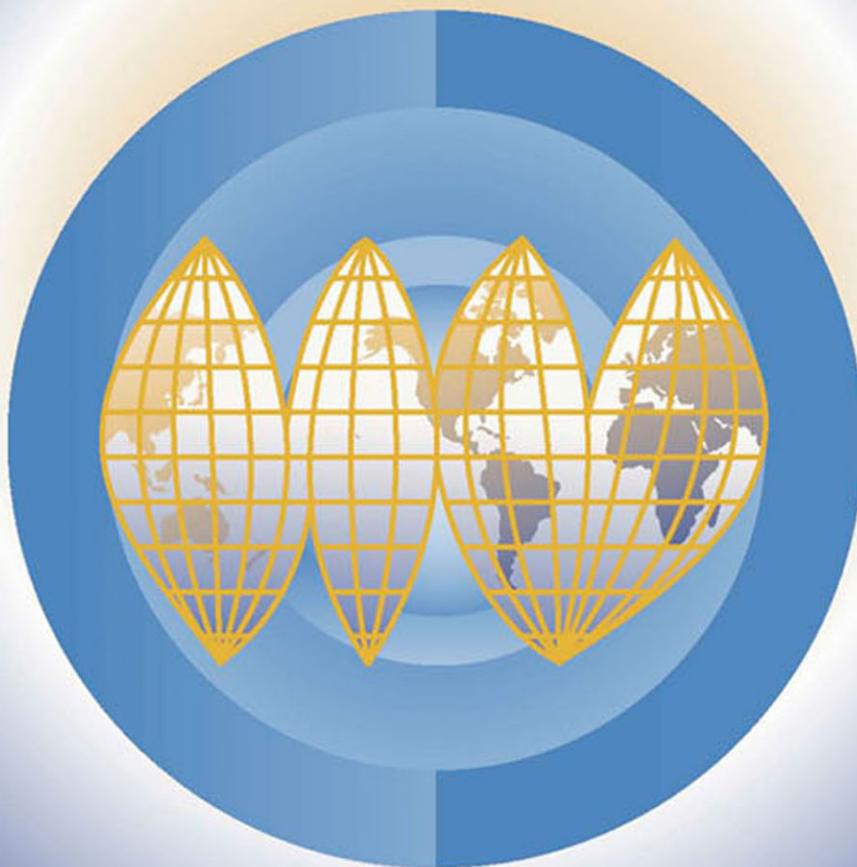


Multilateral Treaty Framework:
An Invitation to Universal Participation

Focus 2006: Crossing Borders

**Treaty Event
13-15 September 2006
United Nations Headquarters**



United Nations

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The Secretary-General's Letter to Heads of State and Government



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

16 March 2006

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the forthcoming annual treaty event of the United Nations that will be held on 13 to 15 September 2006 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The treaty event, entitled *Focus 2006: Crossing Borders*, will coincide with the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development of the sixty-first General Assembly. The event will provide a distinct opportunity for States to demonstrate their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations and I wish to extend this invitation to you to make use of this occasion by signing and ratifying or acceding to those treaties deposited with me to which your country is not party already.

Consistent with the report of the Global Commission on International Migration entitled *Migration in an Interconnected World: New directions for action*, this year's treaty event will highlight treaties associated with international migration and development: ranging from human rights, trafficking, refugees and stateless persons to organized crime, corruption and those addressing environmental and disarmament issues.

All countries – whether countries of origin, transit or destination – are affected by international migration. Managing this migration for the benefit of all has become one of the great challenges of our age. The High-Level Dialogue is an opportunity for Member States to explore the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development and to forge closer cooperation on a range of migration-related issues, many of which are addressed in treaties deposited with me.

I note in this regard that participation in this event will additionally highlight treaties that address the combined effects of the arms trade, organized crime and corruption on the ability of governments to provide basic services to their citizens and encourage sustainable economic, social and political development.

Attached for your consideration is a list of treaties deposited with me that will be highlighted during the 2006 treaty event. The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will be publishing a document entitled *Focus 2006: Crossing Borders*, summarizing the objectives and key provisions of the highlighted treaties.

Continuing the tradition established during the Millennium Summit, the Treaty Event will be held in a specially designated location in the General Assembly Building with facilities to accommodate the media.

Of course, this opportunity could be used to sign and ratify or accede to any other treaty of which I am the depositary. I would additionally encourage you to become party to migration-related treaties deposited with other depositaries, particularly those related to migrant workers.

In addition to undertaking actions to participate in the international treaty framework, States may also need to take adequate measures to implement the relevant treaty obligations within their domestic jurisdictions. I wish to underline the call made in my Millennium Report, and repeated subsequently, to those States which might need assistance in this respect to advise me of their needs.

I would like to request that you inform me by 1 September 2006 of your intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the treaties of which I am the depositary during Focus 2006 so that the necessary arrangements can be made by the Secretariat.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Annan', with a small dash below it.

Kofi A. Annan

*Procedural Information Provided by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs to
Permanent Representatives in New York*



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REFERENCE: LA41TR/221/1

20 March 2006

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's letter of invitation addressed to Heads of State and Government to participate in this year's annual treaty event, *Focus 2006: Crossing Borders*. This year's event will be held from 13 to 15 September 2006 at United Nations Headquarters in New York during the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development of the sixty-first General Assembly. Consistent with the report of the Global Commission on International Migration entitled *Migration in an Interconnected World: New directions for action*, the treaty event will highlight treaties deposited with the Secretary-General associated with international migration and development. Such treaties cover a range of migration-related topics from human rights, trafficking, refugees and stateless persons to organized crime, corruption, and environmental and disarmament issues.

You may recall the successful treaty events which have been held annually since the Millennium Summit. Consistent with this tradition, the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will organize another high profile ceremony this year also.

It is noted that, consistent with the rules of international law and the practice of the Secretary-General as depositary of multilateral treaties, a Head of State or Government or a Foreign Minister does not require full powers to execute a treaty action in person. Furthermore, full powers are not required in cases where an instrument conferring general full powers has been issued to a designated person and has been deposited with the Secretary-General in advance.

However, where an action, such as a signature, relating to a treaty deposited with the Secretary-General is to be undertaken by a person other than the Head of State or Government or the Foreign Minister, duly executed full powers are necessary.

The Secretary-General's requirements for a valid instrument of full powers include:

- Title of the treaty must be identified;
- Full name and title of the person duly authorized to sign the treaty concerned (in the case of signature) or the relevant instrument (in the case of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession) must be specified;
- Date and place of signature; and
- Signed by the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs.

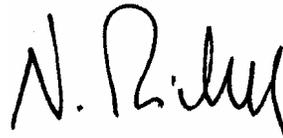
Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession must also be issued and signed by one of the above three authorities, and should include all declarations and reservations related thereto. Instruments of full powers, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession should be submitted for verification to the Treaty Section well in advance of the intended date of the treaty action. Further information on full powers and instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession can be obtained from the *Treaty Handbook* and the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties* (ST/LEG/7/Rev.1). These documents are also available in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet (UNTC) at <http://untreaty.un.org>.

Information on the status of treaties deposited with the Secretary-General may be obtained from the publication *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2005* (ST/LEG/SER.E/24), which is also available in the UNTC on the Internet and is updated daily.

The Secretary-General in his letter requested advice on the nature of any assistance that may be required by a State in order to undertake treaty actions or to give internal effect to the relevant treaty obligations. In this connection, I draw your attention to the website containing information on legal technical assistance available within the United Nations system (see <http://www.un.org/law/technical/technical.htm>). Also, during spring 2006, the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will conduct a seminar at Headquarters on treaty law and practice, which is customized to meet the needs of government officials in relation to the deposit of treaty actions with the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties. Treaties relating to international migration will be highlighted during the seminar.

Advice before **1 September 2006** on your Government's intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General would assist us in making the necessary arrangements, including for appropriate media coverage. I am also attaching a list of all multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General to enable a more comprehensive review of your country's participation in these multilateral treaties. It is requested that appointments be made by contacting the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs at telephone: (212) 963-5047; fax: (212) 963-3693; or e-mail: treaty@un.org.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Michel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "N" being particularly large and prominent.

Nicolas Michel
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
The Legal Counsel

FOREWORD

This September, governments will gather at the United Nations in New York for a high-level dialogue about one of the most promising areas of international cooperation: The relationship between migration and development. It is auspicious, then, that this year's treaty event is built on the theme "Crossing Borders." Without the backbone of international treaties to protect the rights of individuals who move around the world, we would jeopardize the gains we reap from migration while multiplying its risks.

Today, nearly 200 million people live outside their country of birth. They are indispensable to the global economy. Migrants work as doctors, farmhands, caregivers and scientists in the countries where they live. Increasingly, thanks in large part to the advances of globalization and technology, these international migrants also are able to contribute to their countries of birth. They do so most strikingly by the volume of the money they send to their families—in 2005 such remittances totaled nearly \$250 billion through official channels alone, an amount that dwarfs all international development aid combined. But the contributions of migrants go well beyond this: They serve as cultural, professional, and social links among nations, transferring know-how and technology, stimulating trade, and helping to build the institutions of government and civil society.

In short, we are entering a new era of migration. Not only is the number of migrants growing; it also is becoming more common for immigrants to maintain relationships both in their native and their new countries. This is a change we should welcome. But as the dynamics of migration evolve, it is vital for us to be vigilant in building an international framework that responds to the needs of individuals and States.

This booklet highlights a wide-range of international agreements deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. They all bear, in one way or another, on international migration and development. Among them are ones that ensure the rights and the equality of treatment of all persons. There are also treaties that capture the need for international cooperation to safeguard the rights of migrants, to protect refugees, and to fight trafficking and smuggling. The United Nations has been indispensable in promoting dialogue and providing guidance for action on these fronts, especially by developing international norms and legal instruments.

Member States recognize that safeguarding the human rights of all migrants is a prerequisite to realizing the full benefits of migration. Yet, key international agreements relating to human rights have yet to achieve universal participation. As we prepare to focus on migration, it is timely to launch a campaign to promote a wider adherence to international agreements on human rights and to their full implementation. These agreements provide a unique framework to promote a principled, constructive, and ultimately more effective approach to migration policy.

UN agencies and treaties are playing a particularly critical role in combating the scourges of people smuggling and human trafficking. Unfortunately, criminals too often exploit the hopes of men and women seeking to better their lives. Such international crimes can only be effectively controlled through concerted international action. UN treaty-monitoring bodies—including the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women—have long identified trafficking in human beings as one of the most serious violations of human rights. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and its Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air together mark an important step forward in this battle. These international instruments, adopted in 2000, have been widely ratified and have entered into force. Attaining universal ratification and ensuring full implementation should now be our goal.

When he spoke to the European Parliament in January 2004, the Secretary-General captured the spirit in which we approach September’s high-level dialogue on migration and development, as well as the “Crossing Borders” treaty event. “Only through cooperation—bilateral, regional, and global—can we build the partnerships between receiver and sender countries that are in the interests of both; explore innovation to make migration the driver of development; fight smugglers and traffickers effectively; and agree on common standards for the treatment of immigrants and the management of migration.”

I trust that the high-level dialogue on international migration and development, as well as this treaty event, will mark a milestone in our cooperation to create a world in which people can pursue, without fear, the dream of a free and full life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Sutherland', written in a cursive style.

Peter Sutherland
Special Representative of the Secretary-General
for Migration

Summaries and Status of the Core Group of Multilateral Treaties

Convention relating to the Status of Refugees *(Geneva, 28 July 1951)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (the Convention) is the key legal document in defining who is a refugee, the rights of refugees and the legal obligations of States in respect of refugees. It revised and consolidated previous international agreements relating to the status of refugees and extended the scope of, and the protection accorded by, such instruments. It recognized the social and humanitarian nature of the problem of refugees and sought to prevent this problem from becoming a source of tension between States through international cooperation.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention defines the term "refugee". It also excludes the application of the provisions of the Convention to various persons under specified conditions.

Parties are obliged to apply the provisions of the Convention to refugees without discrimination as to race, religion or country of origin. Furthermore, Parties must accord to refugees in their territory treatment at least as favourable as that accorded to their nationals with respect to religious freedom and freedom regarding the religious education of children. Parties are required to accord to refugees the same treatment as is accorded to aliens generally, except where the Convention provides more favourable provisions.

With regard to exceptional measures which may be taken against the person, property or interests of nationals of a foreign State, Parties are prohibited from taking such measures against a refugee who is formally a national of that State solely on account of such nationality.

The Convention allows Parties to take provisional measures, in time of war or other grave and exceptional circumstances, which are considered necessary for national security with regard to refugees.

The Convention addresses personal status issues; the acquisition of movable and immovable property and leases and other contracts relating to movable and immovable property; the protection of artistic rights and industrial property; rights of association; access to courts, including legal assistance; employment rights; public assistance; housing; public education; and labour legislation and social security issues with respect to refugees.

The Convention addresses freedom of movement and the issuance of identity papers and travel documents to refugees. Parties are prohibited from imposing penalties on refugees on account of their illegal entry or presence, when they have arrived directly from a territory where their lives or freedom were threatened in the sense of article 1 (i.e., well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion), provided that they present themselves to the authorities without delay and show good cause for their illegal entry or presence. The Convention prohibits the expulsion or return of refugees (*refoulement*), except for national security or public order grounds. Refugees subject to expulsion under the domestic law of a Party are entitled to due process of law. Parties are required to facilitate the assimilation and naturalization of refugees.

The Convention obliges Parties to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In this regard, Parties are required to provide the Office of the High Commissioner with requested information and statistical data concerning the conditions of refugees, the implementation of the Convention, and laws, regulations and decrees relating to refugees. Parties are required to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the laws and regulations that they may adopt to ensure the application of the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 22 April 1954 (article 43).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by Signatories and is open to accession by Member States of the United Nations, by any other State invited to attend the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons, or to which an invitation to accede will have been addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (article 39).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Parties are required to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the laws and regulations that they may adopt to ensure the application of the Convention (article 36).

Any State may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, declare that the Convention shall extend to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Such a declaration shall take effect when the Convention enters into force for the State concerned. At any time thereafter, any such extension shall be made by notification addressed to the Secretary-General and shall take effect as from the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of this notification, or as from the date of entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned, whichever is later (article 40).

RESERVATIONS

At the time of ratification or accession, any State may make reservations to articles of the Convention other than to articles 1, 3, 4, 16 (1), 33 and 36 to 46 inclusive. Any State making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by a communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 42).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention at any time by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation takes effect for the Party concerned one year from the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 44).

CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES

Geneva, 28 July 1951

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22 April 1954, in accordance with article 43.
REGISTRATION: 22 April 1954, No. 2545.
STATUS: Signatories: 19. Parties: 143.
EXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, p. 137.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons, held at Geneva from 2 to 25 July 1951. The Conference was convened pursuant to resolution 429 (V), adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1950.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan		30 Aug 2005 a	Finland		10 Oct 1968 a
Albania		18 Aug 1992 a	France	11 Sep 1952	23 Jun 1954
Algeria		21 Feb 1963 d	Gabon		27 Apr 1964 a
Angola		23 Jun 1981 a	Gambia		7 Sep 1966 d
Antigua and Barbuda		7 Sep 1995 a	Georgia		9 Aug 1999 a
Argentina		15 Nov 1961 a	Germany	19 Nov 1951	1 Dec 1953
Armenia		6 Jul 1993 a	Ghana		18 Mar 1963 a
Australia		22 Jan 1954 a	Greece	10 Apr 1952	5 Apr 1960
Austria	28 Jul 1951	1 Nov 1954	Guatemala		22 Sep 1983 a
Azerbaijan		12 Feb 1993 a	Guinea		28 Dec 1965 d
Bahamas		15 Sep 1993 a	Guinea-Bissau		11 Feb 1976 a
Belarus		23 Aug 2001 a	Haiti		25 Sep 1984 a
Belgium	28 Jul 1951	22 Jul 1953	Holy See	21 May 1952	15 Mar 1956
Belize		27 Jun 1990 a	Honduras		23 Mar 1992 a
Benin		4 Apr 1962 d	Hungary		14 Mar 1989 a
Bolivia		9 Feb 1982 a	Iceland		30 Nov 1955 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Iran (Islamic Republic of)		28 Jul 1976 a
Botswana		6 Jan 1969 a	Ireland		29 Nov 1956 a
Brazil	15 Jul 1952	16 Nov 1960	Israel	1 Aug 1951	1 Oct 1954
Bulgaria		12 May 1993 a	Italy	23 Jul 1952	15 Nov 1954
Burkina Faso		18 Jun 1980 a	Jamaica		30 Jul 1964 d
Burundi		19 Jul 1963 a	Japan		3 Oct 1981 a
Cambodia		15 Oct 1992 a	Kazakhstan		15 Jan 1999 a
Cameroon		23 Oct 1961 d	Kenya		16 May 1966 a
Canada		4 Jun 1969 a	Kyrgyzstan		8 Oct 1996 a
Central African Republic		4 Sep 1962 d	Latvia		31 Jul 1997 a
Chad		19 Aug 1981 a	Lesotho		14 May 1981 a
Chile		28 Jan 1972 a	Liberia		15 Oct 1964 a
China		24 Sep 1982 a	Liechtenstein	28 Jul 1951	8 Mar 1957
Colombia	28 Jul 1951	10 Oct 1961	Lithuania		28 Apr 1997 a
Congo		15 Oct 1962 d	Luxembourg	28 Jul 1951	23 Jul 1953
Costa Rica		28 Mar 1978 a	Madagascar		18 Dec 1967 a
Côte d'Ivoire		8 Dec 1961 d	Malawi		10 Dec 1987 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Mali		2 Feb 1973 d
Cyprus		16 May 1963 d	Malta		17 Jun 1971 a
Czech Republic		11 May 1993 d	Mauritania		5 May 1987 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		19 Jul 1965 a	Mexico		7 Jun 2000 a
Denmark	28 Jul 1951	4 Dec 1952	Monaco		18 May 1954 a
Djibouti		9 Aug 1977 d	Morocco		7 Nov 1956 d
Dominica		17 Feb 1994 a	Mozambique		16 Dec 1983 a
Dominican Republic		4 Jan 1978 a	Namibia		17 Feb 1995 a
Ecuador		17 Aug 1955 a	Netherlands	28 Jul 1951	3 May 1956
Egypt		22 May 1981 a	New Zealand		30 Jun 1960 a
El Salvador		28 Apr 1983 a	Nicaragua		28 Mar 1980 a
Equatorial Guinea		7 Feb 1986 a	Niger		25 Aug 1961 d
Estonia		10 Apr 1997 a	Nigeria		23 Oct 1967 a
Ethiopia		10 Nov 1969 a	Norway	28 Jul 1951	23 Mar 1953
Fiji		12 Jun 1972 d	Panama		2 Aug 1978 a
			Papua New Guinea		17 Jul 1986 a
			Paraguay		1 Apr 1970 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Peru		21 Dec 1964 a	Sweden	28 Jul 1951	26 Oct 1954
Philippines		22 Jul 1981 a	Switzerland	28 Jul 1951	21 Jan 1955
Poland		27 Sep 1991 a	Tajikistan		7 Dec 1993 a
Portugal		22 Dec 1960 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Republic of Korea		3 Dec 1992 a	Timor-Leste		7 May 2003 a
Republic of Moldova		31 Jan 2002 a	Togo		27 Feb 1962 d
Romania		7 Aug 1991 a	Trinidad and Tobago		10 Nov 2000 a
Russian Federation		2 Feb 1993 a	Tunisia		24 Oct 1957 d
Rwanda		3 Jan 1980 a	Turkey	24 Aug 1951	30 Mar 1962
Saint Kitts and Nevis		1 Feb 2002 a	Turkmenistan		2 Mar 1998 a
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		3 Nov 1993 a	Tuvalu		7 Mar 1986 d
Samoa		21 Sep 1988 a	Uganda		27 Sep 1976 a
Sao Tome and Principe		1 Feb 1978 a	Ukraine		10 Jun 2002 a
Senegal		2 May 1963 d	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	28 Jul 1951	11 Mar 1954
Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d	United Republic of Tanzania		12 May 1964 a
Seychelles		23 Apr 1980 a	Uruguay		22 Sep 1970 a
Sierra Leone		22 May 1981 a	Yemen		18 Jan 1980 a
Slovakia ⁵		4 Feb 1993 d	Zambia		24 Sep 1969 d
Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d	Zimbabwe		25 Aug 1981 a
Solomon Islands		28 Feb 1995 a			
Somalia		10 Oct 1978 a			
South Africa		12 Jan 1996 a			
Spain		14 Aug 1978 a			
Sudan		22 Feb 1974 a			
Suriname		29 Nov 1978 d			
Swaziland		14 Feb 2000 a			

Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees *(New York, 31 January 1967)*

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (the Protocol) expands the reach of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (the Convention). The Convention, which is the key legal document in defining who is a refugee, the rights of refugees and the legal obligations of States in respect of refugees, covers only those persons who became refugees as a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951. The Protocol removed the geographical and temporal restrictions from the Convention.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties to the Protocol undertake to apply articles 2 to 34 inclusive of the Convention to refugees as defined in the Protocol. The Protocol redefines the term "refugee" by removing the limitation of events occurring prior to 1 January 1951. Parties are required to apply the provisions of the Protocol without any geographic limitation, although existing declarations made by States that are already party to the Convention in accordance with article 1 B (1) (a) of the Convention apply also under the Protocol.

The Protocol requires Parties to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In this regard, Parties are required to provide the Office of the High Commissioner with requested information and statistical data concerning the conditions of refugees, the implementation of the Protocol, and laws, regulations and decrees relating to refugees. Parties are also required to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the laws and regulations that they may adopt to ensure the application of the Protocol.

The Protocol contains provisions addressing the situation of a federal or non-unitary State. At the request of any other Party to the Protocol, a federal State that is a Party is required to transmit through the Secretary-General a statement of the law and practice of the federation and its constituent units in regard to any particular provision of the Convention to be applied in accordance with article I, paragraph 1 of the Protocol. The statement must indicate the extent to which effect has been given to that provision by legislative or other action.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 4 October 1967 (article VIII).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for accession by all Parties to the Convention and by any other Member State of the United Nations or member of any of the specialized agencies or any State to which an invitation to accede may have been addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (article V).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Declarations made under article 40, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Convention (Territorial Application) by a Party that accedes to the Protocol are deemed to apply in respect of the Protocol, unless upon accession a notification to the contrary is addressed by the Party concerned to the Secretary-General. The provisions of article 40, paragraphs 2 and 3, and of article 44, paragraph 3, of the Convention shall be deemed to apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Protocol (article VII).

RESERVATIONS

At the time of accession, any State may make reservations in respect of article IV (Settlement of Disputes) and in respect of the application in accordance with article I of any provisions of the Convention other than those contained in its articles 1, 3, 4, 16 (1), and 33 thereof, provided that in the case of a Party to the Convention, reservations made under article VII shall not extend to refugees in respect of whom the Convention applies. Reservations made by Parties to the Convention in accordance with article 42 thereof (Reservations) are applicable in relation to their obligations under the Protocol. Any State making a reservation in accordance with paragraph 1 of article VII of the Protocol may withdraw the reservation by a communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General (article VII).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Protocol at any time by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General. Such denunciation shall take effect for the Party concerned one year from the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article IX).

PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES

New York, 31 January 1967

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4 October 1967, in accordance with article VIII.
REGISTRATION: 4 October 1967, No. 8791.
STATUS: Parties: 143.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 606, p. 267.

Note: On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the High Commissioner submitted the draft of the above-mentioned Protocol to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, in the addendum to his report concerning measures to extend the personal scope of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1186 (XLI) of 18 November 1966, took note with approval of the draft Protocol and transmitted the said addendum to the General Assembly. The General Assembly, in resolution 2198 (XXI) of 16 December 1966, took note of the Protocol and requested the Secretary-General "to transmit the text of the Protocol to the States mentioned in article V thereof, with a view to enabling them to accede to the Protocol."

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan	30 Aug 2005 a	Equatorial Guinea	7 Feb 1986 a
Albania	18 Aug 1992 a	Estonia	10 Apr 1997 a
Algeria	8 Nov 1967 a	Ethiopia	10 Nov 1969 a
Angola	23 Jun 1981 a	Fiji	12 Jun 1972 d
Antigua and Barbuda	7 Sep 1995 a	Finland	10 Oct 1968 a
Argentina	6 Dec 1967 a	France	3 Feb 1971 a
Armenia	6 Jul 1993 a	Gabon	28 Aug 1973 a
Australia	13 Dec 1973 a	Gambia	29 Sep 1967 a
Austria	5 Sep 1973 a	Georgia	9 Aug 1999 a
Azerbaijan	12 Feb 1993 a	Germany	5 Nov 1969 a
Bahamas	15 Sep 1993 a	Ghana	30 Oct 1968 a
Belarus	23 Aug 2001 a	Greece	7 Aug 1968 a
Belgium	8 Apr 1969 a	Guatemala	22 Sep 1983 a
Belize	27 Jun 1990 a	Guinea	16 May 1968 a
Benin	6 Jul 1970 a	Guinea-Bissau	11 Feb 1976 a
Bolivia	9 Feb 1982 a	Haiti	25 Sep 1984 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 Sep 1993 d	Holy See	8 Jun 1967 a
Botswana	6 Jan 1969 a	Honduras	23 Mar 1992 a
Brazil	7 Apr 1972 a	Hungary	14 Mar 1989 a
Bulgaria	12 May 1993 a	Iceland	26 Apr 1968 a
Burkina Faso	18 Jun 1980 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	28 Jul 1976 a
Burundi	15 Mar 1971 a	Ireland	6 Nov 1968 a
Cambodia	15 Oct 1992 a	Israel	14 Jun 1968 a
Cameroon	19 Sep 1967 a	Italy	26 Jan 1972 a
Canada	4 Jun 1969 a	Jamaica	30 Oct 1980 a
Cape Verde	9 Jul 1987 a	Japan	1 Jan 1982 a
Central African Republic	30 Aug 1967 a	Kazakhstan	15 Jan 1999 a
Chad	19 Aug 1981 a	Kenya	13 Nov 1981 a
Chile	27 Apr 1972 a	Kyrgyzstan	8 Oct 1996 a
China	24 Sep 1982 a	Latvia	31 Jul 1997 a
Colombia	4 Mar 1980 a	Lesotho	14 May 1981 a
Congo	10 Jul 1970 a	Liberia	27 Feb 1980 a
Costa Rica	28 Mar 1978 a	Liechtenstein	20 May 1968 a
Côte d'Ivoire	16 Feb 1970 a	Lithuania	28 Apr 1997 a
Croatia	12 Oct 1992 d	Luxembourg	22 Apr 1971 a
Cyprus	9 Jul 1968 a	Malawi	10 Dec 1987 a
Czech Republic	11 May 1993 d	Mali	2 Feb 1973 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo	13 Jan 1975 a	Malta	15 Sep 1971 a
Denmark	29 Jan 1968 a	Mauritania	5 May 1987 a
Djibouti	9 Aug 1977 d	Mexico	7 Jun 2000 a
Dominica	17 Feb 1994 a	Morocco	20 Apr 1971 a
Dominican Republic	4 Jan 1978 a	Mozambique	1 May 1989 a
Ecuador	6 Mar 1969 a	Namibia	17 Feb 1995 a
Egypt	22 May 1981 a	Netherlands	29 Nov 1968 a
El Salvador	28 Apr 1983 a	New Zealand	6 Aug 1973 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Nicaragua	28 Mar 1980 a	Sudan	23 May 1974 a
Niger	2 Feb 1970 a	Suriname	29 Nov 1978 d
Nigeria	2 May 1968 a	Swaziland	28 Jan 1969 a
Norway	28 Nov 1967 a	Sweden	4 Oct 1967 a
Panama	2 Aug 1978 a	Switzerland	20 May 1968 a
Papua New Guinea	17 Jul 1986 a	Tajikistan	7 Dec 1993 a
Paraguay	1 Apr 1970 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	18 Jan 1994 d
Peru	15 Sep 1983 a	Timor-Leste	7 May 2003 a
Philippines	22 Jul 1981 a	Togo	1 Dec 1969 a
Poland	27 Sep 1991 a	Trinidad and Tobago	10 Nov 2000 a
Portugal	13 Jul 1976 a	Tunisia	16 Oct 1968 a
Republic of Korea	3 Dec 1992 a	Turkey	31 Jul 1968 a
Republic of Moldova	31 Jan 2002 a	Turkmenistan	2 Mar 1998 a
Romania	7 Aug 1991 a	Tuvalu	7 Mar 1986 d
Russian Federation	2 Feb 1993 a	Uganda	27 Sep 1976 a
Rwanda	3 Jan 1980 a	Ukraine	4 Apr 2002 a
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3 Nov 2003 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4 Sep 1968 a
Samoa	29 Nov 1994 a	United Republic of Tanzania	4 Sep 1968 a
Sao Tome and Principe	1 Feb 1978 a	United States of America	1 Nov 1968 a
Senegal	3 Oct 1967 a	Uruguay	22 Sep 1970 a
Serbia and Montenegro	12 Mar 2001 d	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	19 Sep 1986 a
Seychelles	23 Apr 1980 a	Yemen	18 Jan 1980 a
Sierra Leone	22 May 1981 a	Zambia	24 Sep 1969 a
Slovakia	4 Feb 1993 d	Zimbabwe	25 Aug 1981 a
Slovenia	6 Jul 1992 d		
Solomon Islands	12 Apr 1995 a		
Somalia	10 Oct 1978 a		
South Africa	12 Jan 1996 a		
Spain	14 Aug 1978 a		

Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons *(New York, 28 September 1954)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (the Convention) is the primary international instrument adopted to date which regulates and improves the legal status of stateless persons. The Convention establishes the legal framework for the standard treatment of stateless persons. It was adopted to cover, *inter alia*, those stateless persons who are not refugees and who are not, therefore, covered by the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. The Convention contains provisions regarding the rights and obligations of stateless persons pertaining to their legal status in the country of residence. The Convention further addresses a variety of matters which have an important effect on day-to-day life, such as gainful employment, public education, public relief, labour legislation and social security. By ensuring that such basic rights and needs are met, the Convention aims to provide the individual with stability and to improve the quality of life of the stateless person.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention standardizes terminology and concepts, and in doing so creates a common basis for the status of stateless persons. Such concepts include "stateless person", a definition that was internationally agreed upon for the purpose of the Convention.

Parties are obliged to apply the provisions of the Convention to stateless persons without discrimination as to race, religion or country of origin. Furthermore, Parties must accord to stateless persons in their territory treatment at least as favourable as that accorded to their nationals with respect to freedom to practice religion and freedom regarding the religious education of children. Parties are also required to accord to stateless persons the same treatment that is accorded to aliens generally, except where the Convention provides more favourable provisions.

The Convention allows for the Parties to take temporary measures, in time of war or other grave and exceptional circumstances, which are considered necessary for national security with regard to stateless persons.

The Convention addresses the following issues with respect to stateless persons: personal status; the acquisition of movable and immovable property, leases and other contracts relating to movable and immovable property; the protection of artistic rights and industrial property; rights of association; access to courts, including legal assistance; employment rights; public assistance; housing; public education; labour legislation; and social security issues.

The Convention further addresses freedom of movement, and the issuance of identity papers and travel documents to stateless persons. The Convention contains specific provisions against the expulsion of stateless persons, except on grounds of national security or public order. Stateless persons subject to expulsion under the domestic law of a Party are entitled to due process of law. Parties are also required to facilitate the assimilation and naturalization of stateless persons.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 6 June 1960 (article 39).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by signatory States and is open for accession by any Member State of the United Nations, any other State invited to attend the United Nations Conference on the Status of Stateless Persons, and any State to which an invitation to accede may be addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (article 35).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Parties must communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the laws and regulations that they may adopt to ensure the application of the Convention (article 33).

Any State may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, declare that the Convention shall extend to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. Such a declaration shall take effect when the Convention enters into force for the State concerned. At any time thereafter any such extension shall be made by notification addressed to the Secretary-General and shall take effect as from the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of this notification, or as from the date of entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned, whichever is later (article 36).

RESERVATIONS

Any State may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, make reservations to articles of the Convention other than to articles 1, 3, 4, 16 (1) and 33 to 42 inclusive. Any State making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General (article 38).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention at any time by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General. Such denunciation shall take effect for the Party concerned one year from the date upon which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 40).

CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF STATELESS PERSONS

New York, 28 September 1954

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 6 June 1960, in accordance with article 39.
REGISTRATION: 6 June 1960, No. 5158.
STATUS: Signatories: 22. Parties: 59.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 360, p.117.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Status of Stateless Persons, held at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York from 13 to 23 September 1954. The Conference was convened pursuant to resolution 526A (XVII) of 26 April 1954 of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. For the Final Act, recommendation and resolution adopted by the Conference, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 360, p. 117.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania		23 Jun 2003 a	Lesotho		4 Nov 1974 d
Algeria		15 Jul 1964 a	Liberia		11 Sep 1964 a
Antigua and Barbuda		25 Oct 1988 d	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		16 May 1989 a
Argentina		1 Jun 1972 a	Liechtenstein	28 Sep 1954	
Armenia		18 May 1994 a	Lithuania		7 Feb 2000 a
Australia		13 Dec 1973 a	Luxembourg	28 Oct 1955	27 Jun 1960
Azerbaijan		16 Aug 1996 a	Madagascar		[20Feb 1962 a]
Barbados		6 Mar 1972 d	Mexico		7 Jun 2000 a
Belgium	28 Sep 1954	27 May 1960	Netherlands	28 Sep 1954	12 Apr 1962
Bolivia		6 Oct 1983 a	Norway	28 Sep 1954	19 Nov 1956
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		1 Sep 1993 d	Philippines	22 Jun 1955	
Botswana		25 Feb 1969 d	Republic of Korea		22 Aug 1962 a
Brazil	28 Sep 1954	13 Aug 1996	Romania		27 Jan 2006 a
Chad		12 Aug 1999 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		27 Apr 1999 d
China			Senegal		21 Sep 2005 a
Colombia	30 Dec 1954		Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d
Costa Rica	28 Sep 1954	2 Nov 1977	Slovakia		3 Apr 2000 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Czech Republic		19 Jul 2004 a	Spain		12 May 1997 a
Denmark	28 Sep 1954	17 Jan 1956	Swaziland		16 Nov 1999 a
Ecuador	28 Sep 1954	2 Oct 1970	Sweden	28 Sep 1954	2 Apr 1965
El Salvador	28 Sep 1954		Switzerland	28 Sep 1954	3 Jul 1972
Fiji		12 Jun 1972 d	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Finland		10 Oct 1968 a	Trinidad and Tobago		11 Apr 1966 d
France	12 Jan 1955	8 Mar 1960	Tunisia		29 Jul 1969 a
Germany	28 Sep 1954	26 Oct 1976	Uganda		15 Apr 1965 a
Greece		4 Nov 1975 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	28 Sep 1954	16 Apr 1959
Guatemala	28 Sep 1954	28 Nov 2000	Uruguay		2 Apr 2004 a
Guinea		21 Mar 1962 a	Zambia		1 Nov 1974 d
Holy See	28 Sep 1954		Zimbabwe		1 Dec 1998 d
Honduras	28 Sep 1954				
Hungary		21 Nov 2001 a			
Ireland		17 Dec 1962 a			
Israel	1 Oct 1954	23 Dec 1958			
Italy	20 Oct 1954	3 Dec 1962			
Kiribati		29 Nov 1983 d			
Latvia		5 Nov 1999 a			

Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness *(New York, 30 August 1961)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (the Convention) is the primary international legal instrument adopted to date to resolve cases of statelessness through the granting of citizenship when an individual has a particular link to a State. The Convention provides for acquisition of nationality by persons who would otherwise be stateless and who have an appropriate link with the State through factors of birth or ancestry. The issues of retention of nationality once acquired and of transfer of territory are also addressed. The Convention offers solutions to nationality problems which might arise between States.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention requires Parties to grant nationality to persons born in their territory who would otherwise be stateless. The Convention contains provisions that address the issue of foundlings discovered in the territory of a Party and births on ships and in aircrafts. The Convention requires Parties to grant nationality to persons who were not born in their territory, and who would otherwise be stateless, when the nationality of one of the parents at the time of the person's birth was of that State.

The Convention addresses the issue of loss of nationality under domestic law as a consequence of any change in the personal status of a person such as marriage, termination of marriage, legitimation, recognition or adoption. Such loss of nationality is conditional upon possession or acquisition of another nationality. A similar provision applies to the loss of nationality by a person's spouse or children as a consequence of that person losing or being deprived of that nationality.

The Convention addresses renunciation of nationality under domestic law and the right of a Party to deprive persons of their nationality in certain circumstances. Loss or deprivation of nationality may occur only in accordance with the law and accompanied by full procedural guarantees, such as the right to a fair hearing by a court or other independent body. A Party may not deprive a person of his or her nationality if such deprivation would render the person stateless. Moreover, a Party may not deprive any person or group of persons of their nationality on racial, ethnic, religious or political grounds.

The Convention covers situations involving the transfer of territory between Parties. Treaties between Parties concerning the transfer of territory must ensure that statelessness does not occur as a result of the transfer. Parties are urged to include such a provision in treaties concluded with States that are not party to the Convention. In the absence of such provisions, a Party to which territory is transferred or that otherwise acquires territory is obliged to confer its nationality on those persons who would otherwise become stateless as a result of the transfer or acquisition.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 13 December 1975 (article 18).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY TO THE CONVENTION

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by signatory States, and is open for accession by Member States of the United Nations, any State invited to attend the United Nations Conference on the Elimination or Reduction of Future Statelessness, and any State to which an invitation to accede may be addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (article 16).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention applies to all non-self-governing territories, trust, colonial and other non-metropolitan territories for the international relations of which any Party is responsible. The State concerned shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of article 15, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, make a declaration of the non-metropolitan territory or territories to which the Convention shall apply *ipso facto* as a result of such signature, ratification or accession (article 15).

RESERVATIONS

At the time of signature, ratification or accession, any State may make a reservation in respect of articles 11, 14, or 15. No other reservations to the Convention are permitted (article 17).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention at any time by a written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect for the Party concerned one year after the date of its receipt by the Secretary-General. When the Convention has become applicable to a non-metropolitan territory of a Party, such Party may at any time thereafter, with the consent of the territory concerned, give notice to the Secretary-General denouncing the Convention separately in respect of that territory. The denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of the receipt of such notice by the Secretary-General (article 19).

CONVENTION ON THE REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS

New York, 30 August 1961

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 13 December 1975, in accordance with article 18.
REGISTRATION: 13 December 1975, No. 14458.
STATUS: Signatories: 5. Parties: 31.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 989, p. 175.

Note: The Convention was adopted and opened for signature by the United Nations Conference on the Elimination or Reduction of Future Statelessness, convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations pursuant to General Assembly resolution 896 (IX) of 4 December 1954. The Conference met at the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva from 24 March to 18 April 1959 and reconvened at the Headquarters of the United Nations at New York from 15 to 28 August 1961.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania		9 Jul 2003 a	Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Armenia		18 May 1994 a	Lesotho		24 Sep 2004 a
Australia		13 Dec 1973 a	Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a
Austria		22 Sep 1972 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		16 May 1989 a
Azerbaijan		16 Aug 1996 a	Netherlands	30 Aug 1961	13 May 1985
Bolivia		6 Oct 1983 a	Niger		17 Jun 1985 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		13 Dec 1996 a	Norway		11 Aug 1971 a
Canada		17 Jul 1978 a	Romania		27 Jan 2006 a
Chad		12 Aug 1999 a	Senegal		21 Sep 2005 a
Costa Rica		2 Nov 1977 a	Slovakia		3 Apr 2000 a
Czech Republic		19 Dec 2001 a	Swaziland		16 Nov 1999 a
Denmark		11 Jul 1977 a	Sweden		19 Feb 1969 a
Dominican Republic ..	5 Dec 1961		Tunisia		12 May 2000 a
France	31 May 1962		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	30 Aug 1961	29 Mar 1966
Germany		31 Aug 1977 a	Uruguay		21 Sep 2001 a
Guatemala		19 Jul 2001 a			
Ireland		18 Jan 1973 a			
Israel	30 Aug 1961				
Kiribati		29 Nov 1983 d			

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

(New York, 18 December 1990)

OBJECTIVES

The globalization of markets, information and technology, as well as the liberalization of many laws affecting individuals' mobility has enabled vast movements of people on a scale never seen before. The objective of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (the Convention) is to create international standards for the protection of the human rights of migrant workers and their families.

The reasons individuals migrate vary greatly. Some individuals migrate in order to escape desperate conditions in their home countries, such as war or famine. Others seek better living conditions in countries where economic opportunities seem to be more abundant or more equitable.

However, all migrant workers are vulnerable to abuse by virtue of the fact that they are living in a foreign country. In fact, many may fall victim to human traffickers who recruit them under false pretences and some are even held against their will under slave-like conditions.

Migrants may face many forms of discrimination on the part of the institutions and laws of their host country or its people. They are often restricted by law in the kind of employment or conditions of work in which they can engage, even in cases where they were encouraged by foreign companies or governments to settle in the host country.

KEY PROVISIONS

The adoption of this Convention in 1990 was an historic event for migrant workers. It establishes, in certain areas, the principle of equality of treatment with nationals for all migrant workers and their families, irrespective of their legal status.

This Convention sets forth, for the first time, internationally uniform definitions agreed upon by States for different categories of migrant workers. States also agreed upon the need for the sending, transit and receiving countries to institute protective action on behalf of the migrant workers.

The Convention establishes standards to which Parties must adhere with respect to migrant workers. It incorporates six international human rights treaties that are today in force. It also provides for the establishment of a monitoring mechanism in the form of an international body of independent experts. This independent body will periodically review the implementation of the Convention by Parties to the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 1 July 2003 (article 87).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely). It is subject to ratification and open for accession (article 86).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party to the Convention may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 76).

A Party to the Convention may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim that their individual rights as established by the Convention have been violated by that Party (article 77).

States may declare, at the time of signature or ratification, that they do not consider themselves bound by article 92.1, according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration, upon request of one of them, and, failing an agreement about the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 92).

RESERVATIONS

A State ratifying or acceding to the Convention may not exclude the application of any part of it, or exclude any particular category of migrant workers from its application (article 88). Reservations not compatible with the object and the purpose of the Convention are not permitted (article 91).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Convention is possible only five years after it has entered into force for the Party concerned, and it becomes effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 12 months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under the Convention with regard to any act or omission which occurs prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective, nor does it prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter which is already under consideration by the Committee prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 89).

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL
MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES**

New York, 18 December 1990

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 July 2003, in accordance with article 87 (1).
REGISTRATION: 1 July 2003, No. 39481.
STATUS: Signatories: 27, Parties: 34.
TEXT: Doc. A/RES/45/158.

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by Resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990 at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States in accordance with its article 86 (1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Algeria		21 Apr 2005 a	Kyrgyzstan		29 Sep 2003 a
Argentina	10 Aug 2004		Lesotho	24 Sep 2004	16 Sep 2005
Azerbaijan		11 Jan 1999 a	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Bangladesh	7 Oct 1998		Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		18 Jun 2004 a
Belize		14 Nov 2001 a	Mali		5 Jun 2003 a
Benin	15 Sep 2005		Mexico	22 May 1991	8 Mar 1999
Bolivia		16 Oct 2000 a	Morocco	15 Aug 1991	21 Jun 1993
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		13 Dec 1996 a	Nicaragua		26 Oct 2005 a
Burkina Faso	16 Nov 2001	26 Nov 2003	Paraguay	13 Sep 2000	
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Peru	22 Sep 2004	14 Sep 2005
Cape Verde		16 Sep 1997 a	Philippines	15 Nov 1993	5 Jul 1995
Chile	24 Sep 1993	21 Mar 2005	Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000	
Colombia		24 May 1995 a	Senegal		9 Jun 1999 a
Comoros	22 Sep 2000		Serbia and Montenegro	11 Nov 2004	15 Dec 1994 a
Ecuador		5 Feb 2002 a	Seychelles		
Egypt		19 Feb 1993 a	Sierra Leone	15 Sep 2000	
El Salvador	13 Sep 2002	14 Mar 2003	Sri Lanka		11 Mar 1996 a
Gabon	15 Dec 2004		Syrian Arab Republic		2 Jun 2005 a
Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Tajikistan	7 Sep 2000	8 Jan 2002
Guatemala	7 Sep 2000	14 Mar 2003	Timor-Leste		30 Jan 2004 a
Guinea		7 Sep 2000 a	Togo	15 Nov 2001	
Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000		Turkey	13 Jan 1999	27 Sep 2004
Guyana	15 Sep 2005		Uganda		14 Nov 1995 a
Honduras		9 Aug 2005 a	Uruguay		15 Feb 2001 a
Indonesia	22 Sep 2004				

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination *(New York, 7 March 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (the Convention) defines and condemns racial discrimination and commits States to change national laws and policies which create or perpetuate racial discrimination. It was the first human rights instrument to establish an international monitoring system and was also revolutionary in its provision of national measures towards the advancement of specific racial or ethnic groups.

One of the main objectives of the Convention is to promote racial equality. As such, the Convention not only aims to achieve *de jure* racial equality but also *de facto* equality, which allows the various ethnic, racial and national groups to enjoy the same social development.

Furthermore, the Convention recognizes that certain racial or ethnic groups may need special protection or may need to be assisted by special measures in order to achieve adequate development. The Convention provides that such special measures shall not be considered racial discrimination so long as they are not continued after the objectives for which they were taken have been achieved.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention defines the concept of racial discrimination, covering what is sometimes called indirect discrimination or unjustifiable disparate impact. The Convention shall not apply to distinctions, exclusions, restrictions or preferences made by a Party between citizens and non-citizens.

Other important provisions include imperative stipulations obliging Parties to adopt legislation to criminalize and punish the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, acts of violence against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin and assistance in such activities.

The Convention contains a non-exhaustive long list of rights and freedoms in the enjoyment of which racial discrimination shall be prohibited and eliminated. The list includes certain rights not expressly contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, such as the right to inherit and the right of access to any place or service intended for use by the general public. It also includes rights in regard to which racial discrimination is prohibited, such as the right to work, the right to join trade unions and the right to housing.

In order to monitor and review actions taken by Parties to fulfil their obligations, the Convention established the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which was the first body created by the United Nations to monitor the implementation by Parties of a human rights treaty. Its mandate is to review the legal, judicial, administrative and other steps taken by individual Parties to fulfil their obligations to combat racial discrimination. The Convention establishes three procedures to facilitate CERD's review. The first is the requirement that all Parties to the Convention submit periodic reports to the Committee. The second procedure provides for State-to-State complaints and the third permits an individual or a group of persons, who claim to be victims of racial discrimination, to lodge a complaint against the Party

allegedly responsible. This may be done only if the Party concerned has declared, under the Convention, that it recognizes the competence of CERD to receive such complaints.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 4 January 1969 (article 19).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a Party to the Convention. It is subject to ratification and is open to accession by any State subject to the same conditions for signature (articles 17 and 18).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by that Party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention (article 14).

RESERVATIONS

At the time of ratification or accession, any State may make reservations that are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention. Any Party making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by a communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 20).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 21).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION

New York, 7 March 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4 January 1969, in accordance with article 19.
REGISTRATION: 12 March 1969, No. 9464.
STATUS: Signatories: 84. Parties: 170.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, p. 195.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2106 (XX) of 21 December 1965.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		6 Jul 1983 a	Ecuador.....		22 Sep 1966 a
Albania.....		11 May 1994 a	Egypt.....	28 Sep 1966	1 May 1967
Algeria.....	9 Dec 1966	14 Feb 1972	El Salvador.....		30 Nov 1979 a
Andorra.....	5 Aug 2002		Equatorial Guinea....		8 Oct 2002 a
Antigua and Barbuda .		25 Oct 1988 d	Eritrea.....		31 Jul 2001 a
Argentina.....	13 Jul 1967	2 Oct 1968	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Armenia.....		23 Jun 1993 a	Ethiopia.....		23 Jun 1976 a
Australia.....	13 Oct 1966	30 Sep 1975	Fiji.....		11 Jan 1973 d
Austria.....	22 Jul 1969	9 May 1972	Finland.....	6 Oct 1966	14 Jul 1970
Azerbaijan.....		16 Aug 1996 a	France.....		28 Jul 1971 a
Bahamas.....		5 Aug 1975 d	Gabon.....	20 Sep 1966	29 Feb 1980
Bahrain.....		27 Mar 1990 a	Gambia.....		29 Dec 1978 a
Bangladesh.....		11 Jun 1979 a	Georgia.....		2 Jun 1999 a
Barbados.....		8 Nov 1972 a	Germany.....	10 Feb 1967	16 May 1969
Belarus.....	7 Mar 1966	8 Apr 1969	Ghana.....	8 Sep 1966	8 Sep 1966
Belgium.....	17 Aug 1967	7 Aug 1975	Greece.....	7 Mar 1966	18 Jun 1970
Belize.....	6 Sep 2000	14 Nov 2001	Grenada.....	17 Dec 1981	
Benin.....	2 Feb 1967	30 Nov 2001	Guatemala.....	8 Sep 1967	18 Jan 1983
Bhutan.....	26 Mar 1973		Guinea.....	24 Mar 1966	14 Mar 1977
Bolivia.....	7 Jun 1966	22 Sep 1970	Guinea-Bissau.....	12 Sep 2000	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na.....		16 Jul 1993 d	Guyana.....	11 Dec 1968	15 Feb 1977
Botswana.....		20 Feb 1974 a	Haiti.....	30 Oct 1972	19 Dec 1972
Brazil.....	7 Mar 1966	27 Mar 1968	Holy See.....	21 Nov 1966	1 May 1969
Bulgaria.....	1 Jun 1966	8 Aug 1966	Honduras.....		10 Oct 2002 a
Burkina Faso.....		18 Jul 1974 a	Hungary.....	15 Sep 1966	4 May 1967
Burundi.....	1 Feb 1967	27 Oct 1977	Iceland.....	14 Nov 1966	13 Mar 1967
Cambodia.....	12 Apr 1966	28 Nov 1983	India.....	2 Mar 1967	3 Dec 1968
Cameroon.....	12 Dec 1966	24 Jun 1971	Indonesia.....		25 Jun 1999 a
Canada.....	24 Aug 1966	14 Oct 1970	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	8 Mar 1967	29 Aug 1968
Cape Verde.....		3 Oct 1979 a	Iraq.....	18 Feb 1969	14 Jan 1970
Central African Repub- lic.....	7 Mar 1966	16 Mar 1971	Ireland.....	21 Mar 1968	29 Dec 2000
Chad.....		17 Aug 1977 a	Israel.....	7 Mar 1966	3 Jan 1979
Chile.....	3 Oct 1966	20 Oct 1971	Italy.....	13 Mar 1968	5 Jan 1976
China.....		29 Dec 1981 a	Jamaica.....	14 Aug 1966	4 Jun 1971
Colombia.....	23 Mar 1967	2 Sep 1981	Japan.....		15 Dec 1995 a
Comoros.....	22 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2004	Jordan.....		30 May 1974 a
Congo.....		11 Jul 1988 a	Kazakhstan.....		26 Aug 1998 a
Costa Rica.....	14 Mar 1966	16 Jan 1967	Kenya.....		13 Sep 2001 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....		4 Jan 1973 a	Kuwait.....		15 Oct 1968 a
Croatia.....		12 Oct 1992 d	Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Sep 1997 a
Cuba.....	7 Jun 1966	15 Feb 1972	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic ...		22 Feb 1974 a
Cyprus.....	12 Dec 1966	21 Apr 1967	Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a
Czech Republic.....		22 Feb 1993 d	Lebanon.....		12 Nov 1971 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		21 Apr 1976 a	Lesotho.....		4 Nov 1971 a
Denmark.....	21 Jun 1966	9 Dec 1971	Liberia.....		5 Nov 1976 a
Dominican Republic..		25 May 1983 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya.....		3 Jul 1968 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Liechtenstein		1 Mar 2000 a	Seychelles		7 Mar 1978 a
Lithuania	8 Jun 1998	10 Dec 1998	Sierra Leone	17 Nov 1966	2 Aug 1967
Luxembourg	12 Dec 1967	1 May 1978	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Madagascar	18 Dec 1967	7 Feb 1969	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Malawi		11 Jun 1996 a	Solomon Islands		17 Mar 1982 d
Maldives		24 Apr 1984 a	Somalia	26 Jan 1967	26 Aug 1975
Mali		16 Jul 1974 a	South Africa	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
Malta	5 Sep 1968	27 May 1971	Spain		13 Sep 1968 a
Mauritania	21 Dec 1966	13 Dec 1988	Sri Lanka		18 Feb 1982 a
Mauritius		30 May 1972 a	Sudan		21 Mar 1977 a
Mexico	1 Nov 1966	20 Feb 1975	Suriname		15 Mar 1984 d
Monaco		27 Sep 1995 a	Swaziland		7 Apr 1969 a
Mongolia	3 May 1966	6 Aug 1969	Sweden	5 May 1966	6 Dec 1971
Morocco	18 Sep 1967	18 Dec 1970	Switzerland		29 Nov 1994 a
Mozambique		18 Apr 1983 a	Syrian Arab Republic		21 Apr 1969 a
Namibia		11 Nov 1982 a	Tajikistan		11 Jan 1995 a
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Thailand		28 Jan 2003 a
Nepal		30 Jan 1971 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Netherlands	24 Oct 1966	10 Dec 1971	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
New Zealand	25 Oct 1966	22 Nov 1972	Togo		1 Sep 1972 a
Nicaragua		15 Feb 1978 a	Tonga		16 Feb 1972 a
Niger	14 Mar 1966	27 Apr 1967	Trinidad and Tobago	9 Jun 1967	4 Oct 1973
Nigeria		16 Oct 1967 a	Tunisia	12 Apr 1966	13 Jan 1967
Norway	21 Nov 1966	6 Aug 1970	Turkey	13 Oct 1972	16 Sep 2002
Oman		2 Jan 2003 a	Turkmenistan		29 Sep 1994 a
Pakistan	19 Sep 1966	21 Sep 1966	Uganda		21 Nov 1980 a
Panama	8 Dec 1966	16 Aug 1967	Ukraine	7 Mar 1966	7 Mar 1969
Papua New Guinea		27 Jan 1982 a	United Arab Emirates		20 Jun 1974 a
Paraguay	13 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2003	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Oct 1966	7 Mar 1969
Peru	22 Jul 1966	29 Sep 1971	United Republic of Tanzania		27 Oct 1972 a
Philippines	7 Mar 1966	15 Sep 1967	United States of Amer- ica	28 Sep 1966	21 Oct 1994
Poland	7 Mar 1966	5 Dec 1968	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	30 Aug 1968
Portugal		24 Aug 1982 a	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Qatar		22 Jul 1976 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	21 Apr 1967	10 Oct 1967
Republic of Korea	8 Aug 1978	5 Dec 1978	Vict Nam		9 Jun 1982 a
Republic of Moldova		26 Jan 1993 a	Yemen		18 Oct 1972 a
Romania		15 Sep 1970 a	Zambia	11 Oct 1968	4 Feb 1972
Russian Federation	7 Mar 1966	4 Feb 1969	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Rwanda		16 Apr 1975 a			
Saint Lucia		14 Feb 1990 d			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		9 Nov 1981 a			
San Marino	11 Dec 2001	12 Mar 2002			
Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000				
Saudi Arabia		23 Sep 1997 a			
Senegal	22 Jul 1968	19 Apr 1972			
Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d			

International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights *(New York, 16 December 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

Economic, social and cultural rights are designed to ensure the protection of individuals as full persons, based on a perspective in which people can enjoy rights, freedoms and social justice simultaneously. In a world where, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), "a fifth of the developing world's population goes hungry every night, a quarter lacks access to even a basic necessity like safe drinking water, and a third lives in a state of abject poverty at such a margin of human existence that words simply fail to describe it" (UNDP, *Human Development Report 1994*, Oxford University Press, 1994, p. 2) the importance of renewed attention and commitment to the full realization of economic, social and cultural rights is self-evident.

Despite significant progress since the establishment of the United Nations in addressing problems of human deprivation, well over 1 billion people live in circumstances of extreme poverty, homelessness, hunger and malnutrition, unemployment, illiteracy and chronic ill health. More than 1.5 billion people lack access to clean drinking water and sanitation; some 500 million children do not have access to even primary education; and more than 1 billion adults cannot read and write. This massive scale of marginalization, in spite of continued global economic growth and development, raises serious questions, not only in relation to development, but also in relation to basic human rights.

Of all the basic human rights standards, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (the Covenant) provides the most important international legal framework for protecting basic human rights.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Covenant contains some of the most significant international legal provisions establishing economic, social and cultural rights, including rights relating to work in just and favourable conditions, to social protection, to an adequate standard of living, to the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, to education and to enjoyment of the benefits of cultural freedom and scientific progress. It also provides for the right of self-determination; equal rights for men and women; the right to work; the right to just and favourable conditions of work; the right to form and join trade unions; the right to social security and social insurance; protection and assistance to the family; the right to adequate standard of living; the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the right to education; the right to take part in cultural life; and the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.

Compliance by Parties with their obligations under the Covenant and the level of implementation of the rights and duties in question is monitored by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which submits annual reports on its activities to the Economic and Social Council.

The Committee works on the basis of many sources of information, including reports submitted by Parties and information from United Nations specialized agencies including the

International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. In addition, information is submitted from the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and others. It also makes use of information from other United Nations treaty bodies, from national non-governmental and community-based organizations working in States, which have ratified the Covenant, from international human rights and other non-governmental organizations, and from generally available literature.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Covenant entered into force on 3 January 1976 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Covenant is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited to become a Party by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Covenant is subject to ratification and is open to accession to any State referred to above (article 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Covenant is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Covenant is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 January 1976, in accordance with article 27.
REGISTRATION: 3 January 1976, No. 14531.
STATUS: Signatories: 66. Parties: 153.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, p. 3; depositary notification C.N.781.2001.TREATIES-6 of 5 October 2001 [Proposal of correction to the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text) and C.N.7.2002.TREATIES-1 of 3 January 2002 [Rectification of the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Covenant was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan		24 Jan 1983 a	El Salvador	21 Sep 1967	30 Nov 1979
Albania		4 Oct 1991 a	Equatorial Guinea		25 Sep 1987 a
Algeria	10 Dec 1968	12 Sep 1989	Eritrea		17 Apr 2001 a
Angola		10 Jan 1992 a	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Argentina	19 Feb 1968	8 Aug 1986	Ethiopia		11 Jun 1993 a
Armenia		13 Sep 1993 a	Finland	11 Oct 1967	19 Aug 1975
Australia	18 Dec 1972	10 Dec 1975	France		4 Nov 1980 a
Austria	10 Dec 1973	10 Sep 1978	Gabon		21 Jan 1983 a
Azerbaijan		13 Aug 1992 a	Gambia		29 Dec 1978 a
Bangladesh		5 Oct 1998 a	Georgia		3 May 1994 a
Barbados		5 Jan 1973 a	Germany	9 Oct 1968	17 Dec 1973
Belarus	19 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973	Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Belgium	10 Dec 1968	21 Apr 1983	Greece		16 May 1985 a
Belize	6 Sep 2000		Grenada		6 Sep 1991 a
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	Guatemala		19 May 1988 a
Bolivia		12 Aug 1982 a	Guinea	28 Feb 1967	24 Jan 1978
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		1 Sep 1993 d	Guinea-Bissau		2 Jul 1992 a
Brazil		24 Jan 1992 a	Guyana	22 Aug 1968	15 Feb 1977
Bulgaria	8 Oct 1968	21 Sep 1970	Honduras	19 Dec 1966	17 Feb 1981
Burkina Faso		4 Jan 1999 a	Hungary	25 Mar 1969	17 Jan 1974
Burundi		9 May 1990 a	Iceland	30 Dec 1968	22 Aug 1979
Cambodia	17 Oct 1980	26 May 1992 a	India		10 Apr 1979 a
Cameroon		27 Jun 1984 a	Indonesia		23 Feb 2006 a
Canada		19 May 1976 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4 Apr 1968	24 Jun 1975
Cape Verde		6 Aug 1993 a	Iraq	18 Feb 1969	25 Jan 1971
Central African Repub- lic		8 May 1981 a	Ireland	1 Oct 1973	8 Dec 1989
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Israel	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1991
Chile	16 Sep 1969	10 Feb 1972	Italy	18 Jan 1967	15 Sep 1978
China	27 Oct 1997	27 Mar 2001	Jamaica	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1975
Colombia	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Japan	30 May 1978	21 Jun 1979
Congo		5 Oct 1983 a	Jordan	30 Jun 1972	28 May 1975
Costa Rica	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968	Kazakhstan	2 Dec 2003	24 Jan 2006
Côte d'Ivoire		26 Mar 1992 a	Kenya		1 May 1972 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Kuwait		21 May 1996 a
Cyprus	9 Jan 1967	2 Apr 1969	Kyrgyzstan		7 Oct 1994 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic	7 Dec 2000	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		14 Sep 1981 a	Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		1 Nov 1976 a	Lebanon		3 Nov 1972 a
Denmark	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972	Lesotho		9 Sep 1992 a
Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a	Liberia	18 Apr 1967	22 Sep 2004
Dominica		17 Jun 1993 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		15 May 1970 a
Dominican Republic		4 Jan 1978 a	Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a
Ecuador	29 Sep 1967	6 Mar 1969	Lithuania		20 Nov 1991 a
Egypt	4 Aug 1967	14 Jan 1982	Luxembourg	26 Nov 1974	18 Aug 1983
			Madagascar	14 Apr 1970	22 Sep 1971

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Malawi		22 Dec 1993 a	Somalia		24 Jan 1990 a
Mali		16 Jul 1974 a	South Africa	3 Oct 1994	
Malta	22 Oct 1968	13 Sep 1990	Spain	28 Sep 1976	27 Apr 1977
Mauritania		17 Nov 2004 a	Sri Lanka		11 Jun 1980 a
Mauritius		12 Dec 1973 a	Sudan		18 Mar 1986 a
Mexico		23 Mar 1981 a	Suriname		28 Dec 1976 a
Monaco	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug 1997	Swaziland		26 Mar 2004 a
Mongolia	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov 1974	Sweden	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971
Morocco	19 Jan 1977	3 May 1979	Switzerland		18 Jun 1992 a
Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a	Syrian Arab Republic		21 Apr 1969 a
Nepal		14 May 1991 a	Tajikistan		4 Jan 1999 a
Netherlands	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978	Thailand		5 Sep 1999 a
New Zealand	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macc-		
Nicaragua		12 Mar 1980 a	donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Niger		7 Mar 1986 a	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Nigeria		29 Jul 1993 a	Togo		24 May 1984 a
Norway	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972	Trinidad and Tobago		8 Dec 1978 a
Pakistan	3 Nov 2004	8 Mar 1977	Tunisia	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969
Panama	27 Jul 1976	10 Jun 1992 a	Turkey	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003
Paraguay		28 Apr 1978	Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a
Peru	11 Aug 1977	7 Jun 1974	Uganda		21 Jan 1987 a
Philippines	19 Dec 1966	18 Mar 1977	Ukraine	20 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973
Poland	2 Mar 1967	31 Jul 1978	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976
Portugal	7 Oct 1976	10 Apr 1990 a	United Republic of Tanzania		11 Jun 1976 a
Republic of Korea		26 Jan 1993 a	United States of Amer-		
Republic of Moldova		9 Dec 1974	ica	5 Oct 1977	
Romania	27 Jun 1968	16 Oct 1973	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Russian Federation	18 Mar 1968	16 Apr 1975 a	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Rwanda		9 Nov 1981 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		18 Oct 1985 a	Viet Nam		24 Sep 1982 a
San Marino		13 Feb 1978	Yemen		9 Feb 1987 a
Sao Tome and Principe	31 Oct 1995	12 Mar 2001 d	Zambia		10 Apr 1984 a
Senegal	6 Jul 1970	5 May 1992 a	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Serbia and Montenegro		23 Aug 1996 a			
Seychelles		28 May 1993 d			
Sierra Leone		6 Jul 1992 d			
Slovakia		17 Mar 1982 d			
Slovenia					
Solomon Islands					

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights *(New York, 16 December 1966)*

OBJECTIVES

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 was codified into two Covenants, which the General Assembly adopted on 16 December 1966. Together with the Optional Protocols, they constitute the "International Bill of Human Rights". The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant) is a landmark in the efforts of the international community to promote human rights. It defends the right to life and stipulates that no individual can be subjected to torture, enslavement, forced labour and arbitrary detention or be restricted from such freedoms as movement, expression and association.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Covenant is divided into six parts. Part I reaffirms the right of self-determination. Part II formulates general obligations by Parties, notably to implement the Covenant through legislative and other measures, to provide effective remedies to victims and to ensure gender equality, and it restricts the possibility of derogation. Part III spells out the classical civil and political rights, including the right to life, the prohibition of torture, the right to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of movement, the right to a fair hearing, the right to privacy, the right to freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly, the right to family life, the rights of children to special protection, the right to participate in the conduct of public affairs, the over-arching right to equal treatment, and the special rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. Part IV regulates the election of members of the Human Rights Committee, the State reporting procedure and the inter-State complaints mechanism. Part V stipulates that nothing in the Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and to utilize fully their natural resources. Part VI provides that the Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal States and sets out the amendment procedure.

The Human Rights Committee monitors implementation by Parties in a variety of ways. Initial and periodic reports are examined by the plenary, which formulates concluding observations with concrete recommendations. In order to assist Parties in preparing reports, the Committee has formulated 28 general comments, which constitute a commentary on the provisions of the Covenant. Well in advance of the examination of a report, the Committee forwards a list of issues to the Party concerned. The list is prepared by the members and takes into consideration information received from other United Nations organs and specialized agencies as well as from non-governmental organizations.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Covenant entered into force on 23 March 1976 (article 49).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Covenant is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State Member of the United Nations or member of any of its specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other State which has been invited to become a Party by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Covenant is subject to ratification and is open to accession to any State referred to above (article 48).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may derogate from certain rights established under the Covenant for the duration of officially proclaimed public emergencies, which threaten the life of the nation. The derogation is possible to the extent strictly required by the exigencies of the situation and it cannot be made if inconsistent with other international law obligations, if it involves discrimination solely on the ground of race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin, or if it is made with regard to certain core provisions. The Secretary-General must be immediately informed of any such derogation in accordance with article 4 (3).

Parties may at any time declare that they recognize the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant (article 41).

RESERVATIONS

The Covenant is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Covenant is not subject to denunciation.

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 23 March 1976, in accordance with article 49 , for all provisions except those of article 41: 28 March 1979 for the provisions of article 41 (Human Rights Committee), in accordance with paragraph 2 of the said article 41.

REGISTRATION: 23 March 1976, No. 14668.

STATUS: Signatories: 67. Parties: 156.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 999, p. 171 and vol. 1057, p. 407 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Spanish text); depositary notification C.N.782.2001.TREATIES-6 of 5 October 2001 [Proposal of correction to the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)] and C.N.8.2002.TREATIES-1 of 3 January 2002 [Rectification of the original of the Covenant (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Covenant was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan		24 Jan 1983 a	Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a
Albania		4 Oct 1991 a	Dominica		17 Jun 1993 a
Algeria	10 Dec 1968	12 Sep 1989	Dominican Republic		4 Jan 1978 a
Andorra	5 Aug 2002		Ecuador	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969
Angola		10 Jan 1992 a	Egypt	4 Aug 1967	14 Jan 1982
Argentina	19 Feb 1968	8 Aug 1986	El Salvador	21 Sep 1967	30 Nov 1979
Armenia		23 Jun 1993 a	Equatorial Guinea		25 Sep 1987 a
Australia	18 Dec 1972	13 Aug 1980	Eritrea		22 Jan 2002 a
Austria	10 Dec 1973	10 Sep 1978	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Azerbaijan		13 Aug 1992 a	Ethiopia		11 Jun 1993 a
Bangladesh		6 Sep 2000 a	Finland	11 Oct 1967	19 Aug 1975
Barbados		5 Jan 1973 a	France		4 Nov 1980 a
Belarus	19 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973	Gabon		21 Jan 1983 a
Belgium	10 Dec 1968	21 Apr 1983	Gambia		22 Mar 1979 a
Belize		10 Jun 1996 a	Georgia		3 May 1994 a
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	Germany	9 Oct 1968	17 Dec 1973
Bolivia		12 Aug 1982 a	Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Greece		5 May 1997 a
Botswana	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	Grenada		6 Sep 1991 a
Brazil		24 Jan 1992 a	Guatemala		5 May 1992 a
Bulgaria	8 Oct 1968	21 Sep 1970	Guinea	28 Feb 1967	24 Jan 1978
Burkina Faso		4 Jan 1999 a	Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Burundi		9 May 1990 a	Guyana	22 Aug 1968	15 Feb 1977
Cambodia	17 Oct 1980	26 May 1992 a	Haiti		6 Feb 1991 a
Cameroon		27 Jun 1984 a	Honduras	19 Dec 1966	25 Aug 1997
Canada		19 May 1976 a	Hungary	25 Mar 1969	17 Jan 1974
Cape Verde		6 Aug 1993 a	Iceland	30 Dec 1968	22 Aug 1979
Central African Republic		8 May 1981 a	India		10 Apr 1979 a
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Indonesia		23 Feb 2006 a
Chile	16 Sep 1969	10 Feb 1972	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4 Apr 1968	24 Jun 1975
China	5 Oct 1998		Iraq	18 Feb 1969	25 Jan 1971
Colombia	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Ireland	1 Oct 1973	8 Dec 1989
Congo		5 Oct 1983 a	Israel	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1991
Costa Rica	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968	Italy	18 Jan 1967	15 Sep 1978
Côte d'Ivoire		26 Mar 1992 a	Jamaica	19 Dec 1966	3 Oct 1975
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Japan	30 May 1978	21 Jun 1979
Cyprus	19 Dec 1966	2 Apr 1969	Jordan	30 Jun 1972	28 May 1975
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Kazakhstan	2 Dec 2003	24 Jan 2006
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		14 Sep 1981 a	Kenya		1 May 1972 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		1 Nov 1976 a	Kuwait		21 May 1996 a
Denmark	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972	Kyrgyzstan		7 Oct 1994 a
			Lao People's Democratic Republic	7 Dec 2000	
			Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Lebanon		3 Nov 1972 a	Seychelles		5 May 1992 a
Lesotho		9 Sep 1992 a	Sierra Leone		23 Aug 1996 a
Liberia	18 Apr 1967	22 Sep 2004	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		15 May 1970 a	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a	Somalia		24 Jan 1990 a
Lithuania		20 Nov 1991 a	South Africa	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
Luxembourg	26 Nov 1974	18 Aug 1983	Spain	28 Sep 1976	27 Apr 1977
Madagascar	17 Sep 1969	21 Jun 1971	Sri Lanka		11 Jun 1980 a
Malawi		22 Dec 1993 a	Sudan		18 Mar 1986 a
Mali		16 Jul 1974 a	Suriname		28 Dec 1976 a
Malta		13 Sep 1990 a	Swaziland		26 Mar 2004 a
Mauritania		17 Nov 2004 a	Sweden	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971
Mauritius		12 Dec 1973 a	Switzerland		18 Jun 1992 a
Mexico		23 Mar 1981 a	Syrian Arab Republic		21 Apr 1969 a
Monaco	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug 1997	Tajikistan		4 Jan 1999 a
Mongolia	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov 1974	Thailand		29 Oct 1996 a
Morocco	19 Jan 1977	3 May 1979	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Mozambique		21 Jul 1993 a	Timor-Leste		18 Sep 2003 a
Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a	Togo		24 May 1984 a
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Trinidad and Tobago		21 Dec 1978 a
Nepal		14 May 1991 a	Tunisia	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969
Netherlands	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978	Turkey	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003
New Zealand	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a
Nicaragua		12 Mar 1980 a	Uganda		21 Jun 1995 a
Niger		7 Mar 1986 a	Ukraine	20 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973
Nigeria		29 Jul 1993 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976
Norway	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972	United Republic of Tanzania		11 Jun 1976 a
Panama	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977	United States of Amer- ica	5 Oct 1977	8 Jun 1992
Paraguay		10 Jun 1992 a	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Peru	11 Aug 1977	28 Apr 1978	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Philippines	19 Dec 1966	23 Oct 1986	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Poland	2 Mar 1967	18 Mar 1977	Viet Nam		24 Sep 1982 a
Portugal	7 Oct 1976	15 Jun 1978	Yemen		9 Feb 1987 a
Republic of Korea		10 Apr 1990 a	Zambia		10 Apr 1984 a
Republic of Moldova		26 Jan 1993 a	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Romania	27 Jun 1968	9 Dec 1974			
Russian Federation	18 Mar 1968	16 Oct 1973			
Rwanda		16 Apr 1975 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		9 Nov 1981 a			
San Marino		18 Oct 1985 a			
Sao Tome and Principe	31 Oct 1995				
Senegal	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978			
Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d			

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

(New York, 16 December 1966)

OBJECTIVES

The (first) Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Protocol) provides Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant) with the option to recognize the additional competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and examine communications from individuals. It allows individuals or groups of individuals who have exhausted local remedies to petition the Committee directly about alleged violations of the Covenant by their Governments.

KEY PROVISIONS

Under the Protocol, the Committee's final decisions on the merits are akin to judgements, but are called "Views". As a direct result of the Committee's Views, Parties have commuted death sentences, released prisoners, paid compensation to victims and changed their legislation. The Committee has also established a follow-up procedure and conducts visits to Parties to assist them in the implementation of the Committee's Views.

The Committee's case law under the Protocol is increasingly quoted by national and international tribunals and has given rise to considerable interest in the academic community, since it constitutes the concretization of human rights in individual cases.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 23 March 1976 (article 9).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State which has signed the Covenant and to ratification and accession by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant (article 8).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General. The denunciation shall take effect for the Party concerned three months after the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 12).

**OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND
POLITICAL RIGHTS**

New York, 16 December 1966

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 23 March 1976, in accordance with article 9.

REGISTRATION: 23 March 1976, No. 14668.

STATUS: Signatories: 34. Parties: 105.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 999, p. 171.

Note: The Protocol was opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Algeria		12 Sep 1989 a	Guinea	19 Mar 1975	17 Jun 1993
Andorra	5 Aug 2002		Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Angola		10 Jan 1992 a	Guyana		10 May 1993 a
Argentina		8 Aug 1986 a	Honduras	19 Dec 1966	7 Jun 2005
Armenia		23 Jun 1993 a	Hungary		7 Sep 1988 a
Australia		25 Sep 1991 a	Iceland		22 Aug 1979 a
Austria	10 Dec 1973	10 Dec 1987	Ireland		8 Dec 1989 a
Azerbaijan		27 Nov 2001 a	Italy	30 Apr 1976	15 Sep 1978
Barbados		5 Jan 1973 a	Jamaica	[19Dec 1966	3 Oct 1975]
Belarus		30 Sep 1992 a	Kyrgyzstan		7 Oct 1994 a
Belgium		17 May 1994 a	Latvia		22 Jun 1994 a
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	Lesotho		6 Sep 2000 a
Bolivia		12 Aug 1982 a	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 Mar 1995	1 Mar 1995	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May 1989 a
Bulgaria		26 Mar 1992 a	Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a
Burkina Faso		4 Jan 1999 a	Lithuania		20 Nov 1991 a
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Luxembourg		18 Aug 1983 a
Cameroon		27 Jun 1984 a	Madagascar	17 Sep 1969	21 Jun 1971
Canada		19 May 1976 a	Malawi		11 Jun 1996 a
Cape Verde		19 May 2000 a	Mali		24 Oct 2001 a
Central African Republic		8 May 1981 a	Malta		13 Sep 1990 a
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Mauritius		12 Dec 1973 a
Chile		27 May 1992 a	Mexico		15 Mar 2002 a
China			Mongolia		16 Apr 1991 a
Colombia	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a
Congo		5 Oct 1983 a	Nauru	12 Nov 2001	
Costa Rica	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968	Nepal		14 May 1991 a
Côte d'Ivoire		5 Mar 1997 a	Netherlands	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978
Croatia		12 Oct 1995 a	New Zealand		26 May 1989 a
Cyprus	19 Dec 1966	15 Apr 1992	Nicaragua		12 Mar 1980 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Niger		7 Mar 1986 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		1 Nov 1976 a	Norway	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972
Denmark	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972	Panama	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977
Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a	Paraguay		10 Jan 1995 a
Dominican Republic		4 Jan 1978 a	Peru	11 Aug 1977	3 Oct 1980
Ecuador	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969	Philippines	19 Dec 1966	22 Aug 1989
El Salvador	21 Sep 1967	6 Jun 1995	Poland		7 Nov 1991 a
Equatorial Guinea		25 Sep 1987 a	Portugal	1 Aug 1978	3 May 1983
Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a	Republic of Korea		10 Apr 1990 a
Finland	11 Dec 1967	19 Aug 1975	Republic of Moldova	16 Sep 2005	
France		17 Feb 1984 a	Romania		20 Jul 1993 a
Gambia		9 Jun 1988 a	Russian Federation		1 Oct 1991 a
Georgia		3 May 1994 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		9 Nov 1981 a
Germany		25 Aug 1993 a	San Marino		18 Oct 1985 a
Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000	
Greece		5 May 1997 a	Senegal	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978
Guatemala		28 Nov 2000 a	Serbia and Montenegro	12 Mar 2001 d	6 Sep 2001
			Seychelles		5 May 1992 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Sierra Leone		23 Aug 1996 a	Trinidad and Tobago.		[14 Nov 1980 a]
Slovakia ⁵		28 May 1993 d	Turkey	3 Feb 2004	
Slovenia		16 Jul 1993 a	Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a
Somalia		24 Jan 1990 a	Uganda		14 Nov 1995 a
South Africa		28 Aug 2002 a	Ukraine		25 Jul 1991 a
Spain		25 Jan 1985 a	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Sri Lanka		3 Oct 1997 a	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Suriname		28 Dec 1976 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	15 Nov 1976	10 May 1978
Sweden	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971	Zambia		10 Apr 1984 a
Tajikistan		4 Jan 1999 a			
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	12 Dec 1994 d	12 Dec 1994			
Togo		30 Mar 1988 a			

Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty *(New York, 15 December 1989)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Second Optional Protocol) is the abolition of the death penalty.

KEY PROVISIONS

The provisions of the Second Optional Protocol apply as additional provisions to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (the Covenant). The Second Optional Protocol mandates that no one within the jurisdiction of a Party shall be executed, and that each Party shall take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty within its jurisdiction. Without prejudice to the possibility of a reservation under the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, which is referred to below, this right is not subject to derogation under article 4 of the Covenant.

Parties shall include in their reports they submit to the Human Rights Committee, in accordance with article 40 of the Covenant, information on the measures that they have adopted to give effect to the Second Optional Protocol.

Declarations under article 41 of the Covenant, which relates to the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications when a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations, shall extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, unless the Party concerned has made a statement to the contrary at the time of ratification or accession.

With respect to Parties to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (first Optional Protocol), adopted on 16 December 1966, the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction shall extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol, unless the Party concerned has made a statement to the contrary at the moment of ratification or accession.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Second Optional Protocol entered into force on 11 July 1991 (article 8).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Second Optional Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State that has signed the Covenant. The Second Optional Protocol is subject to ratification by any State that has ratified the Covenant or acceded to it. The Second Optional Protocol is open to accession by any State that has ratified the Covenant or acceded to it (article 7).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may make a statement at the time of ratification or accession that its declaration under article 41 of the Covenant, which relates to the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications when a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations, shall not extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol (article 4).

A Party, which has ratified or acceded to the first Optional Protocol, may make a statement at the time of ratification or accession that the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction shall not extend to the provisions of the Second Optional Protocol (article 5).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Second Optional Protocol, except for reservations made at the time of ratification or accession that provides for the application of the death penalty in time of war pursuant to a conviction for a most serious crime of a military nature committed during wartime. A party making such a reservation shall at the time of ratification or accession communicate to the Secretary-General the relevant provisions of its national legislation applicable during wartime. In addition, the Party having made such a reservation shall notify the Secretary-General of any beginning or ending of a state of war applicable to its territory (article 2).

DENUNCIATIONS/WITHDRAWAL

The Second Optional Protocol is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal. The Second Optional Protocol, however, shall apply as additional provisions to the Covenant, in accordance with its article 6. The Covenant is not subject to denunciation.

**SECOND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND
POLITICAL RIGHTS, AIMING AT THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY**

New York, 15 December 1989

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 July 1991, in accordance with article 8 (1).
REGISTRATION: 11 July 1991, No. 14668.
STATUS: Signatories: 33. Parties: 57.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, p. 414.

Note: The said Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 44/128 of 15 December 1989 at the Forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and is open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York by all States having signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Andorra	5 Aug 2002		Mozambique		21 Jul 1993 a
Australia		2 Oct 1990 a	Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a
Austria	8 Apr 1991	2 Mar 1993	Nepal		4 Mar 1998 a
Azerbaijan		22 Jan 1999 a	Netherlands	9 Aug 1990	26 Mar 1991
Belgium	12 Jul 1990	8 Dec 1998	New Zealand	22 Feb 1990	22 Feb 1990
Bosnia and Herzegovina			Nicaragua	21 Feb 1990	
Bulgaria	7 Sep 2000	16 Mar 2001	Norway	13 Feb 1990	5 Sep 1991
Canada	11 Mar 1999	10 Aug 1999	Panama		21 Jan 1993 a
Cape Verde		25 Nov 2005 a	Paraguay		18 Aug 2003 a
Chile	15 Nov 2001	19 May 2000 a	Poland	21 Mar 2000	
Colombia		5 Aug 1997 a	Portugal	13 Feb 1990	17 Oct 1990
Costa Rica	14 Feb 1990	5 Jun 1998	Romania	15 Mar 1990	27 Feb 1991
Croatia		12 Oct 1995 a	San Marino	26 Sep 2003	17 Aug 2004
Cyprus		10 Sep 1999 a	Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000	
Czech Republic		15 Jun 2004 a	Serbia and Montenegro		6 Sep 2001 a
Denmark	13 Feb 1990	24 Feb 1994	Seychelles		15 Dec 1994 a
Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a	Slovakia	22 Sep 1998	22 Jun 1999
Ecuador		23 Feb 1993 a	Slovenia	14 Sep 1993	10 Mar 1994
Estonia		30 Jan 2004 a	South Africa		28 Aug 2002 a
Finland	13 Feb 1990	4 Apr 1991	Spain	23 Feb 1990	11 Apr 1991
Georgia		22 Mar 1999 a	Sweden	13 Feb 1990	11 May 1990
Germany	13 Feb 1990	18 Aug 1992	Switzerland		16 Jun 1994 a
Greece		5 May 1997 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		26 Jan 1995 a
Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000		Timor-Leste		18 Sep 2003 a
Honduras	10 May 1990		Turkey	6 Apr 2004	2 Mar 2006
Hungary		24 Feb 1994 a	Turkmenistan		11 Jan 2000 a
Iceland	30 Jan 1991	2 Apr 1991	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
Ireland		18 Jun 1993 a	Uruguay	31 Mar 1999	10 Dec 1999
Italy	13 Feb 1990	14 Feb 1995	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	13 Feb 1990	21 Jan 1993
Liberia		16 Sep 2005 a		7 Jun 1990	22 Feb 1993
Liechtenstein		10 Dec 1998 a			
Lithuania	8 Sep 2000	27 Mar 2002			
Luxembourg	13 Feb 1990	12 Feb 1992			
Malta		29 Dec 1994 a			
Monaco		28 Mar 2000 a			

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women *(New York, 18 December 1979)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) is the most comprehensive treaty on women's human rights, establishing legally binding obligations to end discrimination. Often described as the international bill of rights for women, the Convention provides for equality between women and men in the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Discrimination against women is to be eliminated through legal, policy and programmatic measures and through temporary special measures to accelerate women's equality, which are defined as non-discriminatory.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties are required to end all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their equality with men in political and public life with regard to nationality, education, employment, health, and economic and social benefits. Obligations are also imposed to eliminate discrimination against women in marriage and family life and to ensure that women and men are treated equally before the law. Parties are required to take account of the particular problems of women in rural areas, and their special roles in the economic survival of the family.

The Convention is the only human rights treaty to affirm the reproductive rights of women. In addition, it obliges Parties to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women in order to eliminate prejudices and customs and all other practices, which are based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women.

The Convention establishes a monitoring body – the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women – which comprises 23 independent experts. The Committee is mandated to consider reports from Parties and to make suggestions and general recommendations based on these reports. The Committee directs its suggestions to the United Nations system and its general recommendations to the Parties (article 17).

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature by all States (indefinitely). It is subject to ratification and is open for accession (article 25).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

States may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 29.1, according to which disputes among Parties relating to

the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration, upon request of one of them, and, failing an agreement about the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 29).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention are not permitted (article 28).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

New York, 18 December 1979

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 September 1981, in accordance with article 27 (1).

REGISTRATION: 3 September 1981, No. 20378.

STATUS: Signatories: 98. Parties: 182.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, p. 13.

Note: The Convention was opened for signature at the United Nations Headquarters on 1 March 1980.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan	14 Aug 1980	5 Mar 2003	Denmark	17 Jul 1980	21 Apr 1983
Albania		11 May 1994 a	Djibouti		2 Dec 1998 a
Algeria		22 May 1996 a	Dominica	15 Sep 1980	15 Sep 1980
Andorra		15 Jan 1997 a	Dominican Republic	17 Jul 1980	2 Sep 1982
Angola		17 Sep 1986 a	Ecuador	17 Jul 1980	9 Nov 1981
Antigua and Barbuda		1 Aug 1989 a	Egypt	16 Jul 1980	18 Sep 1981
Argentina	17 Jul 1980	15 Jul 1985	El Salvador	14 Nov 1980	19 Aug 1981
Armenia		13 Sep 1993 a	Equatorial Guinea		23 Oct 1984 a
Australia	17 Jul 1980	28 Jul 1983	Eritrea		5 Sep 1995 a
Austria	17 Jul 1980	31 Mar 1982	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Azerbaijan		10 Jul 1995 a	Ethiopia	8 Jul 1980	10 Sep 1981
Bahamas		6 Oct 1993 a	Fiji		28 Aug 1995 a
Bahrain		18 Jun 2002 a	Finland	17 Jul 1980	4 Sep 1986
Bangladesh		6 Nov 1984 a	France	17 Jul 1980	14 Dec 1983
Barbados	24 Jul 1980	16 Oct 1980	Gabon	17 Jul 1980	21 Jan 1983
Belarus	17 Jul 1980	4 Feb 1981	Gambia	29 Jul 1980	16 Apr 1993
Belgium	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul 1985	Georgia		26 Oct 1994 a
Belize	7 Mar 1990	16 May 1990	Germany	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul 1985
Benin	11 Nov 1981	12 Mar 1992	Ghana	17 Jul 1980	2 Jan 1986
Bhutan	17 Jul 1980	31 Aug 1981	Greece	2 Mar 1982	7 Jun 1983
Bolivia	30 May 1980	8 Jun 1990	Grenada	17 Jul 1980	30 Aug 1990
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Guatemala	8 Jun 1981	12 Aug 1982
Botswana		13 Aug 1996 a	Guinea	17 Jul 1980	9 Aug 1982
Brazil	31 Mar 1981	1 Feb 1984	Guinea-Bissau	17 Jul 1980	23 Aug 1985
Bulgaria	17 Jul 1980	8 Feb 1982	Guyana	17 Jul 1980	17 Jul 1980
Burkina Faso		14 Oct 1987 a	Haiti	17 Jul 1980	20 Jul 1981
Burundi	17 Jul 1980	8 Jan 1992	Honduras	11 Jun 1980	3 Mar 1983
Cambodia	17 Oct 1980	15 Oct 1992 a	Hungary	6 Jun 1980	22 Dec 1980
Cameroon	6 Jun 1983	23 Aug 1994	Iceland	24 Jul 1980	18 Jun 1985
Canada	17 Jul 1980	10 Dec 1981	India	30 Jul 1980	9 Jul 1993
Cape Verde		5 Dec 1980 a	Indonesia	29 Jul 1980	13 Sep 1984
Central African Republic		21 Jun 1991 a	Iraq		13 Aug 1986 a
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Ireland		23 Dec 1985 a
Chile	17 Jul 1980	7 Dec 1989	Israel	17 Jul 1980	3 Oct 1991
China	17 Jul 1980	4 Nov 1980	Italy	17 Jul 1980	10 Jun 1985
Colombia	17 Jul 1980	19 Jan 1982	Jamaica	17 Jul 1980	19 Oct 1984
Comoros		31 Oct 1994 a	Japan	17 Jul 1980	25 Jun 1985
Congo	29 Jul 1980	26 Jul 1982	Jordan	3 Dec 1980	1 Jul 1992
Costa Rica	17 Jul 1980	4 Apr 1986	Kazakhstan		26 Aug 1998 a
Côte d'Ivoire	17 Jul 1980	18 Dec 1995	Kenya		9 Mar 1984 a
Croatia		9 Sep 1992 d	Kiribati		17 Mar 2004 a
Cuba	6 Mar 1980	17 Jul 1980	Kuwait		2 Sep 1994 a
Cyprus		23 Jul 1985 a	Kyrgyzstan		10 Feb 1997 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Lao People's Democratic Republic	17 Jul 1980	14 Aug 1981
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		27 Feb 2001 a	Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo	17 Jul 1980	17 Oct 1986	Lebanon		16 Apr 1997 a
			Lesotho	17 Jul 1980	22 Aug 1995
			Liberia		17 Jul 1984 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		16 May 1989 a	Sao Tome and Principe	31 Oct 1995	3 Jun 2003
Liechtenstein		22 Dec 1995 a	Saudi Arabia	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Lithuania		18 Jan 1994 a	Senegal	29 Jul 1980	5 Feb 1985
Luxembourg	17 Jul 1980	2 Feb 1989	Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d
Madagascar	17 Jul 1980	17 Mar 1989	Seychelles		5 May 1992 a
Malawi		12 Mar 1987 a	Sierra Leone	21 Sep 1988	11 Nov 1988
Malaysia		5 Jul 1995 a	Singapore		5 Oct 1995 a
Maldives		1 Jul 1993 a	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Mali	5 Feb 1985	10 Sep 1985	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Malta		8 Mar 1991 a	Solomon Islands		6 May 2002 a
Marshall Islands		2 Mar 2006 a	South Africa	29 Jan 1993	15 Dec 1995
Mauritania		10 May 2001 a	Spain	17 Jul 1980	5 Jan 1984
Mauritius		9 Jul 1984 a	Sri Lanka	17 Jul 1980	5 Oct 1981
Mexico	17 Jul 1980	23 Mar 1981	Suriname		1 Mar 1993 a
Micronesia (Federated States of)		1 Sep 2004 a	Swaziland		26 Mar 2004 a
Monaco		18 Mar 2005 a	Sweden	7 Mar 1980	2 Jul 1980
Mongolia	17 Jul 1980	20 Jul 1981	Switzerland	23 Jan 1987	27 Mar 1997
Morocco		21 Jun 1993 a	Syrian Arab Republic		28 Mar 2003 a
Mozambique		21 Apr 1997 a	Tajikistan		26 Oct 1993 a
Myanmar		22 Jul 1997 a	Thailand		9 Aug 1985 a
Namibia		23 Nov 1992 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Nepal	5 Feb 1991	22 Apr 1991	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Netherlands	17 Jul 1980	23 Jul 1991	Togo		26 Sep 1983 a
New Zealand	17 Jul 1980	10 Jan 1985	Trinidad and Tobago	27 Jun 1985	12 Jan 1990
Nicaragua	17 Jul 1980	27 Oct 1981	Tunisia	24 Jul 1980	20 Sep 1985
Niger		8 Oct 1999 a	Turkey		20 Dec 1985 a
Nigeria	23 Apr 1984	13 Jun 1985	Turkmenistan		1 May 1997 a
Norway	17 Jul 1980	21 May 1981	Tuvalu		6 Oct 1999 a
Oman		7 Feb 2006 a	Uganda	30 Jul 1980	22 Jul 1985
Pakistan		12 Mar 1996 a	Ukraine	17 Jul 1980	12 Mar 1981
Panama	26 Jun 1980	29 Oct 1981	United Arab Emirates		6 Oct 2004 a
Papua New Guinea		12 Jan 1995 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	22 Jul 1981	7 Apr 1986
Paraguay		6 Apr 1987 a	United Republic of Tanzania	17 Jul 1980	20 Aug 1985
Peru	23 Jul 1981	13 Sep 1982	United States of Amer- ica	17 Jul 1980	
Philippines	15 Jul 1980	5 Aug 1981	Uruguay	30 Mar 1981	9 Oct 1981
Poland	29 May 1980	30 Jul 1980	Uzbekistan		19 Jul 1995 a
Portugal	24 Apr 1980	30 Jul 1980	Vanuatu		8 Sep 1995 a
Republic of Korea	25 May 1983	27 Dec 1984	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	17 Jul 1980	2 May 1983
Republic of Moldova		1 Jul 1994 a	Vict Nam	29 Jul 1980	17 Feb 1982
Romania	4 Sep 1980	7 Jan 1982	Yemen		30 May 1984 a
Russian Federation	17 Jul 1980	23 Jan 1981	Zambia	17 Jul 1980	21 Jun 1985
Rwanda	1 May 1980	2 Mar 1981	Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis		25 Apr 1985 a			
Saint Lucia		8 Oct 1982 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		4 Aug 1981 a			
Samoa		25 Sep 1992 a			
San Marino	26 Sep 2003	10 Dec 2003			

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women *(New York, 6 October 1999)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Optional Protocol) is to allow individuals or groups of individuals who have exhausted national remedies to petition the Committee directly about alleged violations of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) by their Governments. The Optional Protocol also permits the Committee to conduct inquiries into grave or systematic violations of the Convention in countries that are parties to the Convention and to the Optional Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties to the Optional Protocol undertake to make the Convention and the Protocol widely known and to facilitate access to information about the views and recommendations of the Committee. They are also required to take all-appropriate measures to ensure that individuals under their jurisdiction are not subjected to ill-treatment or intimidation when they take advantage of the Optional Protocol's procedure or provide information associated with these procedures. States which ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol may not enter reservations to its terms, but they are able to opt out of the inquiry procedure.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Optional Protocol entered into force on 22 December 2000 (article 16).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Optional Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely), by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and to ratification and accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention (article 15).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

At the time of signature, ratification or accession a State may declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women provided for in articles 8 and 9 (article 10).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations are not permitted (article 17).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Optional Protocol is possible at any time and it takes effect six months after the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 19).

**Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
Discrimination against Women**

New York, 6 October 1999

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22 December 2000, in accordance with article 16 (1) (see paragraph 16 of Resolution A/RES/54/4).
REGISTRATION: 22 December 2000, No. 20378.
STATUS: Signatories: 76. Parties: 76.
TEXT: A/RES/54/4.

Note: The Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/4 of 6 October 1999 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 15(1), the Protocol will be open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 10 December 1999.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Albania		23 Jun 2003 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		18 Jun 2004 a
Andorra	9 Jul 2001	14 Oct 2002	Liechtenstein	10 Dec 1999	24 Oct 2001
Argentina	28 Feb 2000		Lithuania	8 Sep 2000	5 Aug 2004
Austria	10 Dec 1999	6 Sep 2000	Luxembourg	10 Dec 1999	1 Jul 2003
Azerbaijan	6 Jun 2000	1 Jun 2001	Madagascar	7 Sep 2000	
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Malawi	7 Sep 2000	
Belarus	29 Apr 2002	3 Feb 2004	Mali		5 Dec 2000 a
Belgium	10 Dec 1999	17 Jun 2004	Mauritius	11 Nov 2001	
Belize		9 Dec 2002 a	Mexico	10 Dec 1999	15 Mar 2002
Benin	25 May 2000		Mongolia	7 Sep 2000	28 Mar 2002
Bolivia	10 Dec 1999	27 Sep 2000	Namibia	19 May 2000	26 May 2000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	Nepal	18 Dec 2001	
Brazil	13 Mar 2001	28 Jun 2002	Netherlands	10 Dec 1999	22 May 2002
Bulgaria	6 Jun 2000		New Zealand	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Burkina Faso	16 Nov 2001	10 Oct 2005	Niger		30 Sep 2004 a
Burundi	13 Nov 2001		Nigeria	8 Sep 2000	22 Nov 2004
Cambodia	11 Nov 2001		Norway	10 Dec 1999	5 Mar 2002
Cameroon		7 Jan 2005 a	Panama	9 Jun 2000	9 May 2001
Canada		18 Oct 2002 a	Paraguay	28 Dec 1999	14 May 2001
Chile	10 Dec 1999		Peru	22 Dec 2000	9 Apr 2001
Colombia	10 Dec 1999		Philippines	21 Mar 2000	12 Nov 2003
Costa Rica	10 Dec 1999	20 Sep 2001	Poland		22 Dec 2003 a
Croatia	5 Jun 2000	7 Mar 2001	Portugal	16 Feb 2000	26 Apr 2002
Cuba	17 Mar 2000		Romania	6 Sep 2000	25 Aug 2003
Cyprus	8 Feb 2001	26 Apr 2002	Russian Federation	8 May 2001	28 Jul 2004
Czech Republic	10 Dec 1999	26 Feb 2001	Saint Kitts and Nevis		20 Jan 2006 a
Denmark	10 Dec 1999	31 May 2000	San Marino		15 Sep 2005 a
Dominican Republic	14 Mar 2000	10 Aug 2001	Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000	
Ecuador	10 Dec 1999	5 Feb 2002	Senegal	10 Dec 1999	26 May 2000
El Salvador	4 Apr 2001		Serbia and Montenegro		31 Jul 2003 a
Finland	10 Dec 1999	29 Dec 2000	Seychelles	22 Jul 2002	
France	10 Dec 1999	9 Jun 2000	Sierra Leone	8 Sep 2000	
Gabon		5 Nov 2004 a	Slovakia	5 Jun 2000	17 Nov 2000
Georgia		1 Aug 2002 a	Slovenia	10 Dec 1999	23 Sep 2004
Germany	10 Dec 1999	15 Jan 2002	Solomon Islands		6 May 2002 a
Ghana	24 Feb 2000		South Africa		18 Oct 2005 a
Greece	10 Dec 1999	24 Jan 2002	Spain	14 Mar 2000	6 Jul 2001
Guatemala	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002	Sri Lanka		15 Oct 2002 a
Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000		Sweden	10 Dec 1999	24 Apr 2003
Hungary		22 Dec 2000 a	Tajikistan	7 Sep 2000	
Iceland	10 Dec 1999	6 Mar 2001	Thailand	14 Jun 2000	14 Jun 2000
Indonesia	28 Feb 2000		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	3 Apr 2000	17 Oct 2003
Ireland	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Italy	10 Dec 1999	22 Sep 2000	Turkey	8 Sep 2000	29 Oct 2002
Kazakhstan	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001	Ukraine	7 Sep 2000	26 Sep 2003
Kyrgyzstan		22 Jul 2002 a			
Lesotho	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004			
Liberia	22 Sep 2004				

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...		17 Dec 2004 a	Uruguay	9 May 2000	26 Jul 2001
United Republic of Tanzania		12 Jan 2006 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	17 Mar 2000	13 May 2002

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment *(New York, 10 December 1984)*

OBJECTIVES

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment are particularly serious violations of human rights and, as such, are strictly condemned by international law. Based upon the recognition that such practices are outlawed, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Convention) strengthens the existing prohibition by a number of supporting measures. The Convention provides for several forms of international supervision in relation to the observance by Parties of their obligations under the Convention including the creation of an international supervisory body – the Committee against Torture – which can consider complaints from a Party or from or on behalf of individuals.

KEY PROVISIONS

The prohibition against torture is absolute and, according to the Convention, no exceptional circumstances whatsoever, including state of emergency or war or an order from a public authority, may be invoked as a justification of torture. The Convention defines "Torture" as:

"... any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions."

Parties have the obligation to prevent and punish not only acts of torture as defined in the Convention, but also other acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, when such acts are committed by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity.

Parties have an obligation to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent acts of torture from occurring on their territories. Measures mentioned in the Convention include the prohibition and punishability by appropriate penalties of all acts of torture in domestic criminal law; education and information regarding the prohibition against torture to be fully integrated into the training of law enforcement personnel, civil or military, medical personnel, public officials and others; the systematic review by Parties of interrogation rules, instructions, methods and practices as well as of arrangements for the custody and treatment of suspects, detainees and prisoners; guarantees for the prompt and impartial investigation by competent authorities into allegations of torture; the protection of

witnesses; and the possibility for victims to obtain redress and fair and adequate compensation and rehabilitation.

In addition, Parties have an obligation not to expel, return or extradite a person to another State where he or she would be in danger of being subjected to torture. An act of torture is required to be made an extraditable offence and a Party is to take measures to establish its jurisdiction over crimes of torture committed in any part of its territory by one of its nationals and when an alleged offender is present on its territory and not extradited.

In order to monitor and review actions taken by Parties to fulfil their obligations, the Committee against Torture has four procedures at its disposal. The first is the obligation for all Parties to submit periodic reports to the Committee for examination, which results in the adoption of recommendations by the Committee to the Party in question. A particular feature of the Convention is that if the Committee receives reliable information indicating that torture is being systematically practised in the territory of a Party, the Committee may decide to initiate a confidential inquiry into the situation. Such inquiry would be carried out in cooperation with the Party concerned and would include country visits. The Committee can also consider complaints from individuals who claim to be victims of a violation by a Party to the Convention. This may be done only if the Party concerned has declared that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and examine such complaints. Finally, a procedure of State-to-State complaints is provided for by the Convention, but has thus far never been resorted to.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 26 June 1987 (article 27).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all States. It is subject to ratification by signatory States and open to accession by all States (articles 25 and 26).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications to the effect that a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 21).

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation by a Party of the provisions of the Convention (article 22).

RESERVATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention or accession thereto, declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee against Torture provided for in article 20. Any Party having made such a reservation may, at any time, withdraw it by notification to the Secretary-General (article 28).

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention or accession thereto, declare that it does consider itself bound by article 30 (1), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention, which are not settled by negotiation, will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 30 (2)).

The Convention is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The denunciation becomes effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 31).

**CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING
TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT**

New York, 10 December 1984

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 26 June 1987, in accordance with article 27 (1).
REGISTRATION: 26 June 1987, No. 24841.
STATUS: Signatories: 74. Parties: 141.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, p. 85.

Note: The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984 at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States, in accordance with its article 25.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan	4 Feb 1985	1 Apr 1987	El Salvador		17 Jun 1996 a
Albania		11 May 1994 a	Equatorial Guinea		8 Oct 2002 a
Algeria	26 Nov 1985	12 Sep 1989	Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a
Andorra	5 Aug 2002		Ethiopia		14 Mar 1994 a
Antigua and Barbuda		19 Jul 1993 a	Finland	4 Feb 1985	30 Aug 1989
Argentina	4 Feb 1985	24 Sep 1986	France	4 Feb 1985	18 Feb 1986
Armenia		13 Sep 1993 a	Gabon	21 Jan 1986	8 Sep 2000
Australia	10 Dec 1985	8 Aug 1989	Gambia	23 Oct 1985	
Austria	14 Mar 1985	29 Jul 1987	Georgia		26 Oct 1994 a
Azerbaijan		16 Aug 1996 a	Germany	13 Oct 1986	1 Oct 1990
Bahrain		6 Mar 1998 a	Ghana	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Bangladesh		5 Oct 1998 a	Greece	4 Feb 1985	6 Oct 1988
Belarus	19 Dec 1985	13 Mar 1987	Guatemala		5 Jan 1990 a
Belgium	4 Feb 1985	25 Jun 1999	Guinea	30 May 1986	10 Oct 1989
Belize		17 Mar 1986 a	Guinea-Bissau	12 Sep 2000	
Benin		12 Mar 1992 a	Guyana	25 Jan 1988	19 May 1988
Bolivia	4 Feb 1985	12 Apr 1999	Holy See		26 Jun 2002 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		1 Sep 1993 d	Honduras		5 Dec 1996 a
Botswana	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	Hungary	28 Nov 1986	15 Apr 1987
Brazil	23 Sep 1985	28 Sep 1989	Iceland	4 Feb 1985	23 Oct 1996
Bulgaria	10 Jun 1986	16 Dec 1986	India	14 Oct 1997	
Burkina Faso		4 Jan 1999 a	Indonesia	23 Oct 1985	28 Oct 1998
Burundi		18 Feb 1993 a	Ireland	28 Sep 1992	11 Apr 2002
Cambodia		15 Oct 1992 a	Israel	22 Oct 1986	3 Oct 1991
Cameroon		19 Dec 1986 a	Italy	4 Feb 1985	12 Jan 1989
Canada	23 Aug 1985	24 Jun 1987	Japan		29 Jun 1999 a
Cape Verde		4 Jun 1992 a	Jordan		13 Nov 1991 a
Chad		9 Jun 1995 a	Kazakhstan		26 Aug 1998 a
Chile	23 Sep 1987	30 Sep 1988	Kenya		21 Feb 1997 a
China	12 Dec 1986	4 Oct 1988	Kuwait		8 Mar 1996 a
Colombia	10 Apr 1985	8 Dec 1987	Kyrgyzstan		5 Sep 1997 a
Comoros	22 Sep 2000		Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Congo		30 Jul 2003 a	Lebanon		5 Oct 2000 a
Costa Rica	4 Feb 1985	11 Nov 1993	Lesotho		12 Nov 2001 a
Côte d'Ivoire		18 Dec 1995 a	Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		16 May 1989 a
Cuba	27 Jan 1986	17 May 1995	Liechtenstein	27 Jun 1985	2 Nov 1990
Cyprus	9 Oct 1985	18 Jul 1991	Lithuania		1 Feb 1996 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Luxembourg	22 Feb 1985	29 Sep 1987
Democratic Republic of the Congo		18 Mar 1996 a	Madagascar	1 Oct 2001	13 Dec 2005
Denmark	4 Feb 1985	27 May 1987	Malawi		11 Jun 1996 a
Djibouti		5 Nov 2002 a	Maldives		20 Apr 2004 a
Dominican Republic	4 Feb 1985		Mali		26 Feb 1999 a
Ecuador	4 Feb 1985	30 Mar 1988	Malta		13 Sep 1990 a
Egypt		25 Jun 1986 a	Mauritania		17 Nov 2004 a
			Mauritius		9 Dec 1992 a
			Mexico	18 Mar 1985	23 Jan 1986

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Monaco		6 Dec 1991 a	Slovenia		16 Jul 1993 a
Mongolia		24 Jan 2002 a	Somalia		24 Jan 1990 a
Morocco	8 Jan 1986	21 Jun 1993	South Africa	29 Jan 1993	10 Dec 1998
Mozambique		14 Sep 1999 a	Spain	4 Feb 1985	21 Oct 1987
Namibia		28 Nov 1994 a	Sri Lanka		3 Jan 1994 a
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Sudan	4 Jun 1986	
Nepal		14 May 1991 a	Swaziland		26 Mar 2004 a
Netherlands	4 Feb 1985	21 Dec 1988	Sweden	4 Feb 1985	8 Jan 1986
New Zealand	14 Jan 1986	10 Dec 1989	Switzerland	4 Feb 1985	2 Dec 1986
Nicaragua	15 Apr 1985	5 Jul 2005	Syrian Arab Republic		19 Aug 2004 a
Niger		5 Oct 1998 a	Tajikistan		11 Jan 1995 a
Nigeria	28 Jul 1988	28 Jun 2001	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		12 Dec 1994 d
Norway	4 Feb 1985	9 Jul 1986	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Panama	22 Feb 1985	24 Aug 1987	Togo	25 Mar 1987	18 Nov 1987
Paraguay	23 Oct 1989	12 Mar 1990	Tunisia	26 Aug 1987	23 Sep 1988
Peru	29 May 1985	7 Jul 1988	Turkey	25 Jan 1988	2 Aug 1988
Philippines		18 Jun 1986 a	Turkmenistan		25 Jun 1999 a
Poland	13 Jan 1986	26 Jul 1989	Uganda		3 Nov 1986 a
Portugal	4 Feb 1985	9 Feb 1989	Ukraine	27 Feb 1986	24 Feb 1987
Qatar		11 Jan 2000 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	15 Mar 1985	8 Dec 1988
Republic of Korea		9 Jan 1995 a	United States of Amer- ica	18 Apr 1988	21 Oct 1994
Republic of Moldova		28 Nov 1995 a	Uruguay	4 Feb 1985	24 Oct 1986
Romania		18 Dec 1990 a	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Russian Federation	10 Dec 1985	3 Mar 1987	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rcpublic of)	15 Feb 1985	29 Jul 1991
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		1 Aug 2001 a	Yemen		5 Nov 1991 a
San Marino	18 Sep 2002		Zambia		7 Oct 1998 a
Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000				
Saudi Arabia		23 Sep 1997 a			
Senegal	4 Feb 1985	21 Aug 1986			
Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d			
Seychelles		5 May 1992 a			
Sierra Leone	18 Mar 1985	25 Apr 2001			
Slovakia		28 May 1993 d			

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment *(New York, 18 December 2002)*

OBJECTIVES

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Protocol) establishes an international monitoring mechanism that will enable the effective implementation of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Convention). Its objective is to enhance the worldwide protection of persons deprived of liberty from torture and other cruel and degrading treatment or punishment.

KEY PROVISIONS

The system established by the Protocol emphasizes the prevention of violations of the Convention. This preventive approach consists in regular monitoring of places where persons may be deprived of their liberty through visits conducted by expert bodies. A dual system is provided for under the Protocol: 1) the creation of an international expert body (the Subcommittee on Prevention) and 2) the establishment of national preventive mechanisms by Parties. The international and national bodies will work in a complementary way: both will have a mandate to conduct regular visits to places where persons may be deprived of their liberty, described as places of detention, and make recommendations to competent authorities.

Parties undertake to receive the Subcommittee on Prevention on their territory and grant it, as well as the national bodies, access to places of detention as well as provide all relevant information to such bodies in response to requests.

The term “place of detention” is broadly defined by the Protocol. Therefore, visits by the national and international expert bodies will not be limited to prisons and police stations, but may also include pre-trial detention facilities; centers for juveniles; places of administrative detention; detention centres for migrants and asylum seekers; as well as medical and psychiatric institutions.

The Protocol contains provisions on the Subcommittee on Prevention’s membership, terms and nominations, funding, as well as its mandate. The Secretary-General is charged with providing staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Subcommittee on Prevention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession (article 28).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State that is a Signatory or Party to the Convention. It is subject to ratification by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention. The Protocol shall be open to accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention (article 27).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Upon ratification or accession, Parties may make a declaration postponing the implementation of their obligations under either part III (concerning the mandate of the Subcommittee on Prevention) or part IV (concerning the national preventive mechanisms) of the Protocol. This postponement shall be valid for a maximum of three years but may be extended by the Committee against Torture for an additional two years after consultation with the Subcommittee on Prevention (article 24).

RESERVATIONS

Reservations to the Protocol are not permitted (article 30).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General, and it shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 33 (1)).

Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under the Protocol in regard to any act or situation that may occur prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective, or to the actions that the Subcommittee on Prevention has decided or may decide to take with respect to the Party concerned, nor shall denunciation prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter already under consideration by the Subcommittee prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 33 (2)).

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

New York, 18 December 2002

NOT YET IN FORCE: see article 28 which reads as follows: "1. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession."

STATUS: Signatories: 50. Parties: 17.
TEXT: GA Resolution A/RES/57/199 of 9 January 2003.

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 18 December 2002 at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations by resolution A/RES/57/199. In accordance with article 27 (1), the Protocol was opened for signature on 4 February 2003, the first possible date, by any State that has signed the Convention. In accordance with operative paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution A/RES/57/199, the Protocol is available for signature, ratification and accession at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Albania		1 Oct 2003 a	Maldives	14 Sep 2005	15 Feb 2006
Argentina	30 Apr 2003	15 Nov 2004	Mali	19 Jan 2004	12 May 2005
Austria	25 Sep 2003		Malta	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2003
Azerbaijan	15 Sep 2005		Mauritius		21 Jun 2005 a
Belgium	24 Oct 2005		Mexico	23 Sep 2003	11 Apr 2005
Benin	24 Feb 2005		Netherlands	3 Jun 2005	
Brazil	13 Oct 2003		New Zealand	23 Sep 2003	
Burkina Faso	21 Sep 2005		Norway	24 Sep 2003	
Cambodia	14 Sep 2005		Paraguay	22 Sep 2004	2 Dec 2005
Chile	6 Jun 2005		Poland	5 Apr 2004	14 Sep 2005
Costa Rica	4 Feb 2003	1 Dec 2005	Portugal	15 Feb 2006	
Croatia	23 Sep 2003	25 Apr 2005	Republic of Moldova	16 Sep 2005	
Cyprus	26 Jul 2004		Romania	24 Sep 2003	
Czech Republic	13 Sep 2004		Senegal	4 Feb 2003	
Denmark	26 Jun 2003	25 Jun 2004	Serbia and Montenegro	25 Sep 2003	
Estonia	21 Sep 2004		Sierra Leone	26 Sep 2003	
Finland	23 Sep 2003		Spain	13 Apr 2005	
France	16 Sep 2005		Sweden	26 Jun 2003	14 Sep 2005
Gabon	15 Dec 2004		Switzerland	25 Jun 2004	
Georgia		9 Aug 2005 a	Timor-Leste	16 Sep 2005	
Guatemala	25 Sep 2003		Togo	15 Sep 2005	
Guinea	16 Sep 2005		Turkey	14 Sep 2005	
Honduras	8 Dec 2004		Ukraine	23 Sep 2005	
Iceland	24 Sep 2003		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	26 Jun 2003	10 Dec 2003
Italy	20 Aug 2003		Uruguay	12 Jan 2004	8 Dec 2005
Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a			
Liechtenstein	24 Jun 2005				
Luxembourg	13 Jan 2005				
Madagascar	24 Sep 2003				

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict *(New York, 25 May 2000)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (the Protocol) is to increase the protection of children from involvement in armed conflict by raising the age of possible recruitment of persons into the armed forces and their participation in hostilities.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol establishes an obligation upon Parties to take all feasible measures to prevent the direct participation in hostilities by individuals under the age of eighteen. It prohibits the compulsory recruitment of persons under the age of eighteen into the armed forces, and also obliges Parties to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the armed forces above the age set by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention). It further requires Parties to establish safeguards relative to the voluntary recruitment of individuals under the age of eighteen. The Protocol also proscribes the recruitment of persons under the age of eighteen years by armed groups that are distinct from the armed forces of a State. Finally, the Protocol sets forth an obligation upon Parties to report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its implementation.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 12 February 2002 (article 10).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State that is a Party to the Convention or has signed it. The Protocol is subject to ratification and is open for accession by any State (article 9).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each State shall deposit a binding declaration upon ratification or accession, which sets forth the minimum age at which the State will permit voluntary recruitment into its national armed forces and a description of the safeguards that it has adopted to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced (article 3 (2)).

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time and it takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. If, on the expiry of that year, the denouncing Party is engaged in armed conflict, the denunciation does not take effect before the end of the armed conflict. Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligation under this Protocol with regard to any act that occurs prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective and it does not prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter that is already under consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective (article 11).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

New York, 25 May 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 12 February 2002, in accordance with article 10 (1).
REGISTRATION: 12 February 2002, No. 27531.
STATUS: Signatories: 121. Parties: 107.
TEXT: Doc.A/RES/54/263; and C.N.1031.2000.TREATIES-82 of 14 November 2000 [Rectification of the original of the Protocol (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; 865.2001.TREATIES-10 of 13 September 2001 [Rectification of the original of the Protocol (Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)].

Note: The Optional Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May 2000 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 9 (1), the Optional Protocol will be open for signature by any State that is a party to the Convention or has signed it.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan		24 Sep 2003 a	Gabon	8 Sep 2000	
Andorra	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	Gambia	21 Dec 2000	
Argentina	15 Jun 2000	10 Sep 2002	Germany	6 Sep 2000	13 Dec 2004
Armenia	24 Sep 2003	30 Sep 2005	Ghana	24 Sep 2003	
Australia	21 Oct 2002		Greece	7 Sep 2000	22 Oct 2003
Austria	6 Sep 2000	1 Feb 2002	Guatemala	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Azerbaijan	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	Guinea-Bissau	8 Sep 2000	
Bahrain		21 Sep 2004 a	Haiti	15 Aug 2002	
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Holy See	10 Oct 2000	24 Oct 2001
Belarus		25 Jan 2006 a	Honduras		14 Aug 2002 a
Belgium	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2002	Hungary	11 Mar 2002	
Belize	6 Sep 2000	1 Dec 2003	Iceland	7 Sep 2000	1 Oct 2001
Benin	22 Feb 2001	31 Jan 2005	India	15 Nov 2004	30 Nov 2005
Bhutan	15 Sep 2005		Indonesia	24 Sep 2001	
Bolivia		22 Dec 2004 a	Ireland	7 Sep 2000	18 Nov 2002
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000	10 Oct 2003	Israel	14 Nov 2001	18 Jul 2005
Botswana	24 Sep 2003	4 Oct 2004	Italy	6 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Brazil	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Jamaica	8 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Bulgaria	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Japan	10 May 2002	2 Aug 2004
Burkina Faso	16 Nov 2001		Jordan	6 Sep 2000	
Burundi	13 Nov 2001		Kazakhstan	6 Sep 2000	10 Apr 2003
Cambodia	27 Jun 2000	16 Jul 2004	Kenya	8 Sep 2000	28 Jan 2002
Cameroon	5 Oct 2001		Kuwait		26 Aug 2004 a
Canada	5 Jun 2000	7 Jul 2000	Kyrgyzstan		13 Aug 2003 a
Cape Verde		10 May 2002 a	Latvia	1 Feb 2002	19 Dec 2005
Chad	3 May 2002	28 Aug 2002	Lebanon	11 Feb 2002	
Chile	15 Nov 2001	31 Jul 2003	Lesotho	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2003
China	15 Mar 2001		Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Colombia	6 Sep 2000	25 May 2005	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		29 Oct 2004 a
Costa Rica	7 Sep 2000	24 Jan 2003	Liechtenstein	8 Sep 2000	4 Feb 2005
Croatia	8 May 2002	1 Nov 2002	Lithuania	13 Feb 2002	20 Feb 2003
Cuba	13 Oct 2000		Luxembourg	8 Sep 2000	4 Aug 2004
Czech Republic	6 Sep 2000	30 Nov 2001	Madagascar	7 Sep 2000	22 Sep 2004
Democratic Republic of the Congo	8 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2001	Malawi	7 Sep 2000	
Denmark	7 Sep 2000	27 Aug 2002	Maldives	10 May 2002	29 Dec 2004
Dominica		20 Sep 2002 a	Mali	8 Sep 2000	16 May 2002
Dominican Republic	9 May 2002		Malta	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Ecuador	6 Sep 2000	7 Jun 2004	Mauritius	11 Nov 2001	
El Salvador	18 Sep 2000	18 Apr 2002	Mexico	7 Sep 2000	15 Mar 2002
Eritrea		16 Feb 2005 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)	8 May 2002	
Estonia	24 Sep 2003		Monaco	26 Jun 2000	13 Nov 2001
Fiji	16 Sep 2005		Mongolia	12 Nov 2001	6 Oct 2004
Finland	7 Sep 2000	10 Apr 2002	Morocco	8 Sep 2000	22 May 2002
France	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003	Mozambique		19 Oct 2004 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Namibia	8 Sep 2000	16 Apr 2002	Sri Lanka	21 Aug 2000	8 Sep 2000
Nauru	8 Sep 2000		Sudan	9 May 2002	26 Jul 2005
Nepal	8 Sep 2000		Suriname	10 May 2002	
Netherlands	7 Sep 2000		Sweden	8 Jun 2000	20 Feb 2003
New Zealand	7 Sep 2000	12 Nov 2001	Switzerland	7 Sep 2000	26 Jun 2002
Nicaragua		17 Mar 2005 a	Syrian Arab Republic		17 Oct 2003 a
Nigeria	8 Sep 2000		Tajikistan		5 Aug 2002 a
Norway	13 Jun 2000	23 Sep 2003	Thailand		27 Feb 2006 a
Oman		17 Sep 2004 a	The Former Yugoslav		
Pakistan	26 Sep 2001		Republic of Mace-		
Panama	31 Oct 2000	8 Aug 2001	donia	17 Jul 2001	12 Jan 2004
Paraguay	13 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2002	Timor-Leste		2 Aug 2004 a
Peru	1 Nov 2000	8 May 2002	Togo	15 Nov 2001	28 Nov 2005
Philippines	8 Sep 2000	26 Aug 2003	Tunisia	22 Apr 2002	2 Jan 2003
Poland	13 Feb 2002	7 Apr 2005	Turkey	8 Sep 2000	4 May 2004
Portugal	6 Sep 2000	19 Aug 2003	Turkmenistan		29 Apr 2005 a
Qatar		25 Jul 2002 a	Uganda		6 May 2002 a
Republic of Korea	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004	Ukraine	7 Sep 2000	11 Jul 2005
Republic of Moldova	8 Feb 2002	7 Apr 2004	United Kingdom of		
Romania	6 Sep 2000	10 Nov 2001	Great Britain and		
Russian Federation	15 Feb 2001		Northern Ireland	7 Sep 2000	24 Jun 2003
Rwanda		23 Apr 2002 a	United Republic of		
San Marino	5 Jun 2000		Tanzania		11 Nov 2004 a
Senegal	8 Sep 2000	3 Mar 2004	United States of Amer-		
Serbia and Montenegro	8 Oct 2001	31 Jan 2003	ica	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec 2002
Seychelles	23 Jan 2001		Uruguay	7 Sep 2000	9 Sep 2003
Sierra Leone	8 Sep 2000	15 May 2002	Vanuatu	16 Sep 2005	
Singapore	7 Sep 2000		Venezuela (Bolivarian		
Slovakia	30 Nov 2001		Republic of)	7 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2003
Slovenia	8 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2004	Vict Nam	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec 2001
Somalia	16 Sep 2005				
South Africa	8 Feb 2002				
Spain	6 Sep 2000	8 Mar 2002			

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography *(New York, 25 May 2000)*

OBJECTIVES

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (the Protocol) supplements the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention) by extending the obligations of the Parties to guarantee the protection of the child from the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Protocol obliges Parties to prohibit the "sale of children", "child prostitution", and "child pornography", as defined in the Protocol. It further obliges Parties to ensure that the above offences are covered under their respective criminal codes, and that such offences are punishable by appropriate penalties. Attempted offences are also proscribed. Parties must establish jurisdiction over the above offences in specified circumstances. Extradition and mutual assistance are also provided for in this context.

The Protocol also obliges Parties to adopt appropriate measures to protect the rights and interest of child victims at all stages of the criminal justice process; to take various preventive measures, including the dissemination of information, education and training on the matter; and to provide all appropriate assistance to victims. Lastly, the Protocol provides a framework for increased international cooperation in these areas, in particular for the prosecution of offenders.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 18 January 2002 (article 14).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any State that is a Party to the Convention or has signed it, and for ratification and accession (article 13).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation of the Protocol is possible at any time by written notification and it takes effect one year after the date of receipt of the written notification by the Secretary-General.

Denunciation does not have the effect of releasing the Party from its obligations under this Protocol in regard to any act or omission which occurs prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective, nor does it prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter which is already under consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child prior to the date at which the denunciation becomes effective (article 15).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

New York, 25 May 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 18 January 2002, in accordance with article 14 (1).
REGISTRATION: 18 January 2002, No. 27531.
STATUS: Signatories: 114. Parties: 104.
TEXT: Doc. A/RES/54/263; C.N.1032.2000.TREATIES-72 of 14 November 2000 [rectification of the original of the Protocol (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.1008.2002.TREATIES-42 of 17 September 2002 (proposal of corrections to the original chinese text) and C.N.1312.2002.TREATIES-49 of 16 December 2002 [rectification of the original of the Protocol (Chinese authentic text)].

Note: The Optional Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May 2000 at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 13 (1), the Optional Protocol will be open for signature by any State that is a party to the Convention or has signed it.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan		19 Sep 2002 a	Estonia	24 Sep 2003	3 Aug 2004
Andorra	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	Fiji	16 Sep 2005	
Angola		24 Mar 2005 a	Finland	7 Sep 2000	
Antigua and Barbuda	18 Dec 2001	30 Apr 2002	France	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003
Argentina	1 Apr 2002	25 Sep 2003	Gabon	8 Sep 2000	
Armenia	24 Sep 2003	30 Jun 2005	Gambia	21 Dec 2000	
Australia	18 Dec 2001		Georgia		28 Jun 2005 a
Austria	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2004	Germany	6 Sep 2000	
Azerbaijan	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	Ghana	24 Sep 2003	
Bahrain		21 Sep 2004 a	Greece	7 Sep 2000	
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Guatemala	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Belarus		23 Jan 2002 a	Guinea-Bissau	8 Sep 2000	
Belgium	6 Sep 2000		Haiti	15 Aug 2002	
Belize	6 Sep 2000	1 Dec 2003	Holy See	10 Oct 2000	24 Oct 2001
Benin	22 Feb 2001	31 Jan 2005	Honduras		8 May 2002 a
Bhutan	15 Sep 2005		Hungary	11 Mar 2002	
Bolivia	10 Nov 2001	3 Jun 2003	Iceland	7 Sep 2000	9 Jul 2001
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	India	15 Nov 2004	16 Aug 2005
Botswana		24 Sep 2003 a	Indonesia	24 Sep 2001	
Brazil	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Ireland	7 Sep 2000	
Bulgaria	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Israel	14 Nov 2001	
Burkina Faso	16 Nov 2001		Italy	6 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Cambodia	27 Jun 2000	30 May 2002	Jamaica	8 Sep 2000	
Cameroon	5 Oct 2001		Japan	10 May 2002	24 Jan 2005
Canada	10 Nov 2001	14 Sep 2005	Jordan	6 Sep 2000	
Cape Verde		10 May 2002 a	Kazakhstan	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001
Chad	8 May 2002	28 Aug 2002	Kenya	8 Sep 2000	
Chile	28 Jun 2000	6 Feb 2003	Kuwait		26 Aug 2004 a
China	6 Sep 2000	3 Dec 2002	Kyrgyzstan		12 Feb 2003 a
Colombia	6 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2003	Latvia	1 Feb 2002	22 Feb 2006
Costa Rica	7 Sep 2000	9 Apr 2002	Lebanon	10 Oct 2001	8 Nov 2004
Croatia	8 May 2002	13 May 2002	Lesotho	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2003
Cuba	13 Oct 2000	25 Sep 2001	Liberia	22 Sep 2004	
Cyprus	8 Feb 2001		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		18 Jun 2004 a
Czech Republic	26 Jan 2005		Liechtenstein	8 Sep 2000	
Democratic Republic of the Congo		11 Nov 2001 a	Lithuania		5 Aug 2004 a
Denmark	7 Sep 2000	24 Jul 2003	Luxembourg	8 Sep 2000	
Dominica		20 Sep 2002 a	Madagascar	7 Sep 2000	22 Sep 2004
Ecuador	6 Sep 2000	30 Jan 2004	Malawi	7 Sep 2000	
Egypt		12 Jul 2002 a	Maldives	10 May 2002	10 May 2002
El Salvador	13 Sep 2002	17 May 2004	Mali		16 May 2002 a
Equatorial Guinea		7 Feb 2003 a	Malta	7 Sep 2000	
Eritrea		16 Feb 2005 a	Mauritius	11 Nov 2001	
			Mexico	7 Sep 2000	15 Mar 2002

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Micronesia (Federated States of)	8 May 2002		Slovenia	8 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2004
Monaco	26 Jun 2000		South Africa		30 Jun 2003 a
Mongolia	12 Nov 2001	27 Jun 2003	Spain	6 Sep 2000	18 Dec 2001
Morocco	8 Sep 2000	2 Oct 2001	Sri Lanka	8 May 2002	
Mozambique		6 Mar 2003 a	Sudan		2 Nov 2004 a
Namibia	8 Sep 2000	16 Apr 2002	Suriname	10 May 2002	
Nauru	8 Sep 2000		Sweden	8 Sep 2000	
Nepal	8 Sep 2000	20 Jan 2006	Switzerland	7 Sep 2000	
Netherlands	7 Sep 2000	23 Aug 2005	Syrian Arab Republic		15 May 2003 a
New Zealand	7 Sep 2000		Tajikistan		5 Aug 2002 a
Nicaragua		2 Dec 2004 a	Thailand		11 Jan 2006 a
Niger	27 Mar 2002	26 Oct 2004	The Former Yugoslav		
Nigeria	8 Sep 2000		Republic of Macc-		
Norway	13 Jun 2000	2 Oct 2001	donia	17 Jul 2001	17 Oct 2003
Oman		17 Sep 2004 a	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Pakistan	26 Sep 2001		Togo	15 Nov 2001	2 Jul 2004
Panama	31 Oct 2000	9 Feb 2001	Tunisia	22 Apr 2002	13 Sep 2002
Paraguay	13 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2003	Turkey	8 Sep 2000	19 Aug 2002
Peru	1 Nov 2000	8 May 2002	Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a
Philippines	8 Sep 2000	28 May 2002	Uganda		30 Nov 2001 a
Poland	13 Feb 2002	4 Feb 2005	Ukraine	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2003
Portugal	6 Sep 2000	16 May 2003	United Kingdom of		
Qatar		14 Dec 2001 a	Great Britain and		
Republic of Korea . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004	Northern Ireland .	7 Sep 2000	
Republic of Moldova . .	8 Feb 2002		United Republic of		
Romania	6 Sep 2000	18 Oct 2001	Tanzania		24 Apr 2003 a
Rwanda		14 Mar 2002 a	United States of Amer-		
Saint Vincent and the			ica	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec 2002
Grenadines		15 Sep 2005 a	Uruguay	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2003
San Marino	5 Jun 2000		Vanuatu	16 Sep 2005	
Senegal	8 Sep 2000	5 Nov 2003	Venezuela (Bolivarian		
Serbia and Montenegro	8 Oct 2001	10 Oct 2002	Republic of)	7 Sep 2000	8 May 2002
Seychelles	23 Jan 2001		Vict Nam	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec 2001
Sierra Leone	8 Sep 2000	17 Sep 2001	Yemen		15 Dec 2004 a
Slovakia	30 Nov 2001	25 Jun 2004			

United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

(New York, 15 November 2000)

OBJECTIVES

Recognizing that organized crime is a serious and growing problem for all countries, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Convention) aims at promoting international cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime. As the first comprehensive multilateral legal instrument in the fight against organized crime, the Convention, together with its three Protocols, provides law enforcement and judicial authorities with unique tools to combat this problem. It is also intended to provide greater coordination of national policy, legislative, administrative and enforcement approaches to organized crime.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention standardizes terminology and concepts, creating a common basis for national crime-control frameworks. Such concepts include "organized criminal group", a definition of which was internationally agreed upon for the first time. The Convention establishes four specific crimes (participation in an organized criminal group, money laundering, corruption and obstruction of justice) to combat activities in which organized criminal groups are commonly engaged. Under the Convention, Parties shall criminalize these offences in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

The Convention contains specific provisions for preventing, investigating and prosecuting these offences as well as serious crime, when they are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group.

Parties to the Convention are obliged to adopt domestic laws and practices that would prevent or suppress organized crime-related activities. To combat money laundering, countries would have to require their banks to keep accurate records and make them available for inspection by domestic law enforcement authorities. It should be noted that bank secrecy cannot be used to shield criminal activities.

Parties to the Convention are also required to take appropriate action to confiscate illicitly acquired assets. In particular, the Convention created an asset-sharing mechanism under which Parties are encouraged to contribute confiscated assets to bodies working for the fight against organized crime.

One of the most important international cooperation components of the Convention is its extradition provision. This provision is vital to ensuring that there are "no safe havens" to which offenders can flee. Under the Convention, fiscal matters should not be a sole ground for refusing extradition.

Mutual legal assistance is another important judicial cooperation tool provided for by the Convention. Under the Convention, assistance is to be channelled through central authorities to regulate the process. One of its innovative elements is that the Convention allows for electronic transmission of requests for quicker processing.

The nature of transnational organized crime makes the protection of victims and witnesses a matter of such importance that the Convention also requires Parties to adopt appropriate measures to protect witnesses from potential intimidation or retaliation. This includes physical protection, relocation and, with appropriate legal safeguards, concealment of identities.

The Convention further calls on Parties to support the efforts of developing countries to fight transnational organized crime and assist them to implement the Convention through technical cooperation as well as financial and material assistance.

As regards the implementation mechanism, the Convention establishes a conference of the Parties to improve the capacity of Parties to combat transnational organized crime. The conference will first meet within the first year of the entry into force of the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 29 September 2003 (article 38).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. The Convention is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party (article 36).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Parties whose domestic law requires involvement of an organized criminal group for purposes of the offences established in accordance with article 5, paragraph 1 (a) (i), of the Convention and Parties whose domestic law requires an act in furtherance of the agreement for purposes of the offences established in accordance with article 5, paragraph 1 (a) (i), of the Convention shall so inform the depositary at the time of their signature or of the deposit of their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Convention (article 5 (3)).

Parties that make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall inform the depositary whether they will take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition with other Parties to this Convention at the time of the deposit of their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 16 (5)).

Each Party shall designate a central authority that shall have the responsibility and power to receive requests for mutual legal assistance and either to execute them or to transmit them to the competent authorities for execution. This designation of authority shall be notified to the depositary at the time of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 18 (13)).

Likewise, each Party shall notify the depositary of the language or languages acceptable for the purposes of mutual legal assistance (article 18 (14)).

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention. Such organizations must also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 36).

RESERVATIONS

Pursuant to article 35 (3), Parties may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 35 (2), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention, which are not settled by negotiation, will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 35 (3)). The Convention is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Each Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to the Convention when all of its member States have denounced it. Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of the Protocols (article 40).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

New York, 15 November 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 29 September 2003, in accordance with article 38.
REGISTRATION: 29 September 2003, No. 39574.
STATUS: Signatories: 147. Parties: 118.
TEXT: Doc. A/55/383; depositary notifications C.N.488.2004.TREATIES-10 of 18 May 2004 [Russian Federation: proposed correction to the original of the Convention (authentic Russian text)] and C.N.619.2004.TREATIES-23 of 21 June 2004 [Russian Federation: Rectification of the original of the Convention (Russian authentic text) and transmission of the relevant procès-verbal].

Note: The Convention was adopted by resolution A/RES/55/25 of 15 November 2000 at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 36, the Convention will be open for signature by all States and by regional economic integration organizations, provided that at least one Member State of such organization has signed the Convention, from 12 to 15 December 2000 at the Palazzi di Giustizia in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Cyprus	12 Dec 2000	22 Apr 2003
Albania	12 Dec 2000	21 Aug 2002	Czech Republic	12 Dec 2000	
Algeria	12 Dec 2000	7 Oct 2002	Democratic Republic of the Congo		28 Oct 2005 a
Andorra	11 Nov 2001		Denmark	12 Dec 2000	30 Sep 2003
Angola	13 Dec 2000		Djibouti		20 Apr 2005 a
Antigua and Barbuda	26 Sep 2001	24 Jul 2002	Dominican Republic	13 Dec 2000	
Argentina	12 Dec 2000	19 Nov 2002	Ecuador	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Armenia	15 Nov 2001	1 Jul 2003	Egypt	13 Dec 2000	5 Mar 2004
Australia	13 Dec 2000	27 May 2004	El Salvador	14 Dec 2000	18 Mar 2004
Austria	12 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2004	Equatorial Guinea	14 Dec 2000	7 Feb 2003
Azerbaijan	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	Estonia	14 Dec 2000	10 Feb 2003
Bahamas	9 Apr 2001		Ethiopia	14 Dec 2000	
Bahrain		7 Jun 2004 a	European Community	12 Dec 2000	21 May 2004 AA
Barbados	26 Sep 2001		Finland	12 Dec 2000	10 Feb 2004
Belarus	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	France	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Belgium	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	Gabon		15 Dec 2004 a
Belize		26 Sep 2003 a	Gambia	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Benin	13 Dec 2000	30 Aug 2004	Georgia	13 Dec 2000	
Bolivia	12 Dec 2000	10 Oct 2005	Germany	12 Dec 2000	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12 Dec 2000	24 Apr 2002	Greece	13 Dec 2000	
Botswana	10 Apr 2002	29 Aug 2002	Grenada		21 May 2004 a
Brazil	12 Dec 2000	29 Jan 2004	Guatemala	12 Dec 2000	25 Sep 2003
Bulgaria	13 Dec 2000	5 Dec 2001	Guinea		9 Nov 2004 a
Burkina Faso	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Guinea-Bissau	14 Dec 2000	
Burundi	14 Dec 2000		Guyana		14 Sep 2004 a
Cambodia	11 Nov 2001	12 Dec 2005	Haiti	13 Dec 2000	
Cameroon	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Honduras	14 Dec 2000	2 Dec 2003
Canada	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	Hungary	14 Dec 2000	
Cape Verde	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	Iceland	13 Dec 2000	
Central African Republic		14 Sep 2004 a	India	12 Dec 2002	
Chile	13 Dec 2000	29 Nov 2004	Indonesia	12 Dec 2000	
China	12 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	12 Dec 2000	
Colombia	12 Dec 2000	4 Aug 2004	Ireland	13 Dec 2000	
Comoros		25 Sep 2003 a	Israel	13 Dec 2000	
Congo	14 Dec 2000		Italy	12 Dec 2000	
Cook Islands		4 Mar 2004 a	Jamaica	26 Sep 2001	29 Sep 2003
Costa Rica	16 Mar 2001	24 Jul 2003	Japan	12 Dec 2000	
Côte d'Ivoire	15 Dec 2000		Jordan	26 Nov 2002	
Croatia	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003	Kazakhstan	13 Dec 2000	
Cuba	13 Dec 2000		Kenya		16 Jun 2004 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a	Saint Lucia	26 Sep 2001	
Kuwait	12 Dec 2000		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	24 Jul 2002	
Kyrgyzstan	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003	San Marino	14 Dec 2000	
Lao People's Democratic Republic		26 Sep 2003 a	Saudi Arabia	12 Dec 2000	18 Jan 2005
Latvia	13 Dec 2000	7 Dec 2001	Senegal	13 Dec 2000	27 Oct 2003
Lebanon	18 Dec 2001	5 Oct 2005	Serbia and Montenegro	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2001
Lesotho	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Seychelles	12 Dec 2000	22 Apr 2003
Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a	Sierra Leone	27 Nov 2001	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	13 Nov 2001	18 Jun 2004	Singapore	13 Dec 2000	
Liechtenstein	12 Dec 2000		Slovakia	14 Dec 2000	3 Dec 2003
Lithuania	13 Dec 2000	9 May 2002	Slovenia	12 Dec 2000	21 May 2004
Luxembourg	13 Dec 2000		South Africa	14 Dec 2000	20 Feb 2004
Madagascar	14 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Spain	13 Dec 2000	1 Mar 2002
Malawi	13 Dec 2000	17 Mar 2005	Sri Lanka	13 Dec 2000	
Malaysia	26 Sep 2002	24 Sep 2004	Sudan	15 Dec 2000	10 Dec 2004
Mali	15 Dec 2000	12 Apr 2002	Swaziland	14 Dec 2000	
Malta	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Sweden	12 Dec 2000	30 Apr 2004
Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a	Switzerland	12 Dec 2000	
Mauritius	12 Dec 2000	21 Apr 2003	Syrian Arab Republic	13 Dec 2000	
Mexico	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2003	Tajikistan	12 Dec 2000	8 Jul 2002
Micronesia (Federated States of)		24 May 2004 a	Thailand	13 Dec 2000	
Monaco	13 Dec 2000	5 Jun 2001	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	12 Dec 2000	12 Jan 2005
Morocco	13 Dec 2000	19 Sep 2002	Togo	12 Dec 2000	2 Jul 2004
Mozambique	15 Dec 2000		Trinidad and Tobago	26 Sep 2001	
Myanmar		30 Mar 2004 a	Tunisia	13 Dec 2000	19 Jun 2003
Namibia	13 Dec 2000	16 Aug 2002	Turkey	13 Dec 2000	25 Mar 2003
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a
Nepal	12 Dec 2002		Uganda	12 Dec 2000	9 Mar 2005
Netherlands	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004	Ukraine	12 Dec 2000	21 May 2004
New Zealand	14 Dec 2000	19 Jul 2002	United Arab Emirates	9 Dec 2002	
Nicaragua	14 Dec 2000	9 Sep 2002	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2006
Niger	21 Aug 2001	30 Sep 2004	United Republic of Tanzania	13 Dec 2000	
Nigeria	13 Dec 2000	28 Jun 2001	United States of America	13 Dec 2000	3 Nov 2005
Norway	13 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Uruguay	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2005
Oman		13 May 2005 a	Uzbekistan	13 Dec 2000	9 Dec 2003
Pakistan	14 Dec 2000		Vanuatu		4 Jan 2006 a
Panama	13 Dec 2000	18 Aug 2004	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002
Paraguay	12 Dec 2000	22 Sep 2004	Viet Nam	13 Dec 2000	
Peru	14 Dec 2000	23 Jan 2002	Yemen	15 Dec 2000	
Philippines	14 Dec 2000	28 May 2002	Zambia		24 Apr 2005 a
Poland	12 Dec 2000	12 Nov 2001	Zimbabwe	12 Dec 2000	
Portugal	12 Dec 2000	10 May 2004			
Republic of Korea	13 Dec 2000				
Republic of Moldova	14 Dec 2000	16 Sep 2005			
Romania	14 Dec 2000	4 Dec 2002			
Russian Federation	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004			
Rwanda	14 Dec 2000	26 Sep 2003			
Saint Kitts and Nevis	20 Nov 2001	21 May 2004			

**Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons,
Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
(New York, 15 November 2000)**

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Protocol) establishes the first common international definition of "trafficking in persons". It is intended to prevent and combat such crime and facilitate international cooperation against it. The Protocol also highlights the problems associated with trafficking in persons that often leads to inhuman, degrading and dangerous exploitation of trafficked persons. As is the case with the parent United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (the Convention), the Protocol is expected to standardize terminology, laws and practices of countries in this area of the law.

KEY PROVISIONS

While the Convention provides for basic measures to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, its Protocols provide for specific measures to deal with specific crimes. As such, the Protocols should be interpreted together with the Convention. The provisions of the Convention apply *mutatis mutandis* to each Protocol.

The above Protocol applies to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of trafficking offences, as well as to the protection of the trafficked persons.

The key definition, "trafficking in persons", is intended to include a range of cases where human beings are exploited by organized criminal groups, particularly where there is an element of duress involved and a transnational aspect, such as the movement of people across borders. According to the definition, the consent of the victim is irrelevant where illicit means are established, although criminal law defenses are preserved.

The need for an appropriate balance between crime-control measures and measures to support or protect victims of trafficking arises in two primary places in the Protocol: the provisions expressly providing for protection and support; and provisions dealing with the return of persons to their countries of origin.

The Protocol contains a series of general protection and support measures for victims. These include a list of social support benefits such as counselling, housing, education, medical and psychological assistance and an opportunity for victims to obtain legal status allowing them to remain in the country of the receiving Party, either temporarily or permanently.

Law enforcement agencies of countries which ratify the Protocol would be required to cooperate with each other in identifying offenders and trafficked persons; sharing information about the methods of offenders; and training investigators, enforcement and victim-support personnel. Parties would also be required to implement security and border controls to detect and prevent trafficking. This includes strengthening their own border controls; imposing requirements on commercial carriers to check passports and visas; setting standards for the

technical quality of passports and other travel documents; and cooperating in establishing the validity of their own documents when used abroad.

The conference of the Parties, which is established by the Convention, will have similar functions under the Protocol.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 25 December 2003 (article 17).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. The Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. The Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to the Protocol. In order to become a Party to the Protocol, a State or a regional economic integration organization must also be a Party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (article 16 of the Protocol and article 37 of the Convention).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol. Such organizations must also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 16).

RESERVATIONS

Pursuant to article 15 (3), Parties may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 15 (2), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Protocol which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 15 (3)). The Protocol is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to the Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it (article 19). Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of the Protocol (article 40 of the Convention).

**Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially
Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against
Transnational Organized Crime**

New York, 15 November 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 25 December 2003, in accordance with article 17 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later."

REGISTRATION: 25 December 2003, No. 39574.

STATUS: Signatories: 117. Parties: 97.

TEXT: Doc. A/55/383.

Note: The Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/55/25 of 15 November 2000 at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 16, the Protocol will be open for signature by all States and by regional economic integration organizations, provided that at least one Member State of such organization has signed the Protocol, from 12 to 15 December 2000 at the Palazzo di Giustizia in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Albania	12 Dec 2000	21 Aug 2002	Democratic Republic of the Congo		28 Oct 2005 a
Algeria	6 Jun 2001	9 Mar 2004	Denmark	12 Dec 2000	30 Sep 2003
Argentina	12 Dec 2000	19 Nov 2002	Djibouti		20 Apr 2005 a
Armenia	15 Nov 2001	1 Jul 2003	Dominican Republic	15 Dec 2000	
Australia	11 Dec 2002	14 Sep 2005	Ecuador	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Austria	12 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Egypt	1 May 2002	5 Mar 2004
Azerbaijan	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	El Salvador	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004
Bahamas	9 Apr 2001		Equatorial Guinea	14 Dec 2000	7 Feb 2003
Bahrain		7 Jun 2004 a	Estonia	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004
Barbados	26 Sep 2001		European Community	12 Dec 2000	
Belarus	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	Finland	12 Dec 2000	
Belgium	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	France	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Belize		26 Sep 2003 a	Gambia	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Benin	13 Dec 2000	30 Aug 2004	Georgia	13 Dec 2000	
Bolivia	12 Dec 2000		Germany	12 Dec 2000	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na	12 Dec 2000	24 Apr 2002	Greece	13 Dec 2000	
Botswana	10 Apr 2002	29 Aug 2002	Grenada		21 May 2004 a
Brazil	12 Dec 2000	29 Jan 2004	Guatemala		1 Apr 2004 a
Bulgaria	13 Dec 2000	5 Dec 2001	Guinea		9 Nov 2004 a
Burkina Faso	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Guinea-Bissau	14 Dec 2000	
Burundi	14 Dec 2000		Guyana		14 Sep 2004 a
Cambodia	11 Nov 2001		Haiti	13 Dec 2000	
Cameroon	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Hungary	14 Dec 2000	
Canada	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	Iceland	13 Dec 2000	
Cape Verde	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	India	12 Dec 2000	
Chile	8 Aug 2002	29 Nov 2004	Indonesia	12 Dec 2000	
Colombia	12 Dec 2000	4 Aug 2004	Ireland	13 Dec 2000	
Congo	14 Dec 2000		Israel	14 Nov 2001	
Costa Rica	16 Mar 2001	9 Sep 2003	Italy	12 Dec 2000	
Croatia	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003	Jamaica	13 Feb 2002	29 Sep 2003
Cyprus	12 Dec 2000	6 Aug 2003	Japan	9 Dec 2002	
Czech Republic	10 Dec 2002		Kenya		5 Jan 2005 a
			Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Kyrgyzstan	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20 Nov 2002	
Lao People's Democratic Republic		26 Sep 2003 a	San Marino	14 Dec 2000	
Latvia	10 Dec 2002	25 May 2004	Saudi Arabia	10 Dec 2002	
Lebanon	9 Dec 2002	5 Oct 2005	Senegal	13 Dec 2000	27 Oct 2003
Lesotho	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Serbia and Montenegro	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2001
Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a	Seychelles	22 Jul 2002	22 Jun 2004
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	13 Nov 2001	24 Sep 2004	Sierra Leone	27 Nov 2001	
Liechtenstein	14 Mar 2001		Slovakia	15 Nov 2001	21 Sep 2004
Lithuania	25 Apr 2002	23 Jun 2003	Slovenia	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Luxembourg	13 Dec 2000		South Africa	14 Dec 2000	20 Feb 2004
Madagascar	14 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Spain	13 Dec 2000	1 Mar 2002
Malawi		17 Mar 2005 a	Sri Lanka	13 Dec 2000	
Mali	15 Dec 2000	12 Apr 2002	Swaziland	8 Jan 2001	
Malta	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Sweden	12 Dec 2000	1 Jul 2004
Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a	Switzerland	2 Apr 2002	
Mauritius		24 Sep 2003 a	Syrian Arab Republic	13 Dec 2000	
Mexico	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2003	Tajikistan		8 Jul 2002 a
Monaco	13 Dec 2000	5 Jun 2001	Thailand	18 Dec 2001	
Mozambique	15 Dec 2000		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	12 Dec 2000	12 Jan 2005
Myanmar		30 Mar 2004 a	Togo	12 Dec 2000	
Namibia	13 Dec 2000	16 Aug 2002	Trinidad and Tobago	26 Sep 2001	
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Tunisia	13 Dec 2000	14 Jul 2003
Netherlands	12 Dec 2000	27 Jul 2005 A	Turkey	13 Dec 2000	25 Mar 2003
New Zealand	14 Dec 2000	19 Jul 2002	Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a
Nicaragua		12 Oct 2004 a	Uganda	12 Dec 2000	
Niger	21 Aug 2001	30 Sep 2004	Ukraine	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Nigeria	13 Dec 2000	28 Jun 2001	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2006
Norway	13 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	United Republic of Tanzania	13 Dec 2000	
Oman		13 May 2005 a	United States of America	13 Dec 2000	3 Nov 2005
Panama	13 Dec 2000	18 Aug 2004	Uruguay	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2005
Paraguay	12 Dec 2000	22 Sep 2004	Uzbekistan	28 Jun 2001	
Peru	14 Dec 2000	23 Jan 2002	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002
Philippines	14 Dec 2000	28 May 2002	Zambia		24 Apr 2005 a
Poland	4 Oct 2001	26 Sep 2003			
Portugal	12 Dec 2000	10 May 2004			
Republic of Korea	13 Dec 2000				
Republic of Moldova	14 Dec 2000	16 Sep 2005			
Romania	14 Dec 2000	4 Dec 2002			
Russian Federation	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004			
Rwanda	14 Dec 2000	26 Sep 2003			
Saint Kitts and Nevis		21 May 2004 a			

**Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,
supplementing the United Nations Convention against
Transnational Organized Crime
(New York, 15 November 2000)**

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Protocol) aims at preventing and combating smuggling, promoting cooperation among Parties and protecting the rights of smuggled migrants. As in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (the Convention), and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons), many provisions are intended to ensure that the approaches taken by Member States under their domestic legislative and law-enforcement regimes are as coordinated as possible to make collective international measures both efficient and effective.

KEY PROVISIONS

As is the case with the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, provisions of the Convention apply *mutatis mutandis* to this Protocol unless otherwise stated in the Protocol.

The Protocol applies to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of the smuggling of migrants as well as to the protection of the rights of persons who have been the object of such offences. Parties to the Protocol are required to criminalize the smuggling of migrants and other forms of activity that support such smuggling. The Protocol specifies that migrants should not become liable for having been smuggled.

Specific provisions for smuggling by sea are included because of the seriousness and volume of the problem. Under one such provision, Parties are requested to cooperate to prevent smuggling of migrants by sea and to take necessary measures when it is suspected that a vessel is engaging in the smuggling of migrants. Parties may board and search vessels believed to be of their own registry.

Parties to the Protocol are also required to strengthen border measures and oblige commercial carriers of passengers to check the travel documents of those passengers.

Another important element of the Protocol is the Parties' cooperation in the field of public information. Parties are required to cooperate with each other to raise awareness of the dangers of smuggling to the migrants involved and to raise general awareness of the growing involvement of organized criminal groups.

The return of smuggled migrants to their countries of origin is foreseen. The State of origin is required to accept repatriation when the migrants in question have a right of residence in that State at the time of the return.

The conference of the Parties, which is established by the Convention, will have similar functions under the Protocol.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 28 January 2004 (article 22).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. The Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. The Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party. In order to become a Party to the Protocol, a State or a regional economic integration organization must also be a Party to the Convention (article 21 of the Protocol and article 37 of the Convention).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol. Such organizations must also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 21).

RESERVATIONS

Pursuant to article 20 (3) States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 20 (2), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Protocol, which are not settled by negotiation, will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 20 (3)). The Protocol is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce the Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to the Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it (article 24). Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of the Protocol (article 40 (3) of the Convention).

**Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing
the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**

New York, 15 November 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 28 January 2004, in accordance with article 22 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol will enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member states of such organization. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later."

REGISTRATION: 28 January 2004, No. 39574.
STATUS: Signatories: 112. Parties: 88.
TEXT: Doc. A/55/383.

Note: The Protocol was adopted by resolution A/RES/55/25 of 15 November 2000 at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 21, the Protocol will be open for signature by all States and by regional economic integration organizations, provided that at least one Member State of such organization has signed the Protocol, from 12 to 15 December 2000 at the Palazzi di Giustizia in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Albania	12 Dec 2000	21 Aug 2002	Ecuador	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Algeria	6 Jun 2001	9 Mar 2004	Egypt		1 Mar 2005 a
Argentina	12 Dec 2000	19 Nov 2002	El Salvador	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004
Armenia	15 Nov 2001	1 Jul 2003	Equatorial Guinea	14 Dec 2000	
Australia	21 Dec 2001	27 May 2004	Estonia	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004
Austria	12 Dec 2000		European Community	12 Dec 2000	
Azerbaijan	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	Finland	12 Dec 2000	
Bahamas	9 Apr 2001		France	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Bahrain		7 Jun 2004 a	Gambia	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Barbados	26 Sep 2001		Georgia	13 Dec 2000	
Belarus	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	Germany	12 Dec 2000	
Belgium	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	Greece	13 Dec 2000	
Benin	17 May 2002	30 Aug 2004	Grenada		21 May 2004 a
Bolivia	12 Dec 2000		Guatemala		1 Apr 2004 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12 Dec 2000	24 Apr 2002	Guinea		8 Jun 2005 a
Botswana	10 Apr 2002	29 Aug 2002	Guinea-Bissau	14 Dec 2000	
Brazil	12 Dec 2000	29 Jan 2004	Haiti	13 Dec 2000	
Bulgaria	13 Dec 2000	5 Dec 2001	Hungary	14 Dec 2000	
Burkina Faso	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Iceland	13 Dec 2000	
Burundi	14 Dec 2000		India	12 Dec 2002	
Cambodia	11 Nov 2001	12 Dec 2005	Indonesia	12 Dec 2000	
Cameroon	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Ireland	13 Dec 2000	
Canada	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	Italy	12 Dec 2000	
Cape Verde	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	Jamaica	13 Feb 2002	29 Sep 2003
Chile	8 Aug 2002	29 Nov 2004	Japan	9 Dec 2002	
Congo	14 Dec 2000		Kenya		5 Jan 2005 a
Costa Rica	16 Mar 2001	7 Aug 2003	Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a
Croatia	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003	Kyrgyzstan	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003
Cyprus	12 Dec 2000	6 Aug 2003	Lao People's Democratic Republic		26 Sep 2003 a
Czech Republic	10 Dec 2002		Latvia	10 Dec 2002	23 Apr 2003
Democratic Republic of the Congo		28 Oct 2005 a	Lebanon	26 Sep 2002	5 Oct 2005
Denmark	12 Dec 2000		Lesotho	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2004
Djibouti		20 Apr 2005 a	Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a
Dominican Republic	15 Dec 2000		Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	13 Nov 2001	24 Sep 2004

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Liechtenstein	14 Mar 2001		Seychelles	22 Jul 2002	22 Jun 2004
Lithuania	25 Apr 2002	12 May 2003	Sierra Leone	27 Nov 2001	
Luxembourg	12 Dec 2000		Slovakia	15 Nov 2001	21 Sep 2004
Madagascar	14 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Slovenia	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Malawi		17 Mar 2005 a	South Africa	14 Dec 2000	20 Feb 2004
Mali	15 Dec 2000	12 Apr 2002	Spain	13 Dec 2000	1 Mar 2002
Malta	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Sri Lanka	13 Dec 2000	
Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a	Swaziland	8 Jan 2001	
Mauritius		24 Sep 2003 a	Sweden	12 Dec 2000	
Mexico	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2003	Switzerland	2 Apr 2002	
Monaco	13 Dec 2000	5 Jun 2001	Syrian Arab Republic	13 Dec 2000	
Mozambique	15 Dec 2000		Tajikistan		8 Jul 2002 a
Myanmar		30 Mar 2004 a	Thailand	18 Dec 2001	
Namibia	13 Dec 2000	16 Aug 2002	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	12 Dec 2000	12 Jan 2005
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		Togo	12 Dec 2000	
Netherlands	12 Dec 2000	27 Jul 2005 A	Trinidad and Tobago	26 Sep 2001	
New Zealand	14 Dec 2000	19 Jul 2002	Tunisia	13 Dec 2000	14 Jul 2003
Nicaragua		15 Feb 2006 a	Turkey	13 Dec 2000	25 Mar 2003
Nigeria	13 Dec 2000	27 Sep 2001	Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a
Norway	13 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Uganda	12 Dec 2000	
Oman		13 May 2005 a	Ukraine	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Panama	13 Dec 2000	18 Aug 2004	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2006
Peru	14 Dec 2000	23 Jan 2002	United Republic of Tanzania	13 Dec 2000	
Philippines	14 Dec 2000	28 May 2002	United States of Amer- ica	13 Dec 2000	3 Nov 2005
Poland	4 Oct 2001	26 Sep 2003	Uruguay	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2005
Portugal	12 Dec 2000	10 May 2004	Uzbekistan	28 Jun 2001	
Republic of Korea	13 Dec 2000		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14 Dec 2000	19 Apr 2005
Republic of Moldova	14 Dec 2000	16 Sep 2005	Zambia		24 Apr 2005 a
Romania	14 Dec 2000	4 Dec 2002			
Russian Federation	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004			
Rwanda	14 Dec 2000				
Saint Kitts and Nevis		21 May 2004 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20 Nov 2002				
San Marino	14 Dec 2000				
Saudi Arabia	10 Dec 2002				
Senegal	13 Dec 2000	27 Oct 2003			
Serbia and Montenegro	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2001			

**Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in
Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,
supplementing the United Nations Convention against
Transnational Organized Crime
(New York, 31 May 2001)**

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Protocol) supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000 (the Convention). Its purpose is to strengthen and unify international cooperation and to develop cohesive mechanisms to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition (firearms).

KEY PROVISIONS

While the Convention provides for basic measures to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, its Protocols provide for specific measures to deal with specific crimes. As such, the Protocols should be interpreted together with the Convention. The provisions of the Convention apply *mutatis mutandis* to each Protocol.

Although this Protocol recognizes the rights of a Party to take action in the interest of its national security consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, Parties to the Protocol undertake to adopt and implement the strongest possible legislation to investigate and prosecute the offences stemming from the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. Specific measures include the confiscation, seizure and destruction of firearms illicitly manufactured or trafficked; maintenance of records for at least 10 years in order to identify and trace firearms; the issuance of licences for the import and export of firearms; and the marking of firearms permitting identification of the manufacturer of the firearm, and the country of and year of import.

Parties undertake to cooperate extensively at the bilateral, regional and international levels in order to achieve the Protocol's objectives including providing training and technical assistance to other Parties.

Finally, Parties undertake to exchange relevant case-specific information on matters such as authorized producers, dealers, importers, exporters and carriers of firearms as well as information on organized criminal groups known to take part in the illicit manufacture and trafficking of such items.

The conference of the Parties, which is established by the Convention, will have similar functions under the Protocol.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 3 July 2005 (article 18).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. The Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. The Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party. In order to become a Party to the Protocol, a State or a regional economic integration organization must also be a Party to the Convention (article 17 of the Protocol and article 37 of the Convention).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol. Such organizations must also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 17).

RESERVATIONS

Pursuant to article 16 (3), Parties may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 16 (2), according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Protocol which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 16 (3)). The Protocol is otherwise silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A State Party may denounce the Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to the Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it (article 20). Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of the Protocol (article 40 of the Convention).

**Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their
Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**

New York, 31 May 2001

- ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 3 July 2005, in accordance with article 18 (1) which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later."
- REGISTRATION:** 3 July 2005, No. 39574.
STATUS: Signatories: 52. Parties: 48.
TEXT: Doc. A/55/383/Add.2; depositary notification C.N.959.2002.TREATIES-24 of 6 September 2002 (Correction to the English text of the original of the Protocol); C.N.1321.2003.TREATIES-10 of 21 November 2003 (Algeria: Proposed correction to the authentic Arabic text of the Protocol and C.N.105.2004.TREATIES-2 of 12 February 2004 (Correction to the Arabic text of the original of the Protocol).

Note: The Protocol was adopted by resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001 at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

In accordance with its article 17, paragraphs 1 and 2, the Protocol will be open for signature by all States and by regional economic integration organizations, provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed the Protocol, from 2 July 2001 to 12 December 2002, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Algeria		25 Aug 2004 a	Grenada		21 May 2004 a
Argentina	7 Oct 2002		Guatemala		1 Apr 2004 a
Australia	21 Dec 2001		Iceland	15 Nov 2001	
Austria	12 Nov 2001		India	12 Dec 2002	
Azerbaijan		3 Dec 2004 a	Italy	14 Nov 2001	
Barbados	26 Sep 2001		Jamaica	13 Nov 2001	29 Sep 2003
Belarus		6 Oct 2004 a	Japan	9 Dec 2002	
Belgium	11 Jun 2002	24 Sep 2004	Kenya		5 Jan 2005 a
Benin	17 May 2002	30 Aug 2004	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic ...		26 Sep 2003 a
Brazil	11 Jul 2001		Latvia		28 Jul 2004 a
Bulgaria	15 Feb 2002	6 Aug 2002	Lebanon	26 Sep 2002	
Burkina Faso	17 Oct 2001	15 May 2002	Lesotho		24 Sep 2003 a
Cambodia		12 Dec 2005 a	Liberia		22 Sep 2004 a
Canada	20 Mar 2002		Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya	13 Nov 2001	18 Jun 2004
Cape Verde		15 Jul 2004 a	Lithuania	12 Dec 2002	24 Feb 2005
China	9 Dec 2002		Luxembourg	11 Dec 2002	
Costa Rica	12 Nov 2001	9 Sep 2003	Madagascar	13 Nov 2001	15 Sep 2005
Croatia		7 Feb 2005 a	Malawi		17 Mar 2005 a
Cyprus	14 Aug 2002	6 Aug 2003	Mali	11 Jul 2001	3 May 2002
Democratic Republic of the Congo		28 Oct 2005 a	Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a
Denmark	27 Aug 2002		Mauritius		24 Sep 2003 a
Dominican Republic ..	15 Nov 2001		Mexico	31 Dec 2001	10 Apr 2003
Ecuador	12 Oct 2001		Monaco	24 Jun 2002	
El Salvador	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004	Nauru	12 Nov 2001	
Estonia	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004	Netherlands		8 Feb 2005 a
European Community ..	16 Jan 2002		Nigeria	13 Nov 2001	
Finland	23 Jan 2002		Norway	10 May 2002	23 Sep 2003
Germany	3 Sep 2002		Oman		13 May 2005 a
Greece	10 Oct 2002				

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Panama	5 Oct 2001	18 Aug 2004	Slovenia	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Peru		23 Sep 2003 a	South Africa	14 Oct 2002	20 Feb 2004
Poland	12 Dec 2002	4 Apr 2005	Sweden	10 Jan 2002	
Portugal	3 Sep 2002		Tunisia	10 Jul 2002	
Republic of Korea ...	4 Oct 2001		Turkey	28 Jun 2002	4 May 2004
Republic of Moldova.		28 Feb 2006 a	Turkmenistan.....		28 Mar 2005 a
Romania		16 Apr 2004 a	Uganda		9 Mar 2005 a
Saint Kitts and Nevis.		21 May 2004 a	United Kingdom of		
Senegal	17 Jan 2002		Great Britain and		
Serbia and Montenegro		20 Dec 2005 a	Northern Ireland .	6 May 2002	
Seychelles	22 Jul 2002		Zambia		24 Apr 2005 a
Sierra Leone	27 Nov 2001				
Slovakia	26 Aug 2002	21 Sep 2004			

United Nations Convention against Corruption *(New York, 31 October 2003)*

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (the Convention) is the first global response to corruption, a universally recognized impediment to development. The stated purposes of the Convention are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively; to facilitate international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including asset recovery; and to promote integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property.

KEY PROVISIONS

Although the Convention addresses various existing forms of corruption (such as bribery, embezzlement, trading in influence, abuse of functions), it does not define corruption, and in so doing, enables States to be flexible in confronting other forms of corruption that may emerge in the future. The Convention, however, broadly defines the term “public official” to include those persons performing a public function or providing a public service as defined in the domestic law of a Party.

The Convention addresses the prevention of corruption with measures directed at both the public and private sectors. These include model preventive policies, such as the establishment of anticorruption bodies and enhanced transparency in the financing of election campaigns and political parties. Parties must endeavour to ensure that their public services are subject to safeguards that promote efficiency, transparency and recruitment based on merit. The Convention obliges Parties, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, to promote actively the involvement of non-governmental and community-based organizations, as well as other elements of civil society, and to undertake public information activities and education programmes for the purpose of raising public awareness of the threats posed by corruption and the most suitable methods to combat it.

Being the first global legally binding instrument against corruption, the Convention requires Parties to establish criminal and other offences to cover a wide range of acts of corruption, including corruption in the public sector, if these acts are not already criminalized under domestic law. In some cases, Parties are required to consider adopting legislative and other measures to establish other offences. In addition, the Convention offers a platform not only for making national substantive provisions compatible, but also for ensuring a minimum level of deterrence through specific provisions on the prosecution, adjudication and sanctions in corruption-related cases. Going beyond previous instruments of this kind designed to operate in a more limited environment, the Convention intends to serve as the normative basis for the creation of universally recognized criminalization standards that would facilitate convergence in national priorities and attitudes and enable the elaboration of comparatively symmetric national policies for addressing corruption from a criminal law point of view.

The Convention incorporates detailed and extensive provisions on international cooperation, covering all its forms and modalities, namely extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons, transfer of criminal proceedings, law enforcement cooperation,

joint investigations and cooperation for using special investigative techniques. These provisions are generally based on the precedent of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and provide a much more comprehensive legal framework on relevant matters than that of the existing regional instruments.

In what has been recognized as a major breakthrough, the Convention contains a chapter on asset recovery as a comprehensive form of international cooperation in corruption-related cases (chapter V). Beginning by stating that the return of assets pursuant to that chapter is a “fundamental principle” and that Parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard, the Convention includes substantive provisions laying down specific measures and mechanisms for cooperation for asset recovery, while maintaining the flexibility in recovery action that might be warranted by particular circumstances.

With regard to the return and disposition of assets, chapter V of the Convention incorporates a series of provisions that favour the return of assets to the requesting Party, depending on how closely the assets are linked to that Party. In the case of embezzlement of public funds, confiscated property shall be returned to the requesting Party. In the case of proceeds of any other offence covered by the Convention, confiscated property would be returned provided there is proof of prior ownership or recognition of damage to a requesting Party. In all other cases, priority consideration would be given to the return of confiscated property to the requesting Party for the purpose of returning such property to the prior legitimate owners or compensating the victims.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 14 December 2005 (article 68).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States and regional economic integration organizations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. The Convention is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Convention (article 67).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party shall inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the name and address of the authority or authorities that may assist other Parties in developing and implementing specific measures for the prevention of corruption (article 6 (3)).

A Party that makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall at the time of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations whether it will take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition with other Parties to this Convention (article 44 (6)).

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be notified of the central authority designated by a Party to receive, execute or process requests for mutual legal assistance, as well

as of the language or languages acceptable to a Party when receiving a request for mutual legal assistance (article 46 (13) and (14)).

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Convention. Such organizations shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence (article 67 (3) and (4)).

RESERVATIONS

Each Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by article 66 (2) regarding the settlement of disputes (article 66 (3)). The other Parties shall not be bound by article 66 (2) with respect to any Party that has made such a reservation. Any Party that has made a reservation in accordance with article 66 (3) may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 66 (4)).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 70 (1)). A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Convention when all of its member States have denounced it (article 70 (2)).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

New York, 31 October 2003

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 14 December 2005, in accordance with article 68 (1) which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of such action, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Convention enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is later."

REGISTRATION: 14 December 2005, No. 42146.

STATUS: Signatories: 140. Parties: 47.

TEXT: Doc. A/58/422.

Note: The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 31 October 2003 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. It shall be open to all States for signature from 9 to 11 December 2003 in Merida, Mexico, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 9 December 2005, in accordance with article 67 (1) of the Convention. The Convention shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Convention in accordance with its article 67 (2).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan	20 Feb 2004		Denmark	10 Dec 2003	
Albania	18 Dec 2003		Djibouti	17 Jun 2004	20 Apr 2005
Algeria	9 Dec 2003	25 Aug 2004	Dominican Republic	10 Dec 2003	
Angola	10 Dec 2003		Ecuador	10 Dec 2003	15 Sep 2005
Argentina	10 Dec 2003		Egypt	9 Dec 2003	25 Feb 2005
Armenia	19 May 2005		El Salvador	10 Dec 2003	1 Jul 2004
Australia	9 Dec 2003	7 Dec 2005	Ethiopia	10 Dec 2003	
Austria	10 Dec 2003	11 Jan 2006	European Community	15 Sep 2005	
Azerbaijan	27 Feb 2004	1 Nov 2005	Finland	9 Dec 2003	
Bahrain	8 Feb 2005		France	9 Dec 2003	11 Jul 2005
Barbados	10 Dec 2003		Gabon	10 Dec 2003	
Belarus	28 Apr 2004	17 Feb 2005	Germany	9 Dec 2003	
Belgium	10 Dec 2003		Ghana	9 Dec 2004	
Benin	10 Dec 2003	14 Oct 2004	Greece	10 Dec 2003	
Bhutan	15 Sep 2005		Guatemala	9 Dec 2003	
Bolivia	9 Dec 2003	5 Dec 2005	Guinea	15 Jul 2005	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	16 Sep 2005		Haiti	10 Dec 2003	
Brazil	9 Dec 2003	15 Jun 2005	Honduras	17 May 2004	23 May 2005
Brunei Darussalam	11 Dec 2003		Hungary	10 Dec 2003	19 Apr 2005
Bulgaria	10 Dec 2003		India	9 Dec 2005	
Burkina Faso	10 Dec 2003		Indonesia	18 Dec 2003	
Cameroon	10 Dec 2003	6 Feb 2006	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	9 Dec 2003	
Canada	21 May 2004		Ireland	9 Dec 2003	
Cape Verde	9 Dec 2003		Israel	29 Nov 2005	
Central African Republic	11 Feb 2004		Italy	9 Dec 2003	
Chile	11 Dec 2003		Jamaica	16 Sep 2005	
China	10 Dec 2003	13 Jan 2006	Japan	9 Dec 2003	
Colombia	10 Dec 2003		Jordan	9 Dec 2003	24 Feb 2005
Comoros	10 Dec 2003		Kenya	9 Dec 2003	9 Dec 2003
Costa Rica	10 Dec 2003		Kuwait	9 Dec 2003	
Côte d'Ivoire	10 Dec 2003		Kyrgyzstan	10 Dec 2003	16 Sep 2005
Croatia	10 Dec 2003	24 Apr 2005	Lao People's Democratic Republic	10 Dec 2003	
Cuba	9 Dec 2005		Latvia	19 May 2005	4 Jan 2006
Cyprus	9 Dec 2003		Lesotho	16 Sep 2005	16 Sep 2005
Czech Republic	22 Apr 2005		Liberia		16 Sep 2005 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya	23 Dec 2003	7 Jun 2005	Seychelles	27 Feb 2004	
Liechtenstein	10 Dec 2003		Sierra Leone	9 Dec 2003	30 Sep 2004
Lithuania	10 Dec 2003		Singapore	11 Nov 2005	
Luxembourg	10 Dec 2003		Slovakia	9 Dec 2003	
Madagascar	10 Dec 2003	22 Sep 2004	South Africa	9 Dec 2003	22 Nov 2004
Malawi	21 Sep 2004		Spain	16 Sep 2005	
Malaysia	9 Dec 2003		Sri Lanka	15 Mar 2004	31 Mar 2004
Mali	9 Dec 2003		Sudan	14 Jan 2005	
Malta	12 May 2005		Swaziland	15 Sep 2005	
Mauritius	9 Dec 2003	15 Dec 2004	Sweden	9 Dec 2003	
Mexico	9 Dec 2003	20 Jul 2004	Switzerland	10 Dec 2003	
Mongolia	29 Apr 2005	11 Jan 2006	Syrian Arab Republic	9 Dec 2003	
Morocco	9 Dec 2003		Thailand	9 Dec 2003	
Mozambique	25 May 2004		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	18 Aug 2005	
Myanmar	2 Dec 2005		Timor-Leste	10 Dec 2003	
Namibia	9 Dec 2003	3 Aug 2004	Togo	10 Dec 2003	6 Jul 2005
Nepal	10 Dec 2003		Trinidad and Tobago	11 Dec 2003	
Netherlands	10 Dec 2003		Tunisia	30 Mar 2004	
New Zealand	10 Dec 2003		Turkey	10 Dec 2003	
Nicaragua	10 Dec 2003	15 Feb 2006	Turkmenistan		28 Mar 2005 a
Nigeria	9 Dec 2003	14 Dec 2004	Uganda	9 Dec 2003	9 Sep 2004
Norway	9 Dec 2003		Ukraine	11 Dec 2003	
Pakistan	9 Dec 2003		United Arab Emirates	10 Aug 2005	
Panama	10 Dec 2003	23 Sep 2005	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	9 Dec 2003	9 Feb 2006
Papua New Guinea	22 Dec 2004		United Republic of Tanzania	9 Dec 2003	25 May 2005
Paraguay	9 Dec 2003	1 Jun 2005	United States of Amer- ica	9 Dec 2003	
Peru	10 Dec 2003	16 Nov 2004	Uruguay	9 Dec 2003	
Philippines	9 Dec 2003		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	10 Dec 2003	
Poland	10 Dec 2003		Viet Nam	10 Dec 2003	
Portugal	11 Dec 2003		Yemen	11 Dec 2003	7 Nov 2005
Qatar	1 Dec 2005		Zambia	11 Dec 2003	
Republic of Korea	10 Dec 2003		Zimbabwe	20 Feb 2004	
Republic of Moldova	28 Sep 2004				
Romania	9 Dec 2003	2 Nov 2004			
Russian Federation	9 Dec 2003				
Rwanda	30 Nov 2004				
Sao Tome and Principe	8 Dec 2005				
Saudi Arabia	9 Jan 2004				
Senegal	9 Dec 2003	16 Nov 2005			
Serbia and Montenegro	11 Dec 2003	20 Dec 2005			

Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others *(Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (the Convention) consolidates other international agreements concluded on this issue since 1904. The main objective of the Convention is to provide effective measures against all forms of trafficking in women and the exploitation of prostitution. For the first time in an international instrument, the Convention declares prostitution and the traffic in persons to be incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and to endanger the welfare of the individual, the family and the community.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties agree to punish any person who procures, entices or leads away another person for purposes of prostitution, even with the consent of that person; exploits the prostitution of another person, even with the consent of that person; or keeps or supports a brothel. Attempts to commit any of the above offences as well as intentional participation in any of the above offences, to the extent permitted by domestic law, are also proscribed by the Convention. The Convention requires that these offences be classified as extraditable offences in any extradition treaty, which has been or may be concluded between any of the parties to the Convention.

The Convention requires Parties to take measures to prevent prostitution, and provide rehabilitation and social reintegration of its victims. Parties are also required to supervise employment agencies in order to prevent persons seeking employment, in particular women and children, from being exposed to the danger of prostitution. Parties also undertake to establish systems of coordination and exchange of information among Parties, and to adopt or maintain regulations in connection with immigration and emigration to monitor trafficking in persons of either sex for the purpose of prostitution.

The provisions of the Convention shall supersede in the relations between the Parties thereto the provisions of the International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949; International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949; International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947; and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947. Each one of the above agreements shall be deemed to be terminated when all the Parties thereto have become Parties to the present Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 25 July 1951 (article 24).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations and any other State to which an invitation has been addressed by the Economic and Social Council and is subject to ratification. It is also open to accession (article 23).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Parties to the Convention shall communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations such laws and regulations as have already been promulgated in their States, and thereafter annually such laws and regulations as may be promulgated, relating to the subjects of the Convention, as well as measures taken by them concerning the application of the Convention (article 21).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

After the expiration of five years from the entry into force of the Convention, any Party to it may denounce it by a written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect one year from the date upon which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 25).

Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of
the Prostitution of Others

Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 25 July 1951, in accordance with article 24.
REGISTRATION: 25 July 1951, No. 1342.
STATUS: Signatories: 24. Parties: 79.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 96, p. 271.

Note: The Convention was approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 317 (IV) of 2 December 1949.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan		21 May 1985 a	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic		14 Apr 1978 a
Albania		6 Nov 1958 a	Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a
Algeria		31 Oct 1963 a	Lesotho	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2004
Argentina		15 Nov 1957 a	Liberia	21 Mar 1950	
Azerbaijan		16 Aug 1996 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		3 Dec 1956 a
Bangladesh		11 Jan 1985 a	Luxembourg	9 Oct 1950	5 Oct 1983
Belarus		24 Aug 1956 a	Madagascar	1 Oct 2001	
Belgium		22 Jun 1965 a	Malawi		13 Oct 1965 a
Benin	25 Sep 2003		Mali		23 Dec 1964 a
Bolivia		6 Oct 1983 a	Mauritania		6 Jun 1986 a
Bosnia and Herzgovi- na		1 Sep 1993 d	Mauritius	24 Sep 2003	
Brazil	5 Oct 1951	12 Sep 1958	Mexico		21 Feb 1956 a
Bulgaria		18 Jan 1955 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)	23 Sep 2003	
Burkina Faso		27 Aug 1962 a	Morocco		17 Aug 1973 a
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Myanmar	14 Mar 1956	
Cameroon		19 Feb 1982 a	Nepal		10 Dec 2002 a
Central African Repub- lic		29 Sep 1981 a	Niger		10 Jun 1977 a
Congo		25 Aug 1977 a	Nigeria	25 Sep 2003	
Côte d'Ivoire		2 Nov 1999 a	Norway		23 Jan 1952 a
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Pakistan	21 Mar 1950	11 Jul 1952
Cuba		4 Sep 1952 a	Philippines	20 Dec 1950	19 Sep 1952
Cyprus		5 Oct 1983 a	Poland		2 Jun 1952 a
Czech Republic		30 Dec 1993 d	Portugal		30 Sep 1992 a
Denmark	12 Feb 1951		Republic of Korea		13 Feb 1962 a
Djibouti		21 Mar 1979 a	Romania		15 Feb 1955 a
Ecuador	24 Mar 1950	3 Apr 1979	Russian Federation		11 Aug 1954 a
Egypt		12 Jun 1959 a	Rwanda		26 Sep 2003 a
Ethiopia		10 Sep 1981 a	Senegal		19 Jul 1979 a
Finland	27 Feb 1953	8 Jun 1972	Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d
France		19 Nov 1960 a	Seychelles		5 May 1992 a
Ghana	24 Sep 2003		Sierra Leone	26 Sep 2003	
Guinea		26 Apr 1962 a	Singapore		26 Oct 1966 a
Haiti		26 Aug 1953 a	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Honduras	13 Apr 1954	15 Jun 1993	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Hungary		29 Sep 1955 a	South Africa	16 Oct 1950	10 Oct 1951
India	9 May 1950	9 Jan 1953	Spain		18 Jun 1962 a
Indonesia	25 Sep 2003		Sri Lanka		15 Apr 1958 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	16 Jul 1953		Syrian Arab Republic		12 Jun 1959 a
Iraq		22 Sep 1955 a	Tajikistan		19 Oct 2001 a
Israel		28 Dec 1950 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Italy		18 Jan 1980 a	Togo		14 Mar 1990 a
Japan		1 May 1958 a	Ukraine		15 Nov 1954 a
Jordan		13 Apr 1976 a	Uzbekistan		27 Feb 2004 a
Kazakhstan	17 Nov 2004	24 Jan 2006			
Kuwait		20 Nov 1968 a			
Kyrgyzstan		5 Sep 1997 a			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		18 Dec 1968 a
Yemen		6 Apr 1989 a
Zimbabwe		15 Nov 1995 a

Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others *(Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950)*

OBJECTIVES AND KEY PROVISIONS

The Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (the Final Protocol) consists of only two paragraphs. The first paragraph, which contains the objective of the Final Protocol, ensures that the Convention does not prevent Parties from adopting stricter conditions than those provided for in the Convention, in order to enforce its provisions. The second paragraph stipulates that articles 23 to 26 of the Convention shall apply to the Final Protocol. These articles deal with signature, ratification, accession, entry into force of the Convention, denunciation and the scope of the depositary responsibilities.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Final Protocol entered into force on 25 July 1951 (second paragraph of the Final Protocol and article 24 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Final Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by any Member State of the United Nations and any other State to which an invitation has been addressed by the Economic and Social Council and is subject to ratification. It is also open to accession (second paragraph of the Final Protocol and article 23 of the Convention).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Final Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Final Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

After the expiration of five years from the entry into force of the Final Protocol, any Party to it may denounce it by a written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect one year from the date upon which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (second paragraph of the Final Protocol and article 25 of the Convention).

**Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and
of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others**

Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 25 July 1951, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 25 July 1951, No. 1342.
STATUS: Signatories: 26. Parties: 38.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 96, p. 316.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania		6 Nov 1958 a	Madagascar	1 Oct 2001	
Argentina		1 Dec 1960 a	Mali	24 Sep 2004	
Azerbaijan		3 Dec 2004 a	Mauritius	24 Sep 2003	
Belarus		24 Aug 1956 a	Mexico		21 Feb 1956 a
Belgium		22 Jun 1965 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)	23 Sep 2003	
Benin	25 Sep 2003		Myanmar	14 Mar 1956	
Brazil	5 Oct 1951	12 Sep 1958	Niger		10 Jun 1977 a
Bulgaria		18 Jan 1955 a	Nigeria	25 Sep 2003	
Cambodia	27 Sep 2004		Norway		23 Jan 1952 a
Cuba		4 Sep 1952 a	Pakistan	21 Mar 1950	
Czech Republic		30 Dec 1993 d	Philippines	20 Dec 1950	19 Sep 1952
Denmark	12 Feb 1951		Poland		2 Jun 1952 a
Ecuador	24 Mar 1950		Republic of Korea		13 Feb 1962 a
Egypt		12 Jun 1959 a	Romania		15 Feb 1955 a
Finland	27 Feb 1953		Russian Federation		11 Aug 1954 a
Ghana	24 Sep 2003		Rwanda		26 Sep 2003 a
Guinea		26 Apr 1962 a	Senegal	24 Sep 2004	
Haiti		26 Aug 1953 a	Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d
Honduras	13 Apr 1954		Sierra Leone	26 Sep 2003	
India	9 May 1950	9 Jan 1953	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Indonesia	25 Sep 2003		South Africa	16 Oct 1950	10 Oct 1951
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	16 Jul 1953		Spain		18 Jun 1962 a
Israel		28 Dec 1950 a	Sri Lanka		7 Aug 1958 a
Japan		1 May 1958 a	Syrian Arab Republic		12 Jun 1959 a
Kazakhstan	17 Nov 2004		Togo		14 Mar 1990 a
Kuwait		20 Nov 1968 a	Ukraine		15 Nov 1954 a
Lesotho	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2004	Uzbekistan		27 Feb 2004 a
Liberia	21 Mar 1950		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		18 Dec 1968 a
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		3 Dec 1956 a			
Luxembourg	9 Oct 1950	5 Oct 1983			

Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks
(New York, 4 August 1995)

OBJECTIVES

The United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement) sets out principles for the conservation and management of those fish stocks and establishes that such management must be based on the precautionary approach and the best available scientific information. The Agreement elaborates on the fundamental principle, established in the Convention, that States should cooperate to ensure conservation and promote the objective of the optimum utilization of fisheries resources both within and beyond the exclusive economic zone.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Agreement provides a framework for cooperation in the conservation and management of fisheries resources. It promotes good order in the oceans through the effective management and conservation of high seas resources by establishing, among other things, detailed minimum international standards for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks; ensuring that measures taken for the conservation and management of those stocks in areas under national jurisdiction and in the adjacent high seas are compatible and coherent; ensuring that there are effective mechanisms for compliance and enforcement of those measures on the high seas; and recognizing the special requirements of developing States in relation to conservation and management as well as the development and participation in fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement entered into force on 11 December 2001 (article 40).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Agreement is closed for signature. It is open for ratification and accession by States and other entities referred to in article 305 (1) (c), (d) and (e), of the Convention, and international organizations pursuant to Annex IX, article 1, of the Convention, subject to article 47 of the Agreement. In cases where an international organization has competence over all the matters governed by the Agreement, its member States shall not become Parties, except in respect of their territories for which the international organization has no responsibility (articles 38, 39 and 47 (2) (ii)).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party to this Agreement which is not a Party to the Convention may declare that, notwithstanding article 290 (5) of the Convention, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea shall not be entitled to prescribe, modify or revoke provisional measures without the agreement of such State (article 31 (3)).

A State or entity, when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Agreement, may make declarations or statements, however phrased or named, with a view, *inter alia*, to the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of the Agreement, provided that such declarations or statements do no purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Agreement in their application to that State or entity (article 43).

Parties intending to conclude an agreement (article 44 (2)) modifying or suspending the operation of provisions of this Agreement, applicable solely to relations between them, shall notify the other Parties through the depositary of this Agreement of their intention to conclude the agreement and of the modification or suspension for which it provides (article 44 (3)).

In cases where an international organization referred to in Annex IX, article 1 of the Convention has competence over all matters governed by the Agreement, it shall make a declaration at the time of signing or accession concerning such competence and related matters (article 47 (2) (i)).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations or exceptions may be made to the Agreement (article 42).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Denunciation is effected by a written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and takes effect one year after the date of receipt, unless the notification specifies a later date (article 46).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS

New York, 4 August 1995

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 December 2001, in accordance with article 40 (1).
REGISTRATION: 11 December 2001, No. 37924.
STATUS: Signatories: 59. Parties: 56.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, p. 3; and depositary notification C.N.99.1996.TREATIES-4 of 7 April 1996 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Arabic text).

Note: The above Agreement was adopted on 4 August 1995 at New York, by the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. In accordance with its article 37, the Agreement will be open for signature at United Nations Headquarters, from 4 December 1995 until and including 4 December 1996 by all States and the other entities referred to in article 305 (1) (a), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
Argentina	4 Dec 1995		Maldives	8 Oct 1996	30 Dec 1998
Australia	4 Dec 1995	23 Dec 1999	Malta		11 Nov 2001 a
Austria	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Marshall Islands	4 Dec 1995	19 Mar 2003
Bahamas		16 Jan 1997 a	Mauritania	21 Dec 1995	
Bangladesh	4 Dec 1995		Mauritius		25 Mar 1997 a
Barbados		22 Sep 2000 a	Micronesia (Federated States of)	4 Dec 1995	23 May 1997
Belgium	3 Oct 1996	19 Dec 2003	Monaco		9 Jun 1999 a
Belize	4 Dec 1995	14 Jul 2005	Morocco	4 Dec 1995	
Brazil	4 Dec 1995	8 Mar 2000	Namibia	19 Apr 1996	8 Apr 1998
Burkina Faso	15 Oct 1996		Nauru		10 Jan 1997 a
Canada	4 Dec 1995	3 Aug 1999	Netherlands	28 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
China	6 Nov 1996		New Zealand	4 Dec 1995	18 Apr 2001
Cook Islands		1 Apr 1999 a	Niue	4 Dec 1995	
Costa Rica		18 Jun 2001 a	Norway	4 Dec 1995	30 Dec 1996
Côte d'Ivoire	24 Jan 1996		Pakistan	15 Feb 1996	
Cyprus		25 Sep 2002 a	Papua New Guinea	4 Dec 1995	4 Jun 1999
Denmark	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Philippines	30 Aug 1996	
Egypt	5 Dec 1995		Portugal	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
European Community	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Republic of Korea	26 Nov 1996	
Fiji	4 Dec 1995	12 Dec 1996	Russian Federation	4 Dec 1995	4 Aug 1997
Finland	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Saint Lucia	12 Dec 1995	9 Aug 1996
France	4 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003	Samoa	4 Dec 1995	25 Oct 1996
Gabon	7 Oct 1996		Senegal	4 Dec 1995	30 Jan 1997
Germany	28 Aug 1996	19 Dec 2003	Seychelles	4 Dec 1996	20 Mar 1998
Greece	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Solomon Islands		13 Feb 1997 a
Guinea		16 Sep 2005 a	South Africa		14 Aug 2003 a
Guinea-Bissau	4 Dec 1995		Spain	3 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003
Iceland	4 Dec 1995	14 Feb 1997	Sri Lanka	9 Oct 1996	24 Oct 1996
India		19 Aug 2003 a	Sweden	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Indonesia	4 Dec 1995		Tonga	4 Dec 1995	31 Jul 1996
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		17 Apr 1998 a	Uganda	10 Oct 1996	
Ireland	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Ukraine	4 Dec 1995	27 Feb 2003
Israel	4 Dec 1995		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4 Dec 1995	10 Dec 2001
Italy	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	United States of America	4 Dec 1995	21 Aug 1996
Jamaica	4 Dec 1995		Uruguay	16 Jan 1996	10 Sep 1999
Japan	19 Nov 1996		Vanuatu	23 Jul 1996	
Kenya		13 Jul 2004 a			
Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a			
Liberia		16 Sep 2005 a			
Luxembourg	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003			

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change *(New York, 9 May 1992)*

OBJECTIVES

The objective of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Convention) is to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened, to avoid adverse health effects and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

KEY PROVISIONS

In order to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, Parties are obliged to develop, periodically update, publish and make available national inventories of anthropogenic emissions and sinks; adopt and implement national and regional measures to mitigate climate change; promote the application of processes that control emissions, including the transfer of technologies; promote sustainable management of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases; elaborate integrated plans for coastal zone management and cooperate in research and systematic observation of the climate system.

Developed country Parties and other Parties specified in the Convention shall adopt national policies and take corresponding measures on the mitigation of climate change. These Parties are obliged to communicate detailed information on their policies and measures. Parties not bound by these provisions may elect to be bound by such provisions by written notification.

The Convention also provides for a financial mechanism, which requires developed country Parties and other developed Parties specified in the Convention to provide financial resources to meet the costs incurred by developing country Parties to adopt necessary measures and to communicate information relating to implementation. Developed country Parties and other developed Parties specified in the Convention shall also promote the transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies and know-how to developing country Parties.

Parties are obliged to support and develop international and intergovernmental programmes aimed at defining, conducting, assessing and financing research, data collection and systematic observation; support international and intergovernmental efforts to strengthen systematic observation and national and technical research capabilities; develop and implement educational and public awareness programmes on climate change; facilitate public awareness and participation; and provide training of scientific, technical and managerial personnel.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 21 March 1994 (article 23).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Member States of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations. It is also open for accession from the day after the date on which the Convention is closed for signature by Member States of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations (article 22).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Any Party not included in annex I may, in its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or at any time thereafter, notify the depositary that it intends to be bound by subparagraphs (a) and (b) of article 4(2) relating to the adoption of national policies and the implementation of corresponding measures (article 4(2)(g)).

When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, or at any time thereafter, a Party which is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the depositary that, in respect of any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation, submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice and/or arbitration in accordance with procedure to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties. A Party that is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration (article 14).

Regional economic integration organizations, in their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, shall declare the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention (article 22).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention (article 24).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Convention has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal (article 25).

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

New York, 9 May 1992

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 21 March 1994, in accordance with article 23 (1).
REGISTRATION: 21 March 1994, No. 30822.
STATUS: Signatories: 165. Parties: 189.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, p. 107; and depositary notifications C.N.148.1993.TREATIES-4 of 12 July 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original texts of the Convention); C.N.436.1993.TREATIES-12 of 15 December 1993 (corrigendum to C.N.148.1993.TREATIES-4 of 12 July 1993); C.N.247.1993.TREATIES-6 of 24 November 1993 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic French text); C.N.462.1993.TREATIES-13 of 30 December 1993 (corrigendum to C.N.247.1993.TREATIES-6 of 24 November 1993); C.N.544.1997.TREATIES-6 of 13 February 1997 (amendment to the list in annex I to the Convention); and C.N.1478.2001.TREATIES-2 of 28 December 2001 (amendment to the list in annex II to the Convention).

Note: The Convention was agreed upon and adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, during its Fifth session, second part, held at New York from 30 April to 9 May 1992. In accordance with its article 20, the Convention was open for signature by States Members of the United Nations or of any of its specialized agencies or that are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by regional economic integration organizations, at Rio de Janeiro during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, from 4 to 14 June 1992, and remained thereafter open at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until 19 June 1993.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Afghanistan	12 Jun 1992	19 Sep 2002	Comoros	11 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1994
Albania		3 Oct 1994 a	Congo	12 Jun 1992	14 Oct 1996
Algeria	13 Jun 1992	9 Jun 1993	Cook Islands	12 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1993
Angola	14 Jun 1992	17 May 2000	Costa Rica	13 Jun 1992	26 Aug 1994
Antigua and Barbuda	4 Jun 1992	2 Feb 1993	Côte d'Ivoire	10 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994
Argentina	12 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1994	Croatia	11 Jun 1992	8 Apr 1996 A
Armenia	13 Jun 1992	14 May 1993 A	Cuba	13 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1994
Australia	4 Jun 1992	30 Dec 1992	Cyprus	12 Jun 1992	15 Oct 1997
Austria	8 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	Czech Republic	18 Jun 1993	7 Oct 1993 AA
Azerbaijan	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1995	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	11 Jun 1992	5 Dec 1994 AA
Bahamas	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1994	Democratic Republic of the Congo	11 Jun 1992	9 Jan 1995
Bahrain	8 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994	Denmark	9 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Bangladesh	9 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994	Djibouti	12 Jun 1992	27 Aug 1995
Barbados	12 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1994	Dominica		21 Jun 1993 a
Belarus	11 Jun 1992	11 May 2000 AA	Dominican Republic	12 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1998
Belgium	4 Jun 1992	16 Jan 1996	Ecuador	9 Jun 1992	23 Feb 1993
Belize	13 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1994	Egypt	9 Jun 1992	5 Dec 1994
Benin	13 Jun 1992	30 Jun 1994	El Salvador	13 Jun 1992	4 Dec 1995
Bhutan	11 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Equatorial Guinea		16 Aug 2000 a
Bolivia	10 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994	Eritrea		24 Apr 1995 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		7 Sep 2000 a	Estonia	12 Jun 1992	27 Jul 1994
Botswana	12 Jun 1992	27 Jan 1994	Ethiopia	10 Jun 1992	5 Apr 1994
Brazil	4 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	European Community	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993 AA
Bulgaria	5 Jun 1992	12 May 1995	Fiji	9 Oct 1992	25 Feb 1993
Burkina Faso	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993	Finland	4 Jun 1992	3 May 1994 A
Burundi	11 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1997	France	13 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1994
Cambodia		18 Dec 1995 a	Gabon	12 Jun 1992	21 Jan 1998
Cameroon	14 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1994	Gambia	12 Jun 1992	10 Jun 1994
Canada	12 Jun 1992	4 Dec 1992	Georgia		29 Jul 1994 a
Cape Verde	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1995	Germany	12 Jun 1992	9 Dec 1993
Central African Repub- lic	13 Jun 1992	10 Mar 1995	Ghana	12 Jun 1992	6 Sep 1995
Chad	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1994	Greece	12 Jun 1992	4 Aug 1994
Chile	13 Jun 1992	22 Dec 1994	Grenada	3 Dec 1992	11 Aug 1994
China	11 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1993	Guatemala	13 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1995
Colombia	13 Jun 1992	22 Mar 1995	Guinea	12 Jun 1992	7 May 1993

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Guinea-Bissau	12 Jun 1992	27 Oct 1995	Paraguay	12 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994
Guyana	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	Peru	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1993
Haiti	13 Jun 1992	25 Sep 1996	Philippines	12 Jun 1992	2 Aug 1994
Honduras	13 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1995	Poland	5 Jun 1992	28 Jul 1994
Hungary	13 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994	Portugal	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Iceland	4 Jun 1992	16 Jun 1993	Qatar		18 Apr 1996 a
India	10 Jun 1992	1 Nov 1993	Republic of Korea	13 Jun 1992	14 Dec 1993
Indonesia	5 Jun 1992	23 Aug 1994	Republic of Moldova	12 Jun 1992	9 Jun 1995
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14 Jun 1992	18 Jul 1996	Romania	5 Jun 1992	8 Jun 1994
Ireland	13 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1994	Russian Federation	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Israel	4 Jun 1992	4 Jun 1996	Rwanda	10 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1998
Italy	5 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994	Saint Kitts and Nevis	12 Jun 1992	7 Jan 1993
Jamaica	12 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1995	Saint Lucia	14 Jun 1993	14 Jun 1993
Japan	13 Jun 1992	28 May 1993 A	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		2 Dec 1996 a
Jordan	11 Jun 1992	12 Nov 1993	Samoa	12 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994
Kazakhstan	8 Jun 1992	17 May 1995	San Marino	10 Jun 1992	28 Oct 1994
Kenya	12 Jun 1992	30 Aug 1994	Sao Tome and Principe	12 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1999
Kiribati	13 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995	Saudi Arabia		28 Dec 1994 a
Kuwait		28 Dec 1994 a	Senegal	13 Jun 1992	17 Oct 1994
Kyrgyzstan		25 May 2000 a	Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		4 Jan 1995 a	Seychelles	10 Jun 1992	22 Sep 1992
Latvia	11 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1995	Sierra Leone	11 Feb 1993	22 Jun 1995
Lebanon	12 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1994	Singapore	13 Jun 1992	29 May 1997
Lesotho	11 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995	Slovakia	19 May 1993	25 Aug 1994 AA
Liberia	12 Jun 1992	5 Nov 2002	Slovenia	13 Jun 1992	1 Dec 1995
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	29 Jun 1992	14 Jun 1999	Solomon Islands	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Liechtenstein	4 Jun 1992	22 Jun 1994	South Africa	15 Jun 1993	29 Aug 1997
Lithuania	11 Jun 1992	24 Mar 1995	Spain	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Luxembourg	9 Jun 1992	9 May 1994	Sri Lanka	10 Jun 1992	23 Nov 1993
Madagascar	10 Jun 1992	2 Jun 1999	Sudan	9 Jun 1992	19 Nov 1993
Malawi	10 Jun 1992	21 Apr 1994	Suriname	13 Jun 1992	14 Oct 1997
Malaysia	9 Jun 1993	13 Jul 1994	Swaziland	12 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1996
Maldives	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1992	Sweden	8 Jun 1992	23 Jun 1993
Mali	30 Sep 1992	28 Dec 1994	Switzerland	12 Jun 1992	10 Dec 1993
Malta	12 Jun 1992	17 Mar 1994	Syrian Arab Republic		4 Jan 1996 a
Marshall Islands	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1992	Tajikistan		7 Jan 1998 a
Mauritania	12 Jun 1992	20 Jan 1994	Thailand	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Mauritius	10 Jun 1992	4 Sep 1992	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		28 Jan 1998 a
Mexico	13 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1993	Togo	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1995 A
Micronesia (Federated States of)	12 Jun 1992	18 Nov 1993	Tonga		20 Jul 1998 a
Monaco	11 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1992	Trinidad and Tobago	11 Jun 1992	24 Jun 1994
Mongolia	12 Jun 1992	30 Sep 1993	Tunisia	13 Jun 1992	15 Jul 1993
Morocco	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1995	Turkey		24 Feb 2004 a
Mozambique	12 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Turkmenistan		5 Jun 1995 a
Myanmar	11 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1994	Tuvalu	8 Jun 1992	26 Oct 1993
Namibia	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1995	Uganda	13 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993
Nauru	8 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1993	Ukraine	11 Jun 1992	13 May 1997
Nepal	12 Jun 1992	2 May 1994	United Arab Emirates		29 Dec 1995 a
Netherlands	4 Jun 1992	20 Dec 1993 A	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12 Jun 1992	8 Dec 1993
New Zealand	4 Jun 1992	16 Sep 1993	United Republic of Tanzania	12 Jun 1992	17 Apr 1996
Nicaragua	13 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1995	United States of America	12 Jun 1992	15 Oct 1992
Niger	11 Jun 1992	25 Jul 1995	Uruguay	4 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1994
Nigeria	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	Uzbekistan		20 Jun 1993 a
Niue		28 Feb 1996 a	Vanuatu	9 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1993
Norway	4 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1993	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Oman	11 Jun 1992	8 Feb 1995	Viet Nam	11 Jun 1992	16 Nov 1994
Pakistan	13 Jun 1992	1 Jun 1994			
Palau		10 Dec 1999 a			
Panama	18 Mar 1993	23 May 1995			
Papua New Guinea	13 Jun 1992	16 Mar 1993			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Yemen	12 Jun 1992	21 Feb 1996
Zambia	11 Jun 1992	28 May 1993
Zimbabwe	12 Jun 1992	3 Nov 1992

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto, 11 December 1997)

OBJECTIVES

The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Protocol) has the same ultimate objective as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Convention), which is the stabilization of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

At the first United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties held in Berlin in 1995, the Parties reviewed the commitments by the developed countries under the Convention and decided that the commitment to aim at returning their emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000 was inadequate for achieving the Convention's long-term objective. The Conference adopted the Berlin Mandate and launched a new round of negotiations on strengthening the commitments of the Parties from developed countries. At the third Conference of the Parties in Kyoto in 1997, the Parties adopted the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

In accordance with the Protocol, Parties from developed countries are committed to reducing their combined greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5 per cent from 1990 levels by the period 2008-2012. The targets cover the six main greenhouse gases, namely, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs), per fluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), along with some activities in the land-use change and forestry sector that remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (carbon "sinks"). Each Party from developed countries is required to have made demonstrable progress in implementing its emission reduction commitments by 2005. Implementation of the legally binding Protocol commitments promises to produce an historic reversal of the upward trend in emissions from developed countries.

The Protocol also establishes three innovative mechanisms, known as joint implementation, emissions trading and the clean development mechanism, which are designed to help Parties included in Annex I of the Convention to reduce the costs of meeting their emission targets. The clean development mechanism also aims to promote sustainable development in developing countries. The operational details of these mechanisms are now being fleshed out by the Parties.

The procedure for the communication and review of information is established in the Protocol. Parties from developed countries are required to incorporate in their national communications the supplementary information necessary to demonstrate compliance with their commitments under the Protocol in accordance with guidelines to be developed. The information submitted shall be reviewed by expert review teams, pursuant to guidelines

established by the Conference of the Parties, which is the supreme body that shall regularly review and promote effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocol.

The Protocol provides that the Parties shall periodically review the Protocol in the light of the best available scientific information and assessment on climate change and its impacts. The first review will take place at the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. Further reviews shall take place at regular intervals and in a timely manner. A framework for a compliance system is required to be developed under the Protocol.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 16 February 2005 (article 25).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It remains open to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States and any regional economic integration organizations which are Parties to the Convention (article 24).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Protocol (article 24 (3)).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 26).

DENUNCIATION/ WITHDRAWAL

At any time after three years from the date on which the Protocol has entered into force for a Party that Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal (article 27).

Any Party that withdraws from the Convention shall be considered as also having withdrawn from the Protocol (article 27).

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 16 February 2005, in accordance with article 25 (1) in accordance with article 25 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date on which not less than 55 Parties to the Convention, incorporating Parties included in Annex I which accounted in total for at least 55 per cent of the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990 of the Parties included in Annex I, have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For the purposes of this Article, 'the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990 of the Parties included in Annex I' means the amount communicated on or before the date of adoption of this Protocol by the Parties included in Annex I in their first national communications submitted in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention. 3. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves this Protocol or accedes thereto after the conditions set out in paragraph 1 above for entry into force have been fulfilled, this Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification acceptance, approval or accession. 4. For the purposes of this Article, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States members of the organization. "

REGISTRATION: 16 February 2005, No. 30822.
STATUS: Signatories: 84. Parties: 162.
TEXT: Decision 1/CP.3 of the Conference of the State Parties to the Convention at its third session; depositary notifications C.N.101.2004.TREATIES-1 of 11 February 2004 [Proposed corrections to the original texts of the Protocol (Arabic and French versions)] and C.N.439.2004.TREATIES-4 of 12 May 2004 [Corrections to the original texts of the Protocol (Arabic and French versions)].

Note: The Protocol was adopted at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("the Convention"), held at Kyoto (Japan) from 1 to 11 December 1997. The Protocol shall be open for signature by States and regional economic integration organizations which are Parties to the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 16 March 1998 to 15 March 1999 in accordance with its article 24 (1).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA)</i>
Albania		1 Apr 2005 a	Colombia		30 Nov 2001 a
Algeria		16 Feb 2005 a	Cook Islands	16 Sep 1998	27 Aug 2001
Antigua and Barbuda	16 Mar 1998	3 Nov 1998	Costa Rica	27 Apr 1998	9 Aug 2002
Argentina	16 Mar 1998	28 Sep 2001	Croatia	11 Mar 1999	
Armenia		25 Apr 2003 a	Cuba	15 Mar 1999	30 Apr 2002
Australia	29 Apr 1998		Cyprus		16 Jul 1999 a
Austria	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Czech Republic	23 Nov 1998	15 Nov 2001 AA
Azerbaijan		28 Sep 2000 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea		27 Apr 2005 a
Bahamas		9 Apr 1999 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a
Bahrain		31 Jan 2006 a	Denmark	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Bangladesh		22 Oct 2001 a	Djibouti		12 Mar 2002 a
Barbados		7 Aug 2000 a	Dominica		25 Jan 2005 a
Belarus		26 Aug 2005 a	Dominican Republic		12 Feb 2002 a
Belgium	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Ecuador	15 Jan 1999	13 Jan 2000
Belize		26 Sep 2003 a	Egypt	15 Mar 1999	12 Jan 2005
Benin		25 Feb 2002 a	El Salvador	8 Jun 1998	30 Nov 1998
Bhutan		26 Aug 2002 a	Equatorial Guinea		16 Aug 2000 a
Bolivia	9 Jul 1998	30 Nov 1999	Eritrea		28 Jul 2005 a
Botswana		8 Aug 2003 a	Estonia	3 Dec 1998	14 Oct 2002
Brazil	29 Apr 1998	23 Aug 2002	Ethiopia		14 Apr 2005 a
Bulgaria	18 Sep 1998	15 Aug 2002	European Community	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA
Burkina Faso		31 Mar 2005 a	Fiji	17 Sep 1998	17 Sep 1998
Burundi		18 Oct 2001 a	Finland	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Cambodia		22 Aug 2002 a	France	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA
Cameroon		28 Aug 2002 a	Gambia		1 Jun 2001 a
Canada	29 Apr 1998	17 Dec 2002	Georgia		16 Jun 1999 a
Cape Verde		10 Feb 2006 a	Germany	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Chile	17 Jun 1998	26 Aug 2002			
China	29 May 1998	30 Aug 2002 AA			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA)</i>
Ghana		30 May 2003 a	Pakistan		11 Jan 2005 a
Greece	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Palau		10 Dec 1999 a
Grenada		6 Aug 2002 a	Panama	8 Jun 1998	5 Mar 1999
Guatemala	10 Jul 1998	5 Oct 1999	Papua New Guinea	2 Mar 1999	28 Mar 2002
Guinea		7 Sep 2000 a	Paraguay	25 Aug 1998	27 Aug 1999
Guinea-Bissau		18 Nov 2005 a	Peru	13 Nov 1998	12 Sep 2002
Guyana		5 Aug 2003 a	Philippines	15 Apr 1998	20 Nov 2003
Haiti		6 Jul 2005 a	Poland	15 Jul 1998	13 Dec 2002
Honduras	25 Feb 1999	19 Jul 2000	Portugal	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA
Hungary		21 Aug 2002 a	Qatar		11 Jan 2005 a
Iceland		23 May 2002 a	Republic of Korea	25 Sep 1998	8 Nov 2002
India		26 Aug 2002 a	Republic of Moldova		22 Apr 2003 a
Indonesia	13 Jul 1998	3 Dec 2004	Romania	5 Jan 1999	19 Mar 2001
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		22 Aug 2005 a	Russian Federation	11 Mar 1999	18 Nov 2004
Ireland	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Rwanda		22 Jul 2004 a
Israel	16 Dec 1998	15 Mar 2004	Saint Lucia	16 Mar 1998	20 Aug 2003
Italy	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	19 Mar 1998	31 Dec 2004
Jamaica		28 Jun 1999 a	Samoa	16 Mar 1998	27 Nov 2000
Japan	28 Apr 1998	4 Jun 2002 A	Saudi Arabia		31 Jan 2005 a
Jordan		17 Jan 2003 a	Senegal		20 Jul 2001 a
Kazakhstan	12 Mar 1999		Seychelles	20 Mar 1998	22 Jul 2002
Kenya		25 Feb 2005 a	Slovakia	26 Feb 1999	31 May 2002
Kiribati		7 Sep 2000 a	Slovenia	21 Oct 1998	2 Aug 2002
Kuwait		11 Mar 2005 a	Solomon Islands	29 Sep 1998	13 Mar 2003
Kyrgyzstan		13 May 2003 a	South Africa		31 Jul 2002 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		6 Feb 2003 a	Spain	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Latvia	14 Dec 1998	5 Jul 2002	Sri Lanka		3 Sep 2002 a
Lesotho		6 Sep 2000 a	Sudan		2 Nov 2004 a
Liberia		5 Nov 2002 a	Swaziland		13 Jan 2006 a
Licchtenstein	29 Jun 1998	3 Dec 2004	Sweden	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Lithuania	21 Sep 1998	3 Jan 2003	Switzerland	16 Mar 1998	9 Jul 2003
Luxembourg	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Syrian Arab Republic		27 Jan 2006 a
Madagascar		24 Sep 2003 a	Thailand	2 Feb 1999	28 Aug 2002
Malawi		26 Oct 2001 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		18 Nov 2004 a
Malaysia	12 Mar 1999	4 Sep 2002	Togo		2 Jul 2004 a
Maldives	16 Mar 1998	30 Dec 1998	Trinidad and Tobago	7 Jan 1999	28 Jan 1999
Mali	27 Jan 1999	28 Mar 2002	Tunisia		22 Jan 2003 a
Malta	17 Apr 1998	11 Nov 2001	Turkmenistan	28 Sep 1998	11 Jan 1999
Marshall Islands	17 Mar 1998	11 Aug 2003	Tuvalu	16 Nov 1998	16 Nov 1998
Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a	Uganda		25 Mar 2002 a
Mauritius		9 May 2001 a	Ukraine	15 Mar 1999	12 Apr 2004
Mexico	9 Jun 1998	7 Sep 2000	United Arab Emirates		26 Jan 2005 a
Micronesia (Federated States of)	17 Mar 1998	21 Jun 1999	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Monaco	29 Apr 1998	27 Feb 2006	United Republic of Tanzania		26 Aug 2002 a
Mongolia		15 Dec 1999 a	United States of America	12 Nov 1998	
Morocco		25 Jan 2002 a	Uruguay	29 Jul 1998	5 Feb 2001
Mozambique		18 Jan 2005 a	Uzbekistan	20 Nov 1998	12 Oct 1999
Myanmar		13 Aug 2003 a	Vanuatu		17 Jul 2001 a
Namibia		4 Sep 2003 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		18 Feb 2005 a
Nauru		16 Aug 2001 a	Vict Nam	3 Dec 1998	25 Sep 2002
Nepal		16 Sep 2005 a	Yemen		15 Sep 2004 a
Netherlands	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 A	Zambia	5 Aug 1998	
New Zealand	22 May 1998	19 Dec 2002			
Nicaragua	7 Jul 1998	18 Nov 1999			
Niger	23 Oct 1998	30 Sep 2004			
Nigeria		10 Dec 2004 a			
Niue	8 Dec 1998	6 May 1999			
Norway	29 Apr 1998	30 May 2002			
Oman		19 Jan 2005 a			

Convention on Biological Diversity *(Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1992)*

OBJECTIVES

In response to the growing recognition that biological diversity is a global asset of tremendous value to present and future generations and to the increasing threat to the survival of species and integrity of habitats and ecosystems, the United Nations Environment Programme initiated work exploring the need for an international convention on biological diversity. Aspects to be taken into account in this process were the need to share costs and benefits between developed and developing countries as well as ways and means to support innovation by local people.

The work culminated on 22 May 1992 in the Nairobi Conference for the Adoption of the Agreed Text of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Conference adopted the Nairobi Final Act which conveyed the Agreed Text to the Rio Earth Summit held in 1992 in Brazil. In accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention), its objectives are "the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources". The Convention is thus the first global, comprehensive agreement to address all aspects of biological diversity: genetic resources, species and ecosystems. It recognizes, for the first time, that the conservation of biological diversity is "a common concern of humankind" and an integral part of the development process. To achieve its objectives, the Convention, in accordance with the spirit of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, promotes a renewed partnership among countries. Its provisions on scientific and technical cooperation, access to genetic resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies form the foundations of this partnership.

KEY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to the Convention, the Parties undertake to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity. The Parties are required to develop national biodiversity strategies and action plans and to integrate these into broader national plans for environment and development. This is particularly important for such sectors as forestry, agriculture, fisheries, energy, transportation and urban planning. Furthermore, Parties shall identify and monitor the important components of biological diversity that need to be conserved and used sustainably.

Other key provisions are to establish protected areas to conserve biological diversity while promoting environmentally sound development around these areas; to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and to promote the recovery of threatened species in collaboration with local residents; to respect, preserve and maintain traditional knowledge of the sustainable use of biological diversity with the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities; to prevent the introduction of, to control and to eradicate alien species that could threaten ecosystems, habitats or species; and to control the risks posed by organisms modified by biotechnology.

The Convention also focuses on promoting public participation, particularly when it comes to assessing the environmental impact of development projects that threaten biological

diversity, and on educating people and raising awareness about the importance of biological diversity and the need to conserve it.

The Conference of the Parties is required to keep under review the implementation of the Convention. In doing so, the Parties are obliged to submit reports relating to national implementation of the provisions in the Convention. In addition, the Convention provides for establishing the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice that provides the Conference of the Parties with advice relating to the implementation of the Convention.

The Convention also provides for the elaboration of protocols as deemed appropriate by the Conference of the Parties. The first protocol to the Convention is the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, adopted in Montreal, Canada, on 29 January 2000 by the Resumed Session of the First Extraordinary Conference of the Parties (ExCOP-1) to the Convention.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 29 December 1993 (article 36).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and is open to accession by States and by regional economic integration organizations (articles 34 and 35).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

A Party may declare that it accepts arbitration in accordance with the procedure laid down in Part I of Annex II and/or submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice as compulsory means of settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation and the application of the Convention (article 27).

A regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention (article 34).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Convention (article 37).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after two years from the date on which the Convention has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving written notification to the depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take place upon expiry of one year after the date of its receipt by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of the withdrawal (article 38).

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1992

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 29 December 1993, in accordance with article 36 (1).
REGISTRATION: 29 December 1993, No. 30619.
STATUS: Signatories: 168. Parties: 188.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, p. 79; and depositary notification C.N.329.1996.TREATIES-2 of 18 March 1996 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Arabic text).

Note: The Convention was adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Convention on Biological Diversity, during its Fifth session, held at Nairobi from 11 to 22 May 1992. The Convention was open for signature at Rio de Janeiro by all States and regional economic integration organizations from 5 June 1992 until 14 June 1992, and remained open at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until 4 June 1993.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Afghanistan	12 Jun 1992	19 Sep 2002	Czech Republic	4 Jun 1993	3 Dec 1993 AA
Albania		5 Jan 1994 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	11 Jun 1992	26 Oct 1994 AA
Algeria	13 Jun 1992	14 Aug 1995	Democratic Republic of the Congo	11 Jun 1992	3 Dec 1994
Angola	12 Jun 1992	1 Apr 1998	Denmark	12 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Antigua and Barbuda	5 Jun 1992	9 Mar 1993	Djibouti	13 Jun 1992	1 Sep 1994
Argentina	12 Jun 1992	22 Nov 1994	Dominica		6 Apr 1994 a
Armenia	13 Jun 1992	14 May 1993 A	Dominican Republic	13 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1996
Australia	5 Jun 1992	18 Jun 1993	Ecuador	9 Jun 1992	23 Feb 1993
Austria	13 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1994	Egypt	9 Jun 1992	2 Jun 1994
Azerbaijan	12 Jun 1992	3 Aug 2000 AA	El Salvador	13 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1994
Bahamas	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993	Equatorial Guinea		6 Dec 1994 a
Bahrain	9 Jun 1992	30 Aug 1996	Eritrea		21 Mar 1996 a
Bangladesh	5 Jun 1992	3 May 1994	Estonia	12 Jun 1992	27 Jul 1994
Barbados	12 Jun 1992	10 Dec 1993	Ethiopia	10 Jun 1992	5 Apr 1994
Belarus	11 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993	European Community	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993 AA
Belgium	5 Jun 1992	22 Nov 1996	Fiji	9 Oct 1992	25 Feb 1993
Belize	13 Jun 1992	30 Dec 1993	Finland	5 Jun 1992	27 Jul 1994 A
Benin	13 Jun 1992	30 Jun 1994	France	13 Jun 1992	1 Jul 1994
Bhutan	11 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Gabon	12 Jun 1992	14 Mar 1997
Bolivia	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994	Gambia	12 Jun 1992	10 Jun 1994
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		26 Aug 2002 a	Georgia		2 Jun 1994 a
Botswana	8 Jun 1992	12 Oct 1995	Germany	12 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Brazil	5 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	Ghana	12 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994
Bulgaria	12 Jun 1992	17 Apr 1996	Greece	12 Jun 1992	4 Aug 1994
Burkina Faso	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993	Grenada	3 Dec 1992	11 Aug 1994
Burundi	11 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1997	Guatemala	13 Jun 1992	10 Jul 1995
Cambodia		9 Feb 1995 a	Guinea	12 Jun 1992	7 May 1993
Cameroon	14 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1994	Guinea-Bissau	12 Jun 1992	27 Oct 1995
Canada	11 Jun 1992	4 Dec 1992	Guyana	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994
Cape Verde	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1995	Haiti	13 Jun 1992	25 Sep 1996
Central African Repub- lic	13 Jun 1992	15 Mar 1995	Honduras	13 Jun 1992	31 Jul 1995
Chad	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1994	Hungary	13 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994
Chile	13 Jun 1992	9 Sep 1994	Iceland	10 Jun 1992	12 Sep 1994
China	11 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1993	India	5 Jun 1992	18 Feb 1994
Colombia	12 Jun 1992	28 Nov 1994	Indonesia	5 Jun 1992	23 Aug 1994
Comoros	11 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1994	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14 Jun 1992	6 Aug 1996
Congo	11 Jun 1992	1 Aug 1996	Ireland	13 Jun 1992	22 Mar 1996
Cook Islands	12 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1993	Israel	11 Jun 1992	7 Aug 1995
Costa Rica	13 Jun 1992	26 Aug 1994	Italy	5 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994
Côte d'Ivoire	10 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994	Jamaica	11 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1995
Croatia	11 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1996	Japan	13 Jun 1992	28 May 1993 A
Cuba	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1994	Jordan	11 Jun 1992	12 Nov 1993
Cyprus	12 Jun 1992	10 Jul 1996			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Kazakhstan	9 Jun 1992	6 Sep 1994	Rwanda	10 Jun 1992	29 May 1996
Kenya	11 Jun 1992	26 Jul 1994	Saint Kitts and Nevis	12 Jun 1992	7 Jan 1993
Kiribati		16 Aug 1994 a	Saint Lucia		28 Jul 1993 a
Kuwait	9 Jun 1992	2 Aug 2002	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		3 Jun 1996 a
Kyrgyzstan		6 Aug 1996 a	Samoa	12 Jun 1992	9 Feb 1994
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic		20 Sep 1996 a	San Marino	10 Jun 1992	28 Oct 1994
Latvia	11 Jun 1992	14 Dec 1995	Sao Tome and Principe	12 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1999
Lebanon	12 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1994	Saudi Arabia		3 Oct 2001 a
Lesotho	11 Jun 1992	10 Jan 1995	Senegal	13 Jun 1992	17 Oct 1994
Liberia	12 Jun 1992	8 Nov 2000	Serbia and Montenegro	8 Jun 1992	1 Mar 2002
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya	29 Jun 1992	12 Jul 2001	Seychelles	10 Jun 1992	22 Sep 1992
Liechtenstein	5 Jun 1992	19 Nov 1997	Sierra Leone		12 Dec 1994 a
Lithuania	11 Jun 1992	1 Feb 1996	Singapore	10 Mar 1993	21 Dec 1995
Luxembourg	9 Jun 1992	9 May 1994	Slovakia	19 May 1993	25 Aug 1994 AA
Madagascar	8 Jun 1992	4 Mar 1996	Slovenia	13 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1996
Malawi	10 Jun 1992	2 Feb 1994	Solomon Islands	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1995
Malaysia	12 Jun 1992	24 Jun 1994	South Africa	4 Jun 1993	2 Nov 1995
Maldives	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1992	Spain	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Mali	30 Sep 1992	29 Mar 1995	Sri Lanka	10 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1994
Malta	12 Jun 1992	29 Dec 2000	Sudan	9 Jun 1992	30 Oct 1995
Marshall Islands	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1992	Suriname	13 Jun 1992	12 Jan 1996
Mauritania	12 Jun 1992	16 Aug 1996	Swaziland	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1994
Mauritius	10 Jun 1992	4 Sep 1992	Sweden	8 Jun 1992	16 Dec 1993
Mexico	13 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1993	Switzerland	12 Jun 1992	21 Nov 1994
Micronesia (Federated States of)	12 Jun 1992	20 Jun 1994	Syrian Arab Republic	3 May 1993	4 Jan 1996
Monaco	11 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1992	Tajikistan		29 Oct 1997 a
Mongolia	12 Jun 1992	30 Sep 1993	Thailand	12 Jun 1992	31 Oct 2003
Morocco	13 Jun 1992	21 Aug 1995	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		2 Dec 1997 a
Mozambique	12 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Togo	12 Jun 1992	4 Oct 1995 A
Myanmar	11 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1994	Tonga		19 May 1998 a
Namibia	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1997	Trinidad and Tobago	11 Jun 1992	1 Aug 1996
Nauru	5 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1993	Tunisia	13 Jun 1992	15 Jul 1993
Nepal	12 Jun 1992	23 Nov 1993	Turkey	11 Jun 1992	14 Feb 1997
Netherlands	5 Jun 1992	12 Jul 1994 A	Turkmenistan		18 Sep 1996 a
New Zealand	12 Jun 1992	16 Sep 1993	Tuvalu	8 Jun 1992	20 Dec 2002
Nicaragua	13 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1995	Uganda	12 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993
Niger	11 Jun 1992	25 Jul 1995	Ukraine	11 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995
Nigeria	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	United Arab Emirates	11 Jun 1992	10 Feb 2000
Niue		28 Feb 1996 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12 Jun 1992	3 Jun 1994
Norway	9 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1993	United Republic of Tanzania	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1996
Oman	10 Jun 1992	8 Feb 1995	United States of Amer- ica	4 Jun 1993	
Pakistan	5 Jun 1992	26 Jul 1994	Uruguay	9 Jun 1992	5 Nov 1993
Palau		6 Jan 1999 a	Uzbekistan		19 Jul 1995 a
Panama	13 Jun 1992	17 Jan 1995	Vanuatu	9 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1993
Papua New Guinea	13 Jun 1992	16 Mar 1993	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	12 Jun 1992	13 Sep 1994
Paraguay	12 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994	Vict Nam	28 May 1993	16 Nov 1994
Peru	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1993	Yemen	12 Jun 1992	21 Feb 1996
Philippines	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1993	Zambia	11 Jun 1992	28 May 1993
Poland	5 Jun 1992	18 Jan 1996	Zimbabwe	12 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1994
Portugal	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993			
Qatar	11 Jun 1992	21 Aug 1996			
Republic of Korea	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994			
Republic of Moldova	5 Jun 1992	20 Oct 1995			
Romania	5 Jun 1992	17 Aug 1994			
Russian Federation	13 Jun 1992	5 Apr 1995			

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity *(Montreal, 29 January 2000)*

OBJECTIVES

One of the key agreements adopted at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro was the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention), which sets out commitments for maintaining the world's ecological underpinnings in parallel with economic development. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Protocol) is a supplementary agreement to the Convention. The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. This Protocol establishes an advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory. The Protocol contains reference to a precautionary approach and reaffirms the precautionary language in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The Protocol also establishes a Biosafety Clearing-House to facilitate the exchange of information on living modified organisms and to assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Recognizing that modern biotechnology has great potential for human well-being if developed and used with adequate safety measures for the environment and human health, the Parties undertake to ensure that the development, handling, transport, use, transfer and release of any living modified organisms is undertaken in a manner that prevents or reduces the risks to biological diversity, and to human health.

The transboundary movements of living modified organisms are subject to an AIA procedure under which transboundary movement is only allowed after advanced written consent by the competent national authority of the importing Party. This procedure involves several distinct requirements, namely: notification by the exporting Party, acknowledgement of notification by the importing Party, a decision-making procedure by the importing Party, and the right to review such decisions in the light of new scientific information. When the transboundary movement is authorized, the Parties are obligated to take necessary measures to require that living modified organisms are handled, packaged and transported under conditions of safety.

The Protocol provides for several exceptions to that procedure including the transboundary movements of pharmaceuticals; living modified organisms that are solely transiting through the territory of a Party or that are destined for contained use only or living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing.

In any circumstances, lack of scientific certainty due to insufficient relevant scientific information and knowledge regarding the extent of the potential adverse effects of a living modified organism shall not prevent the Parties from taking a decision, as appropriate, with regard to the import of the living modified organism in question in order to avoid or minimize such potential adverse effects.

A Biosafety Clearing-House is established for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of information on, and experience with, living modified organisms to assist Parties to implement the Protocol, taking into account the special needs of developing country Parties. Each Party shall make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House copies of any national laws, regulations and guidelines applicable to the import of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing, if available.

Lastly, the Parties undertake to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety, including biotechnology to the extent that it is required for biosafety, for the purpose of the effective implementation of this Protocol, in developing States, and in States with economies in transition, which are Parties to the Protocol. Such assistance in capacity building in biosafety may occur through existing global, regional, sub-regional and national institutions and organizations and, as appropriate, through facilitating private sector involvement.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003 (article 37).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Protocol is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and is open to accession by States or regional economic integration organizations that are Parties to the Convention (articles 34 and 35 of the Convention, and article 32 of the Protocol).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each Party shall notify the Secretary-General of its focal point and its designated competent national authorities, or any changes thereof (article 19).

RESERVATIONS

No reservations may be made to the Protocol (article 38).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

At any time after two years from the date on which this Protocol has entered into force for a Party, such Party may withdraw from the Protocol by giving written notification to the depositary. Such withdrawal shall take place upon expiry of one year after the date of its receipt by the depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of the withdrawal (article 39).

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Montreal, 29 January 2000

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 11 September 2003, in accordance with article 37 (2).
REGISTRATION: 11 September 2003, No. 30619.
STATUS: Signatories: 103. Partics: 132.
TEXT: Depository notification C.N.251.2000.TREATIES-I of 27 April 2000; C.N. I471.2003.TREATIES-41 of 22 December 2003 (Proposal of corrections to the Arabic text of the Protocol) and C.N.291.2004.TREATIES-11 of 26 March 2004 (Rectification of the Arabic text of the Protocol and transmission of the relevant Procès-Verbal).

Note: The above Protocol was adopted on 29 January 2000 by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the resumed session of its first extraordinary meeting held in Montreal from 24 to 29 January 2000. The Protocol will be open for signature by States and by regional economic integration organizations in Nairobi at the United Nations Office from 15 to 26 May 2000, and at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001, in accordance with its article 36.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Albania		8 Feb 2005 a	Dominica		13 Jul 2004 a
Algeria	25 May 2000	5 Aug 2004	Ecuador	24 May 2000	30 Jan 2003
Antigua and Barbuda	24 May 2000	10 Sep 2003	Egypt	20 Dec 2000	23 Dec 2003
Argentina	24 May 2000		El Salvador	24 May 2000	26 Sep 2003
Armenia		30 Apr 2004 a	Eritrea		10 Mar 2005 a
Austria	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Estonia	6 Sep 2000	24 Mar 2004
Azerbaijan		1 Apr 2005 a	Ethiopia	24 May 2000	9 Oct 2003
Bahamas	24 May 2000	15 Jan 2004	European Community	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002 AA
Bangladesh	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004	Fiji	2 May 2001	5 Jun 2001
Barbados		6 Sep 2002 a	Finland	24 May 2000	9 Jul 2004
Belarus		26 Aug 2002 a	France	24 May 2000	7 Apr 2003 AA
Belgium	24 May 2000	15 Apr 2004	Gambia	24 May 2000	9 Jun 2004
Belize		12 Feb 2004 a	Germany	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2003
Benin	24 May 2000	2 Mar 2005	Ghana		30 May 2003 a
Bhutan		26 Aug 2002 a	Greece	24 May 2000	21 May 2004
Bolivia	24 May 2000	22 Apr 2002	Grenada	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004
Botswana	1 Jun 2001	11 Jun 2002	Guatemala		28 Oct 2004 a
Brazil		24 Nov 2003 a	Guinea	24 May 2000	
Bulgaria	24 May 2000	13 Oct 2000	Haiti	24 May 2000	
Burkina Faso	24 May 2000	4 Aug 2003	Honduras	24 May 2000	
Cambodia		17 Sep 2003 a	Hungary	24 May 2000	13 Jan 2004
Cameroon	9 Feb 2001	20 Feb 2003	Iceland	1 Jun 2001	
Canada	19 Apr 2001		India	23 Jan 2001	17 Jan 2003
Cape Verde		1 Nov 2005 a	Indonesia	24 May 2000	3 Dec 2004
Central African Republic	24 May 2000		Iran (Islamic Republic of)	23 Apr 2001	20 Nov 2003
Chad	24 May 2000		Ireland	24 May 2000	14 Nov 2003
Chile	24 May 2000		Italy	24 May 2000	24 Mar 2004
China	8 Aug 2000	8 Jun 2005 AA	Jamaica	4 Jun 2001	
Colombia	24 May 2000	20 May 2003	Japan		21 Nov 2003 a
Congo	21 Nov 2000		Jordan	11 Oct 2000	11 Nov 2003
Cook Islands	21 May 2001		Kenya	15 May 2000	24 Jan 2002
Costa Rica	24 May 2000		Kiribati	7 Sep 2000	20 Apr 2004
Croatia	8 Sep 2000	29 Aug 2002	Kyrgyzstan		5 Oct 2005 a
Cuba	24 May 2000	17 Sep 2002	Lao People's Democratic Republic		3 Aug 2004 a
Cyprus		5 Dec 2003 a	Latvia		13 Feb 2004 a
Czech Republic	24 May 2000	8 Oct 2001	Lesotho		20 Sep 2001 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	20 Apr 2001	29 Jul 2003	Liberia		15 Feb 2002 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		23 Mar 2005 a	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14 Jun 2005 a
Denmark	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Lithuania	24 May 2000	7 Nov 2003
Djibouti		8 Apr 2002 a	Luxembourg	11 Jul 2000	28 Aug 2002

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Madagascar	14 Sep 2000	24 Nov 2003	Samoa	24 May 2000	30 May 2002
Malawi	24 May 2000		Senegal	31 Oct 2000	8 Oct 2003
Malaysia	24 May 2000	3 Sep 2003	Serbia and Montenegro		8 Feb 2006 a
Maldives		3 Sep 2002 a	Seychelles	23 Jan 2001	13 May 2004
Mali	4 Apr 2001	28 Aug 2002	Slovakia	24 May 2000	24 Nov 2003
Marshall Islands		27 Jan 2003 a	Slovenia	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2002
Mauritania		22 Jul 2005 a	Solomon Islands		28 Jul 2004 a
Mauritius		11 Apr 2002 a	South Africa		14 Aug 2003 a
Mexico	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Spain	24 May 2000	16 Jan 2002
Monaco	24 May 2000		Sri Lanka	24 May 2000	28 Apr 2004
Mongolia		22 Jul 2003 a	Sudan		13 Jun 2005 a
Morocco	25 May 2000		Swaziland		13 Jan 2006 a
Mozambique	24 May 2000	21 Oct 2002	Sweden	24 May 2000	8 Aug 2002
Myanmar	11 May 2001		Switzerland	24 May 2000	26 Mar 2002
Namibia	24 May 2000	10 Feb 2005	Syrian Arab Republic		1 Apr 2004 a
Nauru		12 Nov 2001 a	Tajikistan		12 Feb 2004 a
Nepal	2 Mar 2001		Thailand		10 Nov 2005 a
Netherlands	24 May 2000	8 Jan 2002 A	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	26 Jul 2000	14 Jun 2005
New Zealand	24 May 2000	24 Feb 2005	Togo	24 May 2000	2 Jul 2004
Nicaragua	26 May 2000	28 Aug 2002	Tonga		18 Sep 2003 a
Niger	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004	Trinidad and Tobago		5 Oct 2000 a
Nigeria	24 May 2000	15 Jul 2003	Tunisia	19 Apr 2001	22 Jan 2003
Niue		8 Jul 2002 a	Turkey	24 May 2000	24 Oct 2003
Norway	24 May 2000	10 May 2001	Uganda	24 May 2000	30 Nov 2001
Oman		11 Apr 2003 a	Ukraine		6 Dec 2002 a
Pakistan	4 Jun 2001		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	24 May 2000	19 Nov 2003
Palau	29 May 2001	13 Jun 2003	United Republic of Tanzania		24 Apr 2003 a
Panama	11 May 2001	1 May 2002	Uruguay	1 Jun 2001	
Papua New Guinea		14 Oct 2005 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	24 May 2000	13 May 2002
Paraguay	3 May 2001	10 Mar 2004	Viet Nam		21 Jan 2004 a
Peru	24 May 2000	14 Apr 2004	Yemen		1 Dec 2005 a
Philippines	24 May 2000		Zambia		27 Apr 2004 a
Poland	24 May 2000	10 Dec 2003	Zimbabwe	4 Jun 2001	25 Feb 2005
Portugal	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004 A			
Republic of Korea	6 Sep 2000				
Republic of Moldova	14 Feb 2001	4 Mar 2003			
Romania	11 Oct 2000	30 Jun 2003			
Rwanda	24 May 2000	22 Jul 2004			
Saint Kitts and Nevis		23 May 2001 a			
Saint Lucia		16 Jun 2005 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		27 Aug 2003 a			

**Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain
Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively
Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects**
(with Protocols I, II and III)
(Geneva, 10 October 1980)

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (the Convention), also known as the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) comprises a framework convention and five protocols, which ban or restrict the use of various types of weapons that are considered to cause unnecessary suffering or that affect either soldiers or civilians indiscriminately.

KEY PROVISIONS

The weapons currently covered include weapons leaving undetectable fragments in the human body (Protocol I), mines, booby-traps and other devices (Protocol II), incendiary weapons (Protocol III), blinding laser weapons (Protocol IV) and explosive remnants of war (Protocol V).

Each Party undertakes to disseminate the Convention and its Protocols by which it is bound as widely as possible in its territory and, in particular, to feature them as a subject of study in its military academies.

Nothing in this Convention or its annexed Protocols shall be interpreted as detracting from other obligations imposed upon the Parties by international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts.

The Convention was amended in 2001 to expand the scope of the application of the Convention to non-international armed conflicts (see summary to follow).

ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Convention entered into force on 2 December 1983 (article 5).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by any Signatories. It is open to accession by any State which has not signed the Convention (article 4).

Expressions of consent to be bound by any of the Protocols annexed to this Convention shall be optional for each State, provided that at the time of the deposit of its instruments of accession thereto, that State shall notify the Depositary of its consent to be bound by any two or more of these Protocols. At any time after the deposit of its instrument of accession a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary). The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9).

The denunciation shall take effect one year after the receipt of the instrument of denunciation by the depositary. If, however, a Party is engaged in a situation of armed conflict or occupation at the expiry of that year, the Party shall continue to be bound by the obligations of the Convention and relevant Protocols until the end of the armed conflict or occupation. Any denunciation shall not affect obligations already incurred, by reason of armed conflict, in respect of any act committed before the denunciation becomes effective (article 9).

Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I)

KEY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to Protocol I, Parties are prohibited to use any weapon the primary effect of which is to injure by fragments which in the human body escape detection by X-rays.

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)

KEY PROVISIONS

Protocol II applies to the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices on land, beaches or river crossings, but not to anti-ship mines at sea or in inland waterways.

Protocol II prohibits the intentional use of mines against civilians and allows the use of remotely-delivered mines only if their location is accurately recorded. Parties to a conflict shall record the location of pre-planned minefields and ensure the recording of the location of all other minefields, mines and booby-traps which they have laid or placed in position.

When a United Nations force or mission performs functions of peace-keeping or similar functions, each Party to a conflict shall, if requested, as far as able remove all devices mentioned above, or render them harmless, take such measures as may be necessary to protect the force or mission from effects of these devices and make available all information in the Party's possession concerning their location.

A technical annex to Protocol II includes guidelines for reporting.

In 1996, an amended Protocol II was adopted to significantly strengthen the restrictions on mines, booby-traps and other devices (see summary to follow).

Protocol on Prohibitions or Registration on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III)

KEY PROVISIONS

Protocol III provides for the protection of civilians and civilian objects from the use of weapons or munitions which are primarily designed to set fire to objects or to cause burn injury to persons.

**CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS
OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS (WITH PROTOCOLS I, II AND III)**

Geneva, 10 October 1980

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 2 December 1983 in accordance with article 5 (1) and (3).
REGISTRATION: 2 December 1983, No. 22495.
STATUS: Signatories: 50. Parties: 100.
TEXT: United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1342, p. 137; depositary notifications C.N.356.1981.
 TREATIES-7 of 14 January 1982 (procès-verbal of rectification of the Chinese authentic text)
 and C.N.320.1982. TREATIES-11 of 21 January 1983 (procès-verbal of rectification of the
 Final Act).

Note: The Convention and its annexed Protocols were adopted by the United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held in Geneva from 10 to 28 September 1979 and from 15 September to 10 October 1980. The Conference was convened pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 32/152 of 19 December 1977 and 33/70 of 14 December 1978. The original of the Convention with the annexed Protocols, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, is deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Convention was open for signature by all States at United Nations Headquarters in New York for a period of twelve months from 10 April 1981.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan	10 Apr 1981		Guatemala		21 Jul 1983 a
Albania		28 Aug 2002 a	Holy See		22 Jul 1997 a
Argentina	2 Dec 1981	2 Oct 1995	Honduras		30 Oct 2003 a
Australia	8 Apr 1982	29 Sep 1983	Hungary	10 Apr 1981	14 Jun 1982
Austria	10 Apr 1981	14 Mar 1983	Iceland	10 Apr 1981	
Bangladesh		6 Sep 2000 a	India	15 May 1981	1 Mar 1984
Belarus	10 Apr 1981	23 Jun 1982	Ireland	10 Apr 1981	13 Mar 1995
Belgium	10 Apr 1981	7 Feb 1995	Israel		22 Mar 1995 a
Benin		27 Mar 1989 a	Italy	10 Apr 1981	20 Jan 1995
Bolivia		21 Sep 2001 a	Japan	22 Sep 1981	9 Jun 1982 A
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 Sep 1993 d	Jordan		19 Oct 1995 a
Brazil		3 Oct 1995 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic		3 Jan 1983 a
Bulgaria	10 Apr 1981	15 Oct 1982	Latvia		4 Jan 1993 a
Burkina Faso		26 Nov 2003 a	Lesotho		6 Sep 2000 a
Cambodia		25 Mar 1997 a	Liberia		16 Sep 2005 a
Canada	10 Apr 1981	24 Jun 1994	Liechtenstein	11 Feb 1982	16 Aug 1989
Cape Verde		16 Sep 1997 a	Lithuania		3 Jun 1998 a
Chile		15 Oct 2003 A	Luxembourg	10 Apr 1981	21 May 1996
China	14 Sep 1981	7 Apr 1982	Maldives		7 Sep 2000 a
Colombia		6 Mar 2000 a	Mali		24 Oct 2001 a
Costa Rica		17 Dec 1998 a	Malta		26 Jun 1995 a
Croatia		2 Dec 1993 d	Mauritius		6 May 1996 a
Cuba	10 Apr 1981	2 Mar 1987	Mexico	10 Apr 1981	11 Feb 1982
Cyprus		12 Dec 1988 a	Monaco		12 Aug 1997 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Mongolia	10 Apr 1981	8 Jun 1982
Denmark	10 Apr 1981	7 Jul 1982	Morocco	10 Apr 1981	19 Mar 2002
Djibouti		29 Jul 1996 a	Nauru		12 Nov 2001 a
Ecuador	9 Sep 1981	4 May 1982	Netherlands	10 Apr 1981	18 Jun 1987 A
Egypt	10 Apr 1981		New Zealand	10 Apr 1981	18 Oct 1993
El Salvador		26 Jan 2000 a	Nicaragua	20 May 1981	5 Dec 2000
Estonia		20 Apr 2000 a	Niger		10 Nov 1992 a
Finland	10 Apr 1981	8 Apr 1982	Nigeria	26 Jan 1982	
France	10 Apr 1981	4 Mar 1988	Norway	10 Apr 1981	7 Jun 1983
Georgia		29 Apr 1996 a	Pakistan	26 Jan 1982	1 Apr 1985
Germany	10 Apr 1981	25 Nov 1992	Panama		26 Mar 1997 a
Greece	10 Apr 1981	28 Jan 1992	Paraguay		22 Sep 2004 a
			Peru		3 Jul 1997 a

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Philippines.....	15 May 1981	15 Jul 1996	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		30 Dec 1996 d
Poland	10 Apr 1981	2 Jun 1983	Togo	15 Sep 1981	4 Dec 1995 A
Portugal	10 Apr 1981	4 Apr 1997	Tunisia.....		15 May 1987 a
Republic of Korea...		9 May 2001 a	Turkey.....	26 Mar 1982	2 Mar 2005
Republic of Moldova.		8 Sep 2000 a	Turkmenistan.....		19 Mar 2004 a
Romania	8 Apr 1982	26 Jul 1995	Uganda		14 Nov 1995 a
Russian Federation ..	10 Apr 1981	10 Jun 1982	Ukraine	10 Apr 1981	23 Jun 1982
Senegal		29 Nov 1999 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .	10 Apr 1981	13 Feb 1995
Serbia and Montenegro		12 Mar 2001 d	United States of Amer- ica	8 Apr 1982	24 Mar 1995
Seychelles		8 Jun 2000 a	Uruguay.....		6 Oct 1994 a
Sierra Leone	1 May 1981	30 Sep 2004	Uzbekistan.....		29 Sep 1997 a
Slovakia		28 May 1993 d	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....		19 Apr 2005 a
Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d	Viet Nam.....	10 Apr 1981	
South Africa		13 Sep 1995 a			
Spain	10 Apr 1981	29 Dec 1993			
Sri Lanka		24 Sep 2004 a			
Sudan.....	10 Apr 1981	7 Jul 1982			
Sweden	10 Apr 1981	20 Aug 1982			
Switzerland	18 Jun 1981	12 Oct 1999 a			
Tajikistan.....					

Amendment of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Geneva, 21 December 2001)

OBJECTIVES

The Amendment of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (the Amendment) amends article 1 of the Convention to expand the scope of treaty application to non-international armed conflicts.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Amendment expands the scope of the Convention's application to non-international armed conflicts. The Convention and the annexed Protocols shall not, however, apply to situations of internal disturbances and tensions, such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence, and other acts of similar nature. Nothing in the Convention shall be invoked for the purpose of affecting the sovereignty of a State.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Amendment entered into force on 18 May 2004 (article 8 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

Amendments shall be adopted and shall enter into force in the same manner as the Convention and the annexed Protocols, provided, that amendments to the Convention may be adopted only by the Parties and that amendments to a specific annexed Protocol may be adopted only by the Parties which are bound by that Protocol (article 8 of the Convention).

Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects

Geneva, 21 December 2001

ENTRY INTO FORCE : 18 May 2004, in accordance with article 8, paragraph 1 (b) of the Convention which reads, in part, as follows: "amendments ... shall enter into force in the same manner as the Convention and the annexed Protocols (i.e. ... six months after the date of deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. ",

REGISTRATION : 18 May 2004, No. 22495.

STATUS : Parties: 44.

TEXT : Doc. CCW/CONF/II/2 and depositary notification C.N.104.2002.TREATIES-1 of 11 February 2002; C.N.1329.2005.TREATIES-9 of 3 January 2006 (Proposal of correction to the authentic Russian text) and C.N.130.2006.TREATIES-1 of 9 February 2006 (Correction to the Authentic Russian text).

Note : At the Second Review Conference, held in Geneva from 11 to 21 December 2001, the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects concluded at Geneva on 10 October 1980 adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 8 (1) (b) of the Convention, the Amendment to Article 1 of the said Convention as set out in the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference (Doc. CCW/CONF/II/2).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Argentina	25 Feb 2004 a	Licchtenstein	18 Jun 2004 A
Australia	3 Dec 2002 A	Lithuania	12 May 2003 A
Austria	25 Sep 2003 A	Luxembourg	13 Jun 2005
Belgium	12 Feb 2004	Malta	24 Sep 2004 a
Bulgaria	28 Feb 2003	Mexico	22 May 2003 A
Burkina Faso	26 Nov 2003 a	Netherlands	19 May 2004 A
Canada	22 Jul 2002 A	Norway	18 Nov 2003 AA
China	11 Aug 2003	Panama	16 Aug 2004 a
Croatia	27 May 2003	Peru	14 Feb 2005
Denmark	15 Sep 2004 A	Republic of Korea	13 Feb 2003 A
Estonia	12 May 2003	Republic of Moldova	5 Jan 2005 a
Finland	22 Jun 2004 A	Romania	25 Aug 2003 a
France	10 Dec 2002 AA	Serbia and Montenegro	11 Nov 2003 A
Germany	26 Jan 2005 A	Sierra Leone	30 Sep 2004
Greece	26 Nov 2004	Slovakia	11 Feb 2004
Holy See	9 Dec 2002 A	Spain	9 Feb 2004
Hungary	27 Dec 2002	Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 a
India	18 May 2005 a	Sweden	3 Dec 2002 A
Italy	1 Sep 2004	Switzerland	19 Jan 2004 A
Japan	10 Jul 2003 A	Turkey	2 Mar 2005
Latvia	23 Apr 2003 a	Ukraine	29 Jun 2005 A
Liberia	16 Sep 2005 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25 Jul 2002 A

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Geneva, 3 May 1996)

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended) makes each Party responsible for all mines, booby-traps or other devices it uses. It obligates each Party to clear, remove, destroy or maintain all mines, booby-traps or other devices in accordance with the Protocol.

KEY PROVISIONS

Protocol II as amended applies to the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices on land, beaches or river crossings, but not to anti-ship mines at sea or in inland waterways. It is applicable in internal as well as international armed conflicts.

It prohibits the use of any mine, booby-trap or other device which causes superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering, is designed to detonate under the non-contact influence of commonly available mine detectors, or is aimed at civilians or civilian objects.

Protocol II as amended provides that the anti-handling device on a self-deactivating mine must not function after the mine has deactivated. In addition, it provides that mines, booby-traps and other devices must only be used in relation to specific, individual military objectives whose destruction, capture or neutralisation offers a definite military advantage at the time. Mines must not be delivered by indiscriminate means, and may not be placed in a way likely to cause excessive impact on civilians in comparison to the anticipated military advantage. All feasible precautions should be taken to protect civilians from the impact of mines, booby-traps and other devices and effective advance warning should be given to civilians wherever possible.

Pursuant to Protocol II as amended, records of minefields, mined areas, mines and booby-traps must be kept, including specific coordinates and estimated dimensions of affected areas. The following information must also be reported by the Parties: the types of mines used, numbers, emplacing methods, types of fuse and their life, date of emplacement, anti-handling devices, the location of mines, and the location and mechanism of all booby traps.

Parties to a conflict must – after such conflict – protect civilians from the effect of mines in areas under their control. Parties are also obligated to provide annual reports to the United Nations on matters such as mine clearance and rehabilitation programs, steps taken to apply the Protocol, and technological co-operation. The Parties are encouraged to exchange information on mine clearance techniques and allow the transfer of clearance technology.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Protocol entered into force on 3 December 1998 (article 2 of Protocol II as amended and article 8 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol II as amended is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol II as amended is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9).

**Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and
Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996)
annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain
Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have
Indiscriminate Effects**

Geneva, 3 May 1996

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 3 December 1998, in accordance with article 2 of the Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 3 December 1998, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 85.
TEXT: Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I).

Note: At its 14th plenary meeting on 3 May 1996, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects concluded at Geneva on 10 October 1980 adopted, pursuant to article 8 (1) (b) of the Convention, Protocol II, as amended.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>
Albania	28 Aug 2002 P	Luxembourg	5 Aug 1999 P
Argentina	21 Oct 1998 P	Maldives	7 Sep 2000 P
Australia	22 Aug 1997 P	Mali	24 Oct 2001 P
Austria	27 Jul 1998 P	Malta	24 Sep 2004 P
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000 P	Monaco	12 Aug 1997 P
Belarus	2 Mar 2004 P	Morocco	19 Mar 2002 P
Belgium	10 Mar 1999 P	Nauru	12 Nov 2001 P
Bolivia	21 Sep 2001 P	Netherlands	25 Mar 1999 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7 Sep 2000 P	New Zealand	8 Jan 1998 P
Brazil	4 Oct 1999 P	Nicaragua	5 Dec 2000 P
Bulgaria	3 Dec 1998 P	Norway	20 Apr 1998 P
Burkina Faso	26 Nov 2003 P	Pakistan	9 Mar 1999 P
Cambodia	25 Mar 1997 P	Panama	3 Nov 1999 P
Canada	5 Jan 1998 P	Paraguay	22 Sep 2004 P
Cape Verde	16 Sep 1997 P	Peru	3 Jul 1997 P
Chile	15 Oct 2003 P	Philippines	12 Jun 1997 P
China	4 Nov 1998 P	Poland	14 Oct 2003 P
Colombia	6 Mar 2000 P	Portugal	31 Mar 1999 P
Costa Rica	17 Dec 1998 P	Republic of Korea	9 May 2001 P
Croatia	25 Apr 2002 P	Republic of Moldova	16 Jul 2001 P
Cyprus	22 Jul 2003 P	Romania	25 Aug 2003 P
Czech Republic	10 Aug 1998 P	Russian Federation	2 Mar 2005 P
Denmark	30 Apr 1997 P	Senegal	29 Nov 1999 P
Ecuador	14 Aug 2000 P	Seychelles	8 Jun 2000 P
El Salvador	26 Jan 2000 P	Sierra Leone	30 Sep 2004 P
Estonia	20 Apr 2000 P	Slovakia	30 Nov 1999 P
Finland	3 Apr 1998 P	Slovenia	3 Dec 2002 P
France	23 Jul 1998 P	South Africa	26 Jun 1998 P
Germany	2 May 1997 P	Spain	27 Jan 1998 P
Greece	20 Jan 1999 P	Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 P
Guatemala	29 Oct 2001 P	Sweden	16 Jul 1997 P
Holy See	22 Jul 1997 P	Switzerland	24 Mar 1998 P
Honduras	30 Oct 2003 P	Tajikistan	12 Oct 1999 P
Hungary	30 Jan 1998 P	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	31 May 2005 P
India	2 Sep 1999 P	Turkey	2 Mar 2005 P
Ireland	27 Mar 1997 P	Turkmenistan	19 Mar 2004 P
Israel	30 Oct 2000 P	Ukraine	15 Dec 1999 P
Italy	13 Jan 1999 P	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Feb 1999 P
Japan	10 Jun 1997 P	United States of America	24 May 1999 P
Jordan	6 Sep 2000 P	Uruguay	18 Aug 1998 P
Latvia	22 Aug 2002 P	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	19 Apr 2005 P
Liberia	16 Sep 2005 P		
Liechtenstein	19 Nov 1997 P		
Lithuania	3 Jun 1998 P		

**Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or
Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons
Which May Be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious
or to have Indiscriminate Effects
(Protocol IV, Entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons)
(Vienna, 13 October 1995)**

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV) is to prohibit the use of laser weapons that cause permanent blindness as at least one of their combat functions.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties are prohibited from employing laser weapons as described in article 1 of Protocol IV and shall not transfer such weapons to any State or non-State entity. Blinding as an incidental or collateral effect of the legitimate military employment of laser systems is not covered by the prohibition of Protocol IV. In accordance with its article 4, “permanent blindness” means irreversible and uncorrectable loss of vision.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Protocol IV entered into force on 30 July 1998 (article 5 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the depositary of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol IV is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol IV is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. Denunciation of the Convention also entails the denunciation of all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9 of the Convention).

**Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of
Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious
or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser
Weapons)**

Vienna, 13 October 1995

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30 July 1998, in accordance with article 2 of the Additional Protocol.
REGISTRATION: 30 July 1998, No. 22495.
STATUS: Parties: 81.
TEXT: Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 Part I).

Note: At its 8th plenary meeting on 13 October 1995, the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects adopted pursuant to article 8.3 (b) of the Convention an additional Protocol entitled "Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)".

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>
Albania	28 Aug 2002 P	Lithuania	3 Jun 1998 P
Argentina	21 Oct 1998 P	Luxembourg	5 Aug 1999 P
Australia	22 Aug 1997 P	Maldives	7 Sep 2000 P
Austria	27 Jul 1998 P	Mali	24 Oct 2001 P
Bangladesh	6 Sep 2000 P	Malta	24 Sep 2004 P
Belarus	13 Sep 2000 P	Mauritius	24 Dec 2002 P
Belgium	10 Mar 1999 P	Mexico	10 Mar 1998 P
Bolivia	21 Sep 2001 P	Mongolia	6 Apr 1999 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina	11 Oct 2001 P	Morocco	19 Mar 2002 P
Brazil	4 Oct 1999 P	Nauru	12 Nov 2001 P
Bulgaria	3 Dec 1998 P	Netherlands	25 Mar 1999 P
Burkina Faso	26 Nov 2003 P	New Zealand	8 Jan 1998 P
Cambodia	25 Mar 1997 P	Nicaragua	5 Dec 2000 P
Canada	5 Jan 1998 P	Norway	20 Apr 1998 P
Cape Verde	16 Sep 1997 P	Pakistan	5 Dec 2000 P
Chile	15 Oct 2003 P	Panama	26 Mar 1997 P
China	4 Nov 1998 P	Peru	3 Jul 1997 P
Colombia	6 Mar 2000 P	Philippines	12 Jun 1997 P
Costa Rica	17 Dec 1998 P	Poland	23 Sep 2004 P
Croatia	25 Apr 2002 P	Portugal	12 Nov 2001 P
Cyprus	22 Jul 2003 P	Republic of Moldova	8 Sep 2000 P
Czech Republic	10 Aug 1998 P	Romania	25 Aug 2003 P
Denmark	30 Apr 1997 P	Russian Federation	9 Sep 1999 P
Ecuador	16 Dec 2003 P	Serbia and Montenegro	12 Aug 2003 P
El Salvador	26 Jan 2000 P	Seychelles	8 Jun 2000 P
Estonia	20 Apr 2000 P	Sierra Leone	30 Sep 2004 P
Finland	11 Jan 1996 P	Slovakia	30 Nov 1999 P
France	30 Jun 1998 P	Slovenia	3 Dec 2002 P
Germany	27 Jun 1997 P	South Africa	26 Jun 1998 P
Greece	5 Aug 1997 P	Spain	19 Jan 1998 P
Guatemala	30 Aug 2002 P	Sri Lanka	24 Sep 2004 P
Holy See	22 Jul 1997 P	Sweden	15 Jan 1997 P
Honduras	30 Oct 2003 P	Switzerland	24 Mar 1998 P
Hungary	30 Jan 1998 P	Tajikistan	12 Oct 1999 P
India	2 Sep 1999 P	Turkey	2 Mar 2005 P
Ireland	27 Mar 1997 P	Ukraine	28 May 2003 P
Israel	30 Oct 2000 P	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Feb 1999 P
Italy	13 Jan 1999 P	Uruguay	18 Sep 1998 P
Japan	10 Jun 1997 P	Uzbekistan	29 Sep 1997 P
Latvia	11 Mar 1998 P		
Liberia	16 Sep 2005 P		
Liechtenstein	19 Nov 1997 P		

Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V)
(Geneva, 28 November 2003)

OBJECTIVES

The Protocol on explosive remnants of war to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects (Protocol V) recognizes the serious post-conflict humanitarian problems caused by explosive remnants of war and addresses post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature in order to minimize the occurrence, effects and the risk of explosive remnants of war.

KEY PROVISIONS

Parties which become participants in an armed conflict bear responsibility with respect to all explosive remnants of war in territory under their control. After the cessation of active hostilities, and as soon as feasible, such a Party to an armed conflict shall mark and clear, remove or destroy explosive remnants of war in affected territories under its control. Parties shall also cooperate among themselves and with other States and organizations in order to fulfil their duty of clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Protocol has not yet entered into force. In accordance with article 5 of the Convention, Protocol V will enter into force six months after the date by which twenty States have notified their consent to be bound by it in accordance with article 4 of the Convention (article 5 of the Convention).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

In accordance with article 4 (4) of the Convention, a State may notify the Secretary-General of its consent to be bound by any annexed Protocol by which it is not already bound.

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Protocol V is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Protocol V is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, the Parties to it may denounce the Convention or any of its annexed Protocols by so notifying the Secretary-General as depositary. The denunciation of the Convention shall be considered as also applying to all annexed Protocols by which the Party is bound (article 9 of the Convention).

Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V)

Geneva, 28 November 2003

NOT YET IN FORCE: see article 5, paragraph 3 of the Convention which reads, in part, as follows: "protocols ... shall enter into force six months after the date by which twenty States have notified their consent to be bound by it

STATUS: Parties: 17.

TEXT: Doc.CCW/MSP/2003/2 and depositary notification C.N.42.2004.TREATIES-2 of 11 March 2004; C.N.181.2004.TREATIES-9 of 26 February 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Chinese version)] and C.N.542.2004.TREATIES-10 of 27 May 2004 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Chinese version)]; C.N.693.2004.TREATIES-8 of 6 July 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)] and C.N.1084.TREATIES-12 of 7 October 2004 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)]; C.N.1076.2004.TREATIES-11 of 4 October 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)], C.N.1347.2004.TREATIES-12 of 18 February 2005 (Objection to the proposed corrections to the authentic French text of the Protocol) and C.N.105.2005.TREATIES-2 of 18 February 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)] C.N.1110.2004.TREATIES-11 OF 26 October 2004 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)] and C.N.37.2005.TREATIES-1 of 25 January 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Spanish version)]; C.N.123.2005.TREATIES-2 of 24 February 2005 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)] and C.N.222.2005.TREATIES-4 of 29 March 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (French version)]; C.N.138.2006.TREATIES-1 of 10 February 2006 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Russian version)].

Note: The above Protocol was adopted by the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects held in Geneva on 28 November 2003. The Protocol shall be open to all States for consent to be bound in accordance with article 4 of the Convention.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>
Bulgaria.....	7 Nov 2005 P	Lithuania.....	29 Sep 2004 P
Croatia.....	7 Feb 2005 P	Luxembourg.....	13 Jun 2005 P
Denmark.....	28 Jun 2005 P	Netherlands.....	18 Jul 2005 P
El Salvador.....	23 Mar 2006 P	Nicaragua.....	15 Sep 2005 P
Finland.....	23 Mar 2005 P	Norway.....	8 Dec 2005 P
Germany.....	3 Mar 2005 P	Sierra Leone.....	30 Sep 2004 P
Holy See.....	13 Dec 2005 P	Sweden.....	2 Jun 2004 P
India.....	18 May 2005 P	Ukraine.....	17 May 2005 P
Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 P		

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction *(Oslo, 18 September 1997)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the Convention) is a cornerstone in the effort to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. The Convention includes a comprehensive ban on anti-personnel mines, a framework of action to address the humanitarian impact of mines and mechanisms to facilitate cooperation in implementing the Convention.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention prohibits the use, development, production, acquiring, stockpiling, retaining of or transferring to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines. Parties are also prohibited from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in activities banned by the Convention.

Each Party is obligated to destroy all stockpiled mines as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party (article 4). Each Party is also obligated to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but not later than ten years after the entry into force of the Convention for that Party. Parties are additionally required to make every effort to identify and mark areas in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced, and take other measures to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians. Parties which are unable to destroy all mines within the ten-year timeframe may request an extension of the deadline.

Parties are permitted to retain or transfer a minimal number of anti-personnel mines solely for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques.

The Convention requires that Parties cooperate and provide technical and financial assistance to achieve the objectives of the Convention. Parties have the right to seek and receive assistance from other Parties, where feasible. Parties that are able to do so are required to provide assistance for mine victims, mine awareness programmes, mine clearance and related activities and other forms of assistance.

Each Party is also required to submit a report, no later than 180 days after the Convention enters into force for such Party, to the Secretary-General detailing, *inter alia*, national implementation measures, quantity of all stockpiled mines owned or possessed, location of all mined areas, types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred, status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines, and types and quantities of all mines destroyed. Each Party is required to update its report annually.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 1 March 1999 (article 17).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

This Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories. It is open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention (article 16).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

This Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

Reservations are prohibited under this Convention (article 19).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

A Party may withdraw from the Convention by giving notice, including a full explanation of the motivations for the withdrawal, to all other Parties, the depositary, and the United Nations Security Council. The withdrawal shall take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six-month period, the withdrawing Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict (article 20).

**CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Oslo, 18 September 1997

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 March 1999, in accordance with article 17 (1).
REGISTRATION: 1 March 1999, No. 35597.
STATUS: Signatories: 133. Parties: 149.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, p. 211; C.N.163.2003.TREATIES-2 of 3 March 2003 [Proposal of corrections to the original of the Convention (authentic Arabic text)] and C.N.270.2003.TREATIES-4 of 7 April 2003 (acceptance).

Note: The Convention was concluded by the Diplomatic Conference on an International Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Land Mines at Oslo on 18 September 1997. In accordance with its article 15, the Convention was opened for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and will remain open thereafter at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until its entry into force. By resolution 52/38/A, the General Assembly of the United Nations welcomed the conclusion of the Convention at Oslo and requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be necessary to fulfil the tasks entrusted to him.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan		11 Sep 2002 a	Czech Republic	3 Dec 1997	26 Oct 1999
Albania	8 Sep 1998	29 Feb 2000	Democratic Republic of the Congo		2 May 2002 a
Algeria	3 Dec 1997	9 Oct 2001	Denmark	4 Dec 1997	8 Jun 1998
Andorra	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	Djibouti	3 Dec 1997	18 May 1998
Angola	4 Dec 1997	5 Jul 2002	Dominica	3 Dec 1997	26 Mar 1999
Antigua and Barbuda	3 Dec 1997	3 May 1999	Dominican Republic	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Argentina	4 Dec 1997	14 Sep 1999	Ecuador	4 Dec 1997	29 Apr 1999
Australia	3 Dec 1997	14 Jan 1999	El Salvador	4 Dec 1997	27 Jan 1999
Austria	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	Equatorial Guinea		16 Sep 1998 a
Bahamas	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998	Eritrea		27 Aug 2001 a
Bangladesh	7 May 1998	6 Sep 2000	Estonia		12 May 2004 a
Barbados	3 Dec 1997	26 Jan 1999	Ethiopia	3 Dec 1997	17 Dec 2004
Belarus		3 Sep 2003 a	Fiji	3 Dec 1997	10 Jun 1998
Belgium	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	France	3 Dec 1997	23 Jul 1998
Belize	27 Feb 1998	23 Apr 1998	Gabon	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 2000
Benin	3 Dec 1997	25 Sep 1998	Gambia	4 Dec 1997	23 Sep 2002
Bhutan		18 Aug 2005 a	Germany	3 Dec 1997	23 Jul 1998
Bolivia	3 Dec 1997	9 Jun 1998	Ghana	4 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Bosnia and Herzgovi- na	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 1998	Greece	3 Dec 1997	25 Sep 2003
Botswana	3 Dec 1997	1 Mar 2000	Grenada	3 Dec 1997	19 Aug 1998
Brazil	3 Dec 1997	30 Apr 1999	Guatemala	3 Dec 1997	26 Mar 1999
Brunei Darussalam	4 Dec 1997		Guinea	4 Dec 1997	8 Oct 1998
Bulgaria	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	Guinea-Bissau	3 Dec 1997	22 May 2001
Burkina Faso	3 Dec 1997	16 Sep 1998	Guyana	4 Dec 1997	5 Aug 2003
Burundi	3 Dec 1997	22 Oct 2003	Haiti	3 Dec 1997	15 Feb 2006
Cambodia	3 Dec 1997	28 Jul 1999	Holy See	4 Dec 1997	17 Feb 1998
Cameroon	3 Dec 1997	19 Sep 2002	Honduras	3 Dec 1997	24 Sep 1998
Canada	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997	Hungary	3 Dec 1997	6 Apr 1998
Cape Verde	4 Dec 1997	14 May 2001	Iceland	4 Dec 1997	5 May 1999
Central African Repub- lic		8 Nov 2002 a	Indonesia	4 Dec 1997	
Chad	6 Jul 1998	6 May 1999	Ireland	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997
Chile	3 Dec 1997	10 Sep 2001	Italy	3 Dec 1997	23 Apr 1999
Colombia	3 Dec 1997	6 Sep 2000	Jamaica	3 Dec 1997	17 Jul 1998
Comoros		19 Sep 2002 a	Japan	3 Dec 1997	30 Sep 1998 A
Congo		4 May 2001 a	Jordan	11 Aug 1998	13 Nov 1998
Cook Islands	3 Dec 1997		Kenya	5 Dec 1997	23 Jan 2001
Costa Rica	3 Dec 1997	17 Mar 1999	Kiribati		7 Sep 2000 a
Côte d'Ivoire	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000	Latvia		1 Jul 2005 a
Croatia	4 Dec 1997	20 May 1998	Lesotho	4 Dec 1997	2 Dec 1998
Cyprus	4 Dec 1997	17 Jan 2003	Liberia		23 Dec 1999 a
			Liechtenstein	3 Dec 1997	5 Oct 1999

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Lithuania	26 Feb 1999	12 May 2003	Senegal	3 Dec 1997	24 Sep 1998
Luxembourg	4 Dec 1997	14 Jun 1999	Serbia and Montenegro		18 Sep 2003 a
Madagascar	4 Dec 1997	16 Sep 1999	Seychelles	4 Dec 1997	2 Jun 2000
Malawi	4 Dec 1997	13 Aug 1998	Sicra Leone	29 Jul 1998	25 Apr 2001
Malaysia	3 Dec 1997	22 Apr 1999	Slovakia	3 Dec 1997	25 Feb 1999 AA
Maldives	1 Oct 1998	7 Sep 2000	Slovenia	3 Dec 1997	27 Oct 1998
Mali	3 Dec 1997	2 Jun 1998	Solomon Islands	4 Dec 1997	26 Jan 1999
Malta	4 Dec 1997	7 May 2001	South Africa	3 Dec 1997	26 Jun 1998
Marshall Islands	4 Dec 1997		Spain	3 Dec 1997	19 Jan 1999
Mauritania	3 Dec 1997	21 Jul 2000	Sudan	4 Dec 1997	13 Oct 2003
Mauritius	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997	Suriname	4 Dec 1997	23 May 2002
Mexico	3 Dec 1997	9 Jun 1998	Swaziland	4 Dec 1997	22 Dec 1998
Monaco	4 Dec 1997	17 Nov 1998	Sweden	4 Dec 1997	30 Nov 1998
Mozambique	3 Dec 1997	25 Aug 1998	Switzerland	3 Dec 1997	24 Mar 1998
Namibia	3 Dec 1997	21 Sep 1998	Tajikistan		12 Oct 1999 a
Nauru		7 Aug 2000 a	Thailand	3 Dec 1997	27 Nov 1998
Netherlands	3 Dec 1997	12 Apr 1999 A	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		9 Sep 1998 a
New Zealand	3 Dec 1997	27 Jan 1999	Timor-Leste		7 May 2003 a
Nicaragua	4 Dec 1997	30 Nov 1998	Togo	4 Dec 1997	9 Mar 2000
Niger	4 Dec 1997	23 Mar 1999	Trinidad and Tobago	4 Dec 1997	27 Apr 1998
Nigeria		27 Sep 2001 a	Tunisia	4 Dec 1997	9 Jul 1999
Niue	3 Dec 1997	15 Apr 1998	Turkey		25 Sep 2003 a
Norway	3 Dec 1997	9 Jul 1998	Turkmenistan	3 Dec 1997	19 Jan 1998
Panama	4 Dec 1997	7 Oct 1998	Uganda	3 Dec 1997	25 Feb 1999
Papua New Guinea		28 Jun 2004 a	Ukraine	24 Feb 1999	27 Dec 2005
Paraguay	3 Dec 1997	13 Nov 1998	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998
Peru	3 Dec 1997	17 Jun 1998	United Republic of Tanzania	3 Dec 1997	13 Nov 2000
Philippines	3 Dec 1997	15 Feb 2000	Uruguay	3 Dec 1997	7 Jun 2001
Poland	4 Dec 1997		Vanuatu	4 Dec 1997	16 Sep 2005
Portugal	3 Dec 1997	19 Feb 1999	Venczucla (Bolivarian Republic of)	3 Dec 1997	14 Apr 1999
Qatar	4 Dec 1997	13 Oct 1998	Yemen	4 Dec 1997	1 Sep 1998
Republic of Moldova	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 2000	Zambia	12 Dec 1997	23 Feb 2001
Romania	3 Dec 1997	30 Nov 2000	Zimbabwe	3 Dec 1997	18 Jun 1998
Rwanda	3 Dec 1997	8 Jun 2000			
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3 Dec 1997	2 Dec 1998			
Saint Lucia	3 Dec 1997	13 Apr 1999			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3 Dec 1997	1 Aug 2001			
Samoa	3 Dec 1997	23 Jul 1998			
San Marino	3 Dec 1997	18 Mar 1998			
Sao Tome and Principe	30 Apr 1998	31 Mar 2003			

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel *(New York, 8 December 2005)*

OBJECTIVES

The Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which was adopted on 9 December 1994, is a key legal instrument in efforts to give United Nations and associated personnel the security and the environment they need to do their work. Its entry into force in 1999 was a major step forward in strengthening the legal regime surrounding United Nations protection. The scope of the Convention covered United Nations operations where such operations are for the purpose of maintaining or restoring international peace and security, or where the Security Council or the General Assembly has declared that an exceptional risk exists to the safety of the personnel participating in the operation. Humanitarian, development, and other non-peacekeeping operations were covered only through such a declaration of exceptional risk. This was considered to be a serious flaw as there are no generally agreed criteria for determining whether such a risk exists. The new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (the Optional Protocol) corrects this flaw. It expands the legal protection to all other United Nations operations, from emergency humanitarian assistance to peacebuilding and the delivery of humanitarian, political and development assistance.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Optional Protocol expands the scope of the Convention to all other United Nations operations established by a competent organ of the United Nations in accordance with the United Nations Charter and conducted under United Nations authority and control for the purpose of (a) delivering humanitarian, political or development assistance in peacebuilding, or (b) delivering emergency humanitarian assistance. A host State may make a declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations that it shall not apply the provisions of the Optional Protocol with respect to the delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance conducted in response to a natural disaster.

The duty of a Party to the Optional Protocol with respect to the application of article 8 of the Convention to United Nations operations as defined in the Optional Protocol shall be without prejudice to its right to take action in the exercise of its national jurisdiction over any United Nations or associated personnel who violates the laws and regulations of that Party, provided that such action is not in violation of any other international law obligation of the Party.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Optional Protocol is not in force. The Optional Protocol shall enter into force thirty days after twenty-two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession have been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article VI).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Optional Protocol shall be open for signature by all States at United Nations Headquarters for twelve months, from 16 January 2006 to 16 January 2007. The Optional Protocol shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States. The Optional Protocol shall, after 16 January 2007, be open to accession by any non-signatory State (article V).

Any State which is not a Party to the Convention may ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Optional Protocol if at the same time it ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to the Convention in accordance with articles 25 and 26 of the Convention (article V).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Optional Protocol is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

RESERVATIONS

The Optional Protocol is silent with regard to reservations.

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce the Optional Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which notification is received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article VII).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel

New York, 8 December 2005

NOT YET IN FORCE: in accordance with article 6 which reads as follows: "1. This Protocol shall enter into force thirty days after twenty-two instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession have been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."

STATUS: Signatories: 5. Parties: 1.
TEXT : Doc. A/60/518.

Note: The above Optional Protocol was adopted on 8 December 2005 during the 61st plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/60/42. In accordance with its article IV, the Optional Protocol shall be open for signature by all States from 16 January 2006 to 16 January 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA)</i>
Central African Republic	27 Feb 2006		Norway	20 Jan 2006	
Liechtenstein	16 Jan 2006		Senegal	17 Jan 2006	
Luxembourg	16 Jan 2006				24 Feb 2006 AA

List of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General

(AS AT 1 MARCH 2006)

CHAPTER I. CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

1. Charter of the United Nations. San Francisco, 26 June 1945
2. Declarations of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations
3. Statute of the International Court of Justice
4. Declarations recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court
5. a). Amendments to Articles 23,27 and 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolutions 1991 A and B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963. New York, 17 December 1963
5. b). Amendment to Article 109 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2101 (XX) of 20 December 1965. New York, 20 December 1965
5. c). Amendment to Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971. New York, 20 December 1971

CHAPTER II. PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES

1. Revised General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. New York, 28 April 1949

CHAPTER III. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS, ETC.

1. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. New York, 13 February 1946
2. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies. New York, 21 November 1947 and annexes
3. Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Vienna, 18 April 1961
4. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning Acquisition of Nationality. Vienna, 18 April 1961
5. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Vienna, 18 April 1961
6. Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Vienna, 24 April 1963
7. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning Acquisition of Nationality. Vienna, 24 April 1963
8. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Vienna, 24 April 1963
9. Convention on special missions. New York, 8 December 1969
10. Optional Protocol to the Convention on Special Missions concerning the compulsory settlement of disputes. New York, 8 December 1969
11. Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character. Vienna, 14 March 1975
12. Vienna Convention on Succession of States in Respect of State Property, Archives and Debts. Vienna, 8 April 1983
13. United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property. New York, 2 December 2004

CHAPTER IV. HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. New York, 9 December 1948
2. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. New York, 7 March 1966
2. a). Amendment to article 8 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. New York, 15 January 1992
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
4. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
5. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. New York, 16 December 1966
6. Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity. New York, 26 November 1968
7. International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. New York, 30 November 1973

8. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 18 December 1979
8. a). Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 22 December 1995
8. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. New York, 6 October 1999
9. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 10 December 1984
9. a). Amendments to articles 17 (7) and 18 (5) of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 8 September 1992
9. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 18 December 2002
10. International Convention against Apartheid in Sports. New York, 10 December 1985
11. Convention on the Rights of the Child. New York, 20 November 1989
11. a). Amendment to article 43 (2) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. New York, 12 December 1995
11. b). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. New York, 25 May 2000
11. c). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. New York, 25 May 2000
12. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. New York, 15 December 1989
13. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. New York, 18 December 1990
14. Agreement establishing the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Madrid, 24 July 1992

CHAPTER V. REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS

1. Constitution of the International Refugee Organization. New York, 15 December 1946
2. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Geneva, 28 July 1951
3. Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons. New York, 28 September 1954
4. Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. New York, 30 August 1961
5. Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. New York, 31 January 1967

CHAPTER VI. NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

1. 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
2. International Opium Convention. The Hague, 23 January 1912
3. Agreement concerning the Suppression of the Manufacture of, Internal Trade in, and Use of, Prepared Opium. Geneva, 11 February 1925 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
4. Agreement concerning the Suppression of the Manufacture of, Internal Trade in, and Use of, Prepared Opium. Geneva, 11 February 1925
5. International Opium Convention. Geneva, 19 February 1925 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
6. a). International Opium Convention. Geneva, 19 February 1925
6. b). Protocol. Geneva, 19 February 1925
7. Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs. Geneva, 13 July 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
8. a). Convention for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs. Geneva, 13 July 1931
8. b). Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 13 July 1931
9. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking. Bangkok, 27 November 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 10 December 1946
10. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking. Bangkok, 27 November 1931
11. Convention for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs. Geneva, 26 June 1936 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946
12. a). Convention of 1936 for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs. Geneva, 26 June 1936
12. b). Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 26 June 1936

13. Protocol Bringing under International Control Drugs Outside the Scope of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946. Paris, 19 November 1948
14. Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and use of Opium. New York, 23 June 1953
15. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. New York, 30 March 1961
16. Convention on psychotropic substances. Vienna, 21 February 1971
17. Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. Geneva, 25 March 1972
18. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. New York, 8 August 1975
19. United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Vienna, 20 December 1988

CHAPTER VII. TRAFFIC IN PERSONS

1. Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947, to amend the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933. Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947
2. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. Lake Success, 12 November 1947
3. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children. Geneva, 30 September 1921
4. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. Lake Success, 12 November 1947
5. International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age. Geneva, 11 October 1933
6. Protocol amending the International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, and the International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
7. International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
8. International Agreement for the suppression of the "White Slave Traffic". Paris, 18 May 1904
9. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
10. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic. Paris, 4 May 1910
11. a). Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950
11. b). Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950

CHAPTER VIII. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS

1. Protocol to amend the Convention for the suppression of the circulation of, and traffic in, obscene publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September 1923. Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947
2. Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of, and Traffic in, Obscene Publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September 1923 and amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947. New York, 12 November 1947
3. International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of and Traffic in Obscene Publications. Geneva, 12 September 1923
4. Protocol amending the Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, signed at Paris, on 4 May 1910. Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
5. Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949. New York, 4 May 1949

6. Agreement for the Repression of Obscene Publications. Paris, 4 May 1910

CHAPTER IX. HEALTH

1. Constitution of the World Health Organization. New York, 22 July 1946
1. a). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 28 May 1959
1. b). Amendment to article 7 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 20 May 1965
1. c). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 23 May 1967
1. d). Amendments to articles 34 and 55 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 22 May 1973
1. e). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 17 May 1976
1. f). Amendment to article 74 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 18 May 1978
1. g). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 12 May 1986
1. h). Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization. Geneva, 16 May 1998
2. Protocol concerning the Office international d'hygiène publique. New York, 22 July 1946
3. Agreement on the establishment of the International Vaccine Institute. New York, 28 October 1996
4. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Geneva, 21 May 2003

CHAPTER X. INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

1. a). General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Geneva, 30 October 1947
1. b). Havana Charter for an International Trade Organization. Havana, 24 March 1948.
1. c). Agreement on most-favoured-nation treatment for areas of Western Germany under military occupation. Geneva, 14 September 1948
1. d). Memorandum of understanding relative to application to the Western Sectors of Berlin of the Agreement on most-favoured-nation treatment for areas of Western Germany under military occupation. Annecy, 13 August 1949
2. Agreement establishing the African Development Bank. Khartoum, 4 August 1963
2. a). Amendments to the Agreement establishing the African Development Bank. Abidjan, 17 May 1979
2. b). Agreement establishing the African Development Bank done at Khartoum on 4 August 1963, as amended by resolution 05-79 adopted by the Board of Governors on 17 May 1979. Lusaka, 7 May 1982
3. Convention on Transit Trade of Land-locked States. New York, 8 July 1965
4. Agreement establishing the Asian Development Bank. Manila, 4 December 1965
5. Articles of Association for the establishment of an Economic Community of West Africa. Accra, 4 May 1967
6. Agreement establishing the Caribbean Development Bank. Kingston, 18 October 1969
7. Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods. New York, 14 June 1974
7. a). Protocol amending the Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods. Vienna, 11 April 1980
7. b). Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, as amended by the Protocol of 11 April 1980. New York, 14 June 1974
8. Agreement establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Rome, 13 June 1976
9. Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. Vienna, 8 April 1979
10. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. Vienna, 11 April 1980
11. Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre. Bangkok, 1 April 1982
11. a). Amendments to the Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre. Kuala Lumpur, 16 July 1998
12. United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes. New York, 9 December 1988
13. United Nations Convention on the Liability of Operators of Transport Terminals in International Trade. Vienna, 17 April 1991
14. Agreement to establish the South Centre. Geneva, 1 September 1994
15. United Nations Convention on Independent Guarantees and Stand-by Letters of Credit. New York, 11 December 1995
16. Agreement Establishing the Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa. Cairo, 28 August 1996
17. United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade. New York, 12 December 2001
18. United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts. New York, 23 November 2005

CHAPTER XI. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Customs Matters

1. Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 16 June 1949
2. Additional Protocol to the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 16 June 1949
3. Additional Protocol to the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road, relating to the International Transport of goods by container under the T.I.R. Carnet Régime. Geneva, 11 March 1950
4. Additional Protocol amending certain provisions of the Agreement providing for the provisional application of the Draft International Customs Conventions on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles and on the International Transport of Goods by Road. Geneva, 28 November 1952
5. International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material. Geneva, 7 November 1952
6. Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring. New York, 4 June 1954
7. Additional Protocol to the Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring, relating to the Importation of Tourist Publicity Documents and Material. New York, 4 June 1954
8. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles. New York, 4 June 1954
9. Customs Convention on Containers. Geneva, 18 May 1956
10. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles. Geneva, 18 May 1956
11. Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation for Private Use of Aircraft and Pleasure Boats. Geneva, 18 May 1956
12. Customs Convention concerning spare parts used for repairing EUROP wagons. Geneva, 15 January 1958
13. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention). Geneva, 15 January 1959
14. European Convention on Customs Treatment of Pallets used in International Transport. Geneva, 9 December 1960
15. Customs Convention on Containers, 1972. Geneva, 2 December 1972
16. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention). Geneva, 14 November 1975
17. International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods. Geneva, 21 October 1982
18. Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport. Geneva, 21 January 1994

B. Road Traffic

1. Convention on Road Traffic. Geneva, 19 September 1949
2. Protocol concerning countries or territories at present occupied. Geneva, 19 September 1949
3. Protocol on Road Signs and Signals. Geneva, 19 September 1949
4. European Agreement supplementing the 1949 Convention on road traffic and the 1949 Protocol on road signs and signals. Geneva, 16 September 1950
5. European Agreement on the application of article 3 of annex 7 of the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic Concerning the Dimensions and Weights of Vehicles Permitted to Travel on Certain Roads of the Contracting Parties. Geneva, 16 September 1950
6. European Agreement on the application of article 23 of the 1949 Convention on road traffic, concerning the dimensions and weights of vehicles permitted to travel on certain roads of the Contracting Parties. Geneva, 16 September 1950
7. Declaration on the construction of main international traffic arteries. Geneva, 16 September 1950
8. General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road transport (a) Additional Protocol (b) Protocol of Signature. Geneva, 17 March 1954
8. c). Protocol relating to the adoption of Annex C. 1 to the Set of Rules annexed to the General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road transport. Geneva, 1 July 1954
9. Agreement on Signs for Road Works, amending the European Agreement of 16 September 1950 supplementing the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic and the 1949 Protocol on Road Signs and Signals 1. Geneva, 16 December 1955

10. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles for Private Use in International Traffic. Geneva, 18 May 1956
11. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). Geneva, 19 May 1956
11. a). Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). Geneva, 5 July 1978
12. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles engaged in International Goods Transport. Geneva, 14 December 1956
13. Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles Engaged in International Passenger Transport. Geneva, 14 December 1956
14. European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). Geneva, 30 September 1957
14. a). Protocol amending article 14 (3) of the European Agreement of 30 September 1957 concerning the international Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). New York, 21 August 1975
14. b). Protocol amending article 1 (a), article 14 (1) and article 14 (3) (b) of the European Agreement of 30 September 1957 concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). Geneva, 28 October 1993
15. European Agreement on Road Markings. Geneva, 13 December 1957
16. Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of These Prescriptions. Geneva, 20 March 1958
17. Agreement on Special Equipment for the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Use of such Equipment for the International Transport of some of those Foodstuffs. Geneva, 15 January 1962
18. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). Geneva, 19 January 1962
19. Convention on Road Traffic. Vienna, 8 November 1968
20. Convention on road signs and signals. Vienna, 8 November 1968
21. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). Geneva, 1 July 1970
22. Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be used for such Carriage (ATP). Geneva, 1 September 1970
23. European Agreement supplementing the Convention on road traffic opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 May 1971
24. European Agreement supplementing the Convention on road signs and signals opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 May 1971
25. Protocol on Road Markings, additional to the European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Signs and Signals opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. Geneva, 1 March 1973
26. Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by road (CVR). Geneva, 1 March 1973
26. A). Protocol to the Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by road (CVR). Geneva, 5 July 1978
27. Agreement on minimum requirements for the issue and validity of driving permits (APC). Geneva, 1 April 1975
28. European Agreement on main international traffic arteries (AGR). Geneva, 15 November 1975
29. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Establishment of an Inter-African Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability Insurance Card. New York, 1 October 1978
30. Convention on Civil Liability for Damage caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD). Geneva, 10 October 1989
31. Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections. Vienna, 13 November 1997
31. 1). Rule No. 1. "Uniform provisions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles with regard to the protection of the environment". Geneva, 14 December 2001
32. Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles. Geneva, 25 June 1998
33. Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq. Beirut, 10 May 2001
34. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network. Bangkok, 18 November 2003

C. *Transport by Rail*

1. International Convention to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for passengers and baggage carried by rail. Geneva, 10 January 1952

2. International Convention to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for goods carried by rail. Geneva, 10 January 1952
3. European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC). Geneva, 31 May 1985
4. Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq. Beirut, 14 April 2003

D. Water Transport

1. Convention relating to the limitation of the liability of owners of inland navigation vessels (CLN). Geneva, 1 March 1973
1. a). Protocol to the Convention relating to the Limitation of the Liability of Owners of Inland Navigation Vessels (CLN). Geneva, 5 July 1978
2. Convention on the contract for the international carriage of passengers and luggage by inland waterway (CVN). Geneva, 6 February 1976
2. A). Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Inland Waterway (CVN). Geneva, 5 July 1978
3. United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978. Hamburg, 31 March 1978
4. International Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1993. Geneva, 6 May 1993
5. European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN). Geneva, 19 January 1996
6. European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN). Geneva, 26 May 2000
7. Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq. Damascus, 9 May 2005

E. Multimodal Transport

1. United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods. Geneva, 24 May 1980
2. European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC). Geneva, 1 February 1991
2. a). Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important international Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) of 1991. Geneva, 17 January 1997

CHAPTER XII. NAVIGATION

1. Convention on the International Maritime Organization. Geneva, 6 March 1948
1. a). Amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 15 September 1964
1. b). Amendment to article 28 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 28 September 1965
1. c). Amendments to articles 10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 28, 31 and 32 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 17 October 1974
1. d). Amendments to the title and substantive provisions of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 14 November 1975 and 9 November 1977
1. e). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization relating to the institutionalization of the Committee on Technical Co-operation in the Convention. London, 17 November 1977
1. f). Amendments to articles 17, 18, 20 and 51 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 15 November 1979
1. g). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, (institutionalization of the Facilitation Committee). London, 7 November 1991
1. h). Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 4 November 1993
2. Convention regarding the Measurement and Registration of Vessels Employed in Inland Navigation. Bangkok, 22 June 1956
3. Convention relating to the unification of certain rules concerning collisions in inland navigation. Geneva, 15 March 1960
4. Convention on the registration of inland navigation vessels. Geneva, 25 January 1965
5. Convention on the measurement of inland navigation vessels. Geneva, 15 February 1966
6. Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. Geneva, 6 April 1974
7. United Nations Convention on Conditions for Registration of Ships. Geneva, 7 February 1986
8. International Convention on Arrest of Ships, 1999. Geneva, 12 March 1999

CHAPTER XIII. ECONOMIC STATISTICS

1. Protocol amending the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, signed at Geneva on 14 December 1928. Paris, 9 December 1948
2. International Convention relating to economic statistics, signed at Geneva on 14 December 1928, amended by the Protocol signed at Paris on 9 December 1948. Paris, 9 December 1948
3. a). International Convention relating to Economic Statistics. Geneva, 14 December 1928
3. b). Protocol. Geneva, 14 December 1928

CHAPTER XIV. EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL MATTERS

1. Agreement for Facilitating the International Circulation of Visual and Auditory Materials of an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Character. Lake Success, New York, 15 July 1949
2. Agreement on the importation of educational, scientific and cultural materials. Lake Success, New York, 22 November 1950
3. International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations. Rome, 26 October 1961
4. Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms. Geneva, 29 October 1971
5. Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials of 22 November 1950. Nairobi, 26 November 1976
6. International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace. New York, 5 December 1980
7. Statutes of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Madrid, 13 September 1983
7. a). Protocol of the Reconvened Plenipotentiary Meeting on the Establishment of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Vienna, 4 April 1984
7. b). Amendments to Articles 6 (6) and 7(1) of the Statutes of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. Trieste, Italy, 3 December 1996

CHAPTER XV. DECLARATION OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSONS

1. Convention on the declaration of death of missing persons. Lake Success, New York, 6 April 1950
2. Protocol for extending the period of validity of the Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons. New York, 16 January 1957
3. Protocol for the further extension of the period of validity of the Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons. New York, 15 January 1967

CHAPTER XVI. STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Convention on the Political Rights of Women. New York, 31 March 1953
2. Convention on the Nationality of Married Women. New York, 20 February 1957
3. Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages. New York, 10 December 1962

CHAPTER XVII. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

1. Convention on the International Right of Correction. New York, 31 March 1953

CHAPTER XVIII. PENAL MATTERS

1. Protocol amending the Slavery Convention signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926. New York, 7 December 1953
2. Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926 and amended by the Protocol. New York, 7 December 1953
3. Slavery Convention. Geneva, 25 September 1926
4. Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery. Geneva, 7 September 1956
5. International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages. New York, 17 December 1979
6. International Convention Against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries. New York, 4 December 1989
7. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents. New York, 14 December 1973

8. Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel. New York, 9 December 1994
8. a). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel. New York, 8 December 2005
9. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. New York, 15 December 1997
10. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Rome, 17 July 1998
11. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. New York, 9 December 1999
12. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. a). Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. b). Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 15 November 2000
12. c). Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. New York, 31 May 2001
13. Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court. New York, 9 September 2002
14. United Nations Convention against Corruption. New York, 31 October 2003
15. International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. New York, 13 April 2005

CHAPTER XIX. COMMODITIES

1. International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956. Geneva, 17 October 1955 and New York, 15 November 1955
2. Protocol amending the International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956. Geneva, 31 March 1958 and 3 April 1958
3. International Agreement on Olive Oil, 1956, as amended by the Protocol of 3 April 1958. Geneva, 3 April 1958
4. International Coffee Agreement, 1962. New York, 28 September 1962
5. International Coffee Agreement, 1968. New York, 18 and 31 March 1968
5. a). Extension with modifications of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, approved by the International Coffee Council in resolution No. 264 of 14 April 1973. 14 April 1973
5. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended with modifications by the International Coffee Council in Resolution No. 264 of 14 April 1973. 14 April 1973
5. c). Protocol for the continuation in force of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended. London, 26 September 1974
5. d). International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended by the Protocol of 26 September 1974. 26 September 1975
6. International Sugar Agreement, 1968. New York, 3 and 24 December 1968
7. Agreement establishing the Asian Coconut Community. Bangkok, 12 December 1968
8. Agreement establishing the International Pepper Community. Bangkok, 16 April 1971
9. International Cocoa Agreement, 1972. Geneva, 21 October 1972
10. International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 13 October 1973
10. a). Extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 30 September 1975
10. b). International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 30 September 1975
10. c). Second extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973, as extended. Geneva, 18 June 1976
10. d). International Sugar Agreement, 1973. Geneva, 18 June 1976
10. e). Third extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1973, as further extended. Geneva, 31 August 1977
11. Agreement establishing the Asian Rice Trade Fund. Bangkok, 16 March 1973
12. Protocol for the continuation in force of the International Coffee Agreement, 1968, as extended. London, 26 September 1974
13. Fifth International Tin Agreement, 1975. Geneva, 21 June 1975
14. International Cocoa Agreement, 1975. Geneva, 20 October 1975
15. International Coffee Agreement, 1976. London, 3 December 1975
15. a). Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1976. London, 25 September 1981
15. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1976, as extended. London, 25 September 1981
16. Agreement establishing the International Tea Promotion Association. Geneva, 31 March 1977
17. Agreement establishing the Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre. Bangkok, 28 April 1977
18. International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Geneva, 7 October 1977
18. a). Extension of the International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Washington, 20 November 1981 and 21 May 1982
18. b). International Sugar Agreement, 1977. Geneva, 21 May 1982
19. Agreement establishing the International Tropical Timber Bureau. Geneva, 9 November 1977

20. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1979. Geneva, 6 October 1979
21. Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities. Geneva, 27 June 1980
22. International Cocoa Agreement, 1980. Geneva, 19 November 1980
23. Sixth International Tin Agreement. Geneva, 26 June 1981
24. International Agreement on jute and jute products, 1982. Geneva, 1 October 1982
25. International Coffee Agreement, 1983. New York, 16 September 1982
25. a). Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 3 July 1989
25. b). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 16 September 1982
25. c). Second Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 28 September 1990
25. d). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 16 September 1982
25. e). Third Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 27 September 1991
25. f). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 1 October 1992
25. g). Fourth Extension of the International Coffee Agreement, 1983, as modified. London, 1 October 1993
25. h). International Coffee Agreement, 1983. London, 1 October 1993
26. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983. Geneva, 18 November 1983
27. International Sugar Agreement, 1984. Geneva, 5 July 1984
28. a). International Wheat Agreement, 1986: (a) Wheat Trade Convention, 1986. London, 14 March 1986
28. b). International Wheat Agreement, 1986: (b) Food Aid Convention, 1986. London, 13 March 1986
29. Terms of Reference of the International Nickel Study Group. Geneva, 2 May 1986
30. International Agreement on olive oil and table olives, 1986. Geneva, 1 July 1986
30. a). Protocol of 1993 extending the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986. Geneva, 10 March 1993
30. b). International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986, as amended and extended, 1993. Geneva, 1 July 1986
31. International Cocoa Agreement, 1986. Geneva, 25 July 1986
32. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987. Geneva, 20 March 1987
33. International Sugar Agreement, 1987. London, 11 September 1987
34. Terms of Reference of the International Tin Study Group. New York, 7 April 1989
35. Terms of Reference of the International Copper Study Group. Geneva, 24 February 1989
36. International Agreement on Jute and Jute Products, 1989. Geneva, 3 November 1989
37. International Sugar Agreement, 1992. Geneva, 20 March 1992
38. International Cocoa Agreement, 1993. Geneva, 16 July 1993
39. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994. Geneva, 26 January 1994
40. International Coffee Agreement, 1994. London, 30 March 1994
40. a). International Coffee Agreement, 1994, as extended until 30 September 2001, with modifications, by Resolution No. 384 adopted by the International Coffee Council in London on 21 July 1999. London, 30 March 1994
41. a). Grains Trade Convention, 1995. London, 7 December 1994
41. b). Food Aid Convention, 1995. London, 5 December 1994
41. c). Food Aid Convention, 1999. London, 13 April 1999
42. International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1994. Geneva, 17 February 1995
43. International Coffee Agreement 2001. London, 28 September 2000
44. International Cocoa Agreement, 2001. Geneva, 2 March 2001
45. Agreement establishing the Terms of Reference of the International Jute Study Group, 2001. Geneva, 13 March 2001
46. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006. Geneva, 27 January 2006

CHAPTER XX. MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS

1. Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance. New York, 20 June 1956

CHAPTER XXI. LAW OF THE SEA

1. Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone. Geneva, 29 April 1958
2. Convention on the High Seas. Geneva, 29 April 1958
3. Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas. Geneva, 29 April 1958
4. Convention on the Continental Shelf. Geneva, 29 April 1958
5. Optional Protocol of Signature concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. Geneva, 29 April 1958
6. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Montego Bay, 10 December 1982

6. a). Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982. New York, 28 July 1994
7. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. New York, 4 August 1995
8. Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. New York, 23 May 1997
9. Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Seabed Authority. Kingston, 27 March 1998

CHAPTER XXII. COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

1. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. New York, 10 June 1958
2. European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration. Geneva, 21 April 1961

CHAPTER XXIII. LAW OF TREATIES

1. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Vienna, 23 May 1969
2. Vienna Convention on succession of States in respect of treaties. Vienna, 23 August 1978
3. Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations. Vienna, 21 March 1986

CHAPTER XXIV. OUTER SPACE

1. Convention on registration of objects launched into outer space. New York, 12 November 1974
2. Agreement governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. New York, 5 December 1979

CHAPTER XXV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1. Convention relating to the distribution of programme-carrying signals transmitted by satellite. Brussