar 1960 a	Jamaica .....		8 Oct 1965 d
Canada .....	29 Apr 1958		Japan .....		10 Jun 1968 a
Colombia .....	29 Apr 1958		Kenya.....		20 Jun 1969 a
Costa Rica.....	29 Apr 1958		Latvia.....		17 Nov 1992 a
Croatia <sup>4</sup> .....		3 Aug 1992 d	Lesotho .....		23 Oct 1973 d
Cuba.....	29 Apr 1958		Liberia.....	27 May 1958	
Czech Republic <sup>5</sup> .....		22 Feb 1993 d	Lithuania.....		31 Jan 1992 a
Denmark .....	29 Apr 1958	26 Sep 1968	Madagascar.....		31 Jul 1962 a
Dominican Republic .....	29 Apr 1958	11 Aug 1964	Malawi .....		3 Nov 1965 a
Eswatini .....		16 Oct 1970 a	Malaysia.....		21 Dec 1960 a
Fiji .....		25 Mar 1971 d	Malta.....		19 May 1966 d
Finland.....	27 Oct 1958	16 Feb 1965	Mauritius.....		5 Oct 1970 d
Ghana.....	29 Apr 1958		Mexico .....		2 Aug 1966 a

<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,3</sup>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,3</sup>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Montenegro <sup>6</sup> .....		23 Oct 2006 d	South Africa.....		9 Apr 1963 a
Nepal.....	29 Apr 1958		Spain .....		25 Feb 1971 a
Netherlands (Kingdom of the) <sup>7</sup> .....	31 Oct 1958	18 Feb 1966	Sri Lanka.....	30 Oct 1958	
New Zealand.....	29 Oct 1958		Switzerland .....	22 Oct 1958	18 May 1966
Nigeria .....		26 Jun 1961 d	Thailand .....	29 Apr 1958	2 Jul 1968
Pakistan.....	31 Oct 1958		Tonga.....		29 Jun 1971 d
Panama.....	2 May 1958		Trinidad and Tobago .....		11 Apr 1966 d
Portugal.....	28 Oct 1958	8 Jan 1963	Tunisia .....	30 Oct 1958	
Romania.....	31 Oct 1958	12 Dec 1961	Uganda.....		14 Sep 1964 a
Russian Federation .....	30 Oct 1958	22 Nov 1960	Ukraine .....	30 Oct 1958	12 Jan 1961
Senegal <sup>8</sup> .....		25 Apr 1961 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	9 Sep 1958	14 Mar 1960
Serbia <sup>4</sup> .....		12 Mar 2001 d	United States of America.....	15 Sep 1958	12 Apr 1961
Sierra Leone.....		13 Mar 1962 d	Uruguay .....	29 Apr 1958	
Slovakia <sup>5</sup> .....		28 May 1993 d	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	30 Oct 1958	15 Aug 1961
Slovenia <sup>4</sup> .....		6 Jul 1992 d			
Solomon Islands .....		3 Sep 1981 d			

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

**BELARUS**

*Article 20* : The Government of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic considers that government ships in foreign territorial waters have immunity and that the measures mentioned in this article may therefore be applied to them only with the consent of the flag State.

*Article 23 (Sub-section D. Rules applicable to warships)* : The Government of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic considers that the coastal State has the right to establish procedures for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters.

**BULGARIA**

*Article 20* : The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria considers that government ships in foreign waters have immunity and that the measures set forth in this article may therefore apply to such ships only with the consent of the flag state.

*Article 23 (Sub-section D. Rules applicable to warships)* : The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria considers that the coastal State has the right to establish procedures for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters.

*Article 20* : The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria considers that government ships in the territorial sea of another State have immunity and that the measures set forth in this article may therefore apply to such ships only with the consent of the flag State.

*Article 23 (Sub-section D. Rules applicable to warships)* : The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria considers that the coastal State has the right to establish procedures for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial sea.

**COLOMBIA**

With respect to the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, the delegation of Colombia declares that, under article 98 of the Colombian Constitution, authorization by the Senate is required for the passage of foreign troops through Colombian territory and that, by analogy, such authorization is accordingly also required for the passage of foreign warships through Colombian territorial waters.

**CZECH REPUBLIC<sup>5</sup>**

**HUNGARY**

*Articles 14 and 23* : "The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is of the opinion that the coastal State is entitled to make the passage of warships through its territorial waters subject to previous authorization."

*Article 21* : "The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is of the opinion that the rules contained in Sub-Section B of Section III of Part I of the Convention are generally inapplicable to government ships operated for commercial purposes so far as they encroach on the immunities enjoyed under international law by all government ships, whether commercial or non-commercial, on foreign territorial waters. Consequently, the provisions of Sub-Section B restricting the immunities of government ships operated for commercial purposes are applicable only upon consent of the State whose flag the ship flies."

## IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

*Article 14* : The Iranian Government maintains the objection on the ground of excess of competence, expressed by its delegation at the twelfth plenary meeting of the Conference on the Law of the Sea on 24 April 1958, to the articles recommended by the Fifth Committee of the Conference and incorporated in part in article 14 of this Convention. The Iranian Government accordingly reserves all rights regarding the contents of this article in so far as it relates to countries having no sea coast.

## ITALY

The Government of the Republic of Italy, beside exercising control for the purposes of article 24, paragraph 1 in the zone of the high seas contiguous to the territorial sea, reserves the right to exercise surveillance within the belt of sea extending twelve nautical miles from the coast for the purpose of preventing and punishing infringements of the customs regulations in whatever point of this belt such infringements may be committed.

## LITHUANIA

"... The Republic of Lithuania declares the establishing of the procedure for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters for the warships of those States which have established the procedure for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters."

## MEXICO

The Government of Mexico considers that government ships, irrespective of the use to which they are put, enjoy immunity, and it therefore enters an express reservation with regard to article 21 of Sub-Section C (Rules applicable to government ships other than warships) in so far as it applies to article 19, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, and article 20, paragraphs 2 and 3, of Sub-Section B (Rules applicable to merchant ships).

## ROMANIA

*Article 20* : The Government of the Romanian People's Republic considers that government ships have immunity in foreign territorial waters and that the measures envisaged in this article may not be applied to such ships except with the consent of the flag State.

*Article 23* : The Government of the Romanian People's Republic considers that the coastal State has the right to provide that the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters shall be subject to previous approval.

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

*Article 20* : The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considers that government ships in foreign territorial waters have immunity and that the measures mentioned in this article may therefore be applied to them only with the consent of the flag State.

*Article 23 (Sub-Section D. Rule applicable to warships)* : The Government of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics considers that the coastal State has the right to establish procedures for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters.

## SLOVAKIA<sup>5</sup>

### SOLOMON ISLANDS

"The succession of Solomon Islands to the said Treaty shall be without prejudice to the right of Solomon Islands

(1) to employ straight base lines drawn between its islands as the basis for the delimitation of its territorial sea and contiguous zone, and

(2) to designate all waters enclosed by the said straight base lines as internal or archipelagic water."

## SPAIN

Spain's accession is not to be interpreted as recognition of any rights or situations in connexion with the waters of Gibraltar other than those referred to in article 10 of the Treaty of Utrecht, of 13 July 1713, between the Crowns of Spain and Great Britain.

## TUNISIA

The Government of the Tunisian Republic does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 16, paragraph 4 of this Convention.

## UKRAINE

*Article 20* : The Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic considers that government ships in foreign territorial waters have immunity and that the measures mentioned in this article may therefore be applied to them only with the consent of the flag State.

*Article 23 (Sub-Section D. Rule applicable to warships)* : The Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic considers that the coastal State has the right to establish procedures for the authorization of the passage of foreign warships through its territorial waters.

## UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN

### IRELAND

"Save as may be stated in any further and separate notices that may hereafter be given, ratification of this Convention on behalf of the United Kingdom does not extend to the States in the Persian Gulf enjoying British protection. Multilateral conventions to which the United Kingdom becomes a party are not extended to these States until such times as an extension is requested by the Ruler of the State concerned."

## VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)

With reference to article 12 that there are special circumstances to be taken into consideration in the following areas: The Gulf of Paria and zones adjacent thereto; the area between the coast of Venezuela and the island of Aruba; and the Gulf of Venezuela.

With express reservation in respect of article 12 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 24 of the said Convention.

## *Objections*

*(Unless otherwise indicated, the objections were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)*

## AUSTRALIA

"(a) The declaration made with reference to article 12 by Venezuela on signature and the reservation made to that article by Venezuela on ratification.

"(b) The reservation made to article 14 by Iran on signature.

"(c) The reservations made to articles 14 and 23 by Czechoslovakia and Hungary on signature and confirmed on ratification.

"(d) The reservation made to paragraph 4 of article 16 by Tunisia on signature.

"(e) The reservation made with regard to the application of articles 19 and 20 to government ships operated for commercial purposes by Czechoslovakia on signature and confirmed on ratification.

"(f) The reservations made to article 20 by Bulgaria on signature and on ratification.

"(g) The reservations made to article 20 by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on signature and confirmed on ratification.

"(h) The reservation made to article 21 by Hungary on signature and confirmed on ratification.

"(i) The reservations made to article 23 by Bulgaria on signature and on ratification.

"(j) The reservations made to article 23 by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on signature and confirmed on ratification.

"(k) The reservation made to paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 24 by Venezuela on ratification.

If the statements referred to above with regard to article 23 are juridically in the nature of declarations rather than of reservations strictly so-called, the objections recorded by [the Government of Australia] will serve to record disagreement with the opinions so declared."

"The Government of Australia places on record the formal objection to the reservation made by the Government of Mexico."

"Objection to the reservation by the German Democratic Republic concerning article 20 of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, 1958, and contained in the instrument of accession of the German Democratic Republic to the said Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone."

## DENMARK

"The Government of Denmark declares that it does not find acceptable:

"The reservations made by the Governments of Czechoslovakia and Hungary to article 14;

"The reservations made by the Government of Tunisia to article 16, paragraph 4;

"The reservations made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to article 19;

"The reservations made by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to article 20 and the reservations made by the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Mexico to article 21.

"The above-mentioned objections shall not affect the coming into force of the Convention, according to article 29, as between Denmark and the Contracting Parties concerned."

"The Government of Denmark does not find acceptable the reservations made by the German Democratic Republic on December 27, 1973 to article 20 of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.

"The Government of Denmark also finds unacceptable the reservation made by the German Democratic Republic on the same date to article 9 of the Convention on the High Seas.

"The above-mentioned objections shall not affect the coming into force of the Conventions as between Denmark and the German Democratic Republic."

## FIJI

"The Government of Fiji maintains all other objections communicated to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom Government to the reservations or declarations made by certain States with respect to this Convention, reserving only its position on that Government's observation bearing on the application of the Optional Protocol of Signature pending final disposition of the question of the succession by the Government of Fiji to the said Protocol."

## ISRAEL

"Objection to all reservations and declarations made in connection with the signing or ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone and the Convention on the High Seas which are incompatible with the purposes and objects of these Conventions. This objection applies in particular to the declaration or reservation made by Tunisia to article 16, paragraph 4, of the first of the above-mentioned Conventions on the occasion of signature."

## JAPAN

"1. The Government of Japan wishes to state that it does not consider acceptable any unilateral statement in whatever form, made by a State upon signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, which is intended to exclude or modify for such State legal effects of the provisions of the Convention.

"2. In particular, the Government of Japan finds unacceptable the following reservations:

"(a) The reservations made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to article 19, by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to article 20, and by the Government of Hungary to article 21.

"(b) The reservation made by the Government of Tunisia to article 16, paragraph 4.

"The reservation made by the Government of Italy to article 24 in its instrument of accession.

"The reservation made by the Government of Mexico to article 21 in its instrument of accession."

## MADAGASCAR

The Malagasy Republic formally expresses its objection to all reservations and statements made in connexion with signature or ratification of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone or in connexion with accession to the said Convention which are inconsistent with the aims and purposes of this Convention.

This objection applies in particular to the statements or reservations made with regard to the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone by Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Tunisia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

#### NETHERLANDS (KINGDOM OF THE)

"The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands declare that they do not find acceptable

-- "the reservations made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to article 19, by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to article 20, and by the Governments of Hungary and Czechoslovakia to article 21;

-- "the reservations made by the Iranian Government to article 14;

-- "the declaration by the Government of Colombia as far as it amounts to a reservation on article 14;

-- "the reservation made by the Government of the Tunisian Republic to article 16, paragraph 4;

-- "the declarations made by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on article 23, and the declarations made by the Governments of Czechoslovakia and Hungary on the articles 14 and 23 as far as these declarations amount to a reservation to the said articles;

-- "the reservation made by the Government of the Republic of Italy to article 24, paragraph 1.

"The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands reserve all rights regarding the reservations made by the Government of Venezuela on ratifying the present Convention in respect of article 12 and article 24, paragraphs 2 and 3."

"The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands do not find acceptable the reservation made by the Government of Mexico."

#### PORTUGAL

"The Government of Portugal cannot accept the reservation proposed by the Mexican Government requiring the exemption of government ships from the dispositions laid down in the Convention, irrespective of the use to which these ships are put."

#### THAILAND

"1. the reservations to article 20 made by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR;

"2. the reservations to article 21 made by the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Mexico and Hungary;

"3. the reservations to article 23 made by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR."

#### TONGA

"The Government of Tonga affirms that in the absence of any other statement expressing a contrary intention, it wishes to maintain all objections communicated to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom to the reservations or declarations made by States with respect

to any conventions of which the Secretary-General is the depositary."

#### UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

"Her Majesty's Government desire to place on record their formal objections to the following reservations and declarations:

"(a) The reservations made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to article 19, by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR, and the USSR to article 20, and by Hungary to article 21.

"(b) The reservation made by the Government of Iran to article 14.

"(c) The reservation made by the Government of the Tunisian Republic to article 16, paragraph 4."

"The reservations made by the Government of Venezuela to article 12 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 24."

"The reservation to article 21 of Sub-section C contained in the Mexican instrument of accession."

"Her Majesty's Government desire to place on record their formal objection to the reservations by the German Democratic Republic concerning article 20 of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone". (*In this connexion, the Government of the United Kingdom indicated that they had not received the circular letter reproducing the text of the reservations made by the Government of the German Democratic Republic until early in August 1974.*)

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA<sup>9</sup>

"The United States does not find the following reservations acceptable:

"1. The reservations made by the Government of Czechoslovakia to article 19, by the Governments of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to article 20, and by Hungary to article 21.

"2. The reservations made by the Government of the Tunisian Republic to article 16, paragraph 4.

"3. The reservation made by the Government of Venezuela to article 12 and to article 24, paragraphs 2 and 3."

"Objection to the reservation made by the Government of Italy in its instrument of accession."

"Objection to the reservation made by the Government of Mexico in its instrument of accession."

"The Government of the United States does not find acceptable the reservations made by the German Democratic Republic to article 20 of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone and to article 9 of the Convention on the High Seas. The Government of the United States, however, considers those Conventions as continuing in force between it and the German Democratic Republic except that provisions to which the above-mentioned reservations are addressed shall apply only to the extent that they are not affected by those reservations."

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/3572), p. 54.*

<sup>2</sup> The German Democratic Republic had acceded to the Convention on 27 December 1973 with a reservation and a

declaration. For the text of the reservation and the declaration, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 905, p. 84. See also note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>3</sup> Signed on behalf of the Republic of China on 29 April 1958. 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).

<sup>4</sup> The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Convention on 29 April 1958 and 28 January 1966, 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.

<sup>5</sup> Czechoslovakia had signed and ratified the Convention on 30 October 1958 and 31 August 1961, respectively, with reservations. For the text of the reservations, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 516, p. 256. See note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>6</sup> See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>7</sup> In respect of the Kingdom in Europe, Surinam and the Netherland Antilles. See also note 1 under "Netherlands Antilles" and "Suriname" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>8</sup> The Secretary-General received, on 9 June 1971, a communication from the Government of Senegal denouncing this Convention as well as the Convention on the Living Resources of the High Seas, and specifying that the denunciation would take effect on the thirtieth day from its receipt. The said communication, as well as the related exchange of correspondence between the Secretariat and the Government of Senegal, was circulated by the Secretary-General to all States entitled to become parties to the Conventions concerned under their respective clauses.

The notification of denunciation was registered by the Government of Senegal as at 9 June 1971, under Nos. 7477 and 8164. See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 781, p. 332.

In this connection, a communication from the Government of the United Kingdom was received by the Secretary-General on 2 January 1973, stating *inter alia* :

"... As regards the notification by the Government of Senegal purporting to denounce the two Conventions of 1958, the Government of the United Kingdom wish to place on record that in their view those Conventions are not susceptible to unilateral denunciation by a State which is a party to them and they therefore cannot accept the validity or effectiveness of the purported denunciation by the Government of Senegal. Accordingly, the Government of the United Kingdom regard the Government of Senegal as still bound by the obligations which they assumed when they became a party to those Conventions and the Government of the United Kingdom fully reserve all their rights under them as well as their rights and the rights of their nationals in respect of any action which the Government of

Senegal have taken or may take as a consequence of the said purported denunciation.

"As regards the various arguments that are set out in the correspondence referred to above with reference to certain other questions relating to the law of treaties, including in particular the question of the functions of the Secretary-General as a depositary of the Conventions of 1958 and the question of the duties of the Secretariat in relation to the registration of treaties and in relation to acts, notifications and communications, relating to treaties, the Government of the United Kingdom do not consider it necessary at this stage to express any view on those matters but they fully reserve their position in relation thereto and expressly reserve their right formally to make their views known at a later date.

"The Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations requests that copies of this Note should be transmitted by the Secretariat to all States concerned, that is to say, all States Members of the United Nations or Members of any of the Specialised Agencies, and, since the notification by the Government of Senegal was registered by Senegal, further requests that the statement of the position of the Government of the United Kingdom in relation to that notification, as set out in the second paragraph of the present Note, should similarly be registered."

The said communication was registered in the name of the Government of the United Kingdom on 2 January 1973 under Nos. 7477 and 8164. See United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 854, pp. 214 and 220.

<sup>9</sup> On 27 October 1967, the Government of the United States of America transmitted to the Secretary-General the following communication with reference to its previous communications regarding ratifications and accessions to the Law of the Sea Conventions with reservations which were unacceptable to the United States of America:

"The Government of the United States of America has received an inquiry regarding the applicability of several of the Geneva Law of the Sea Conventions of 1958 between the United States and States which ratified or acceded to those Conventions with reservations which the United States found to be unacceptable. The Government of the United States wishes to state that it has considered and will continue to consider all the Geneva Law of the Sea Conventions of 1958 as being in force between it and all other States that have ratified or acceded thereto, including States that have ratified or acceded with reservations unacceptable to the United States. With respect to States which ratified or acceded with reservations unacceptable to the United States, the Conventions are considered by the United States to be in force between it and each of those States except that provisions to which such reservations are addressed shall apply only to the extent that they are not affected by those reservations. The United States considers that such application of the Convention does not in any manner constitute any concurrence by the United States in the substance of any of the reservations involved."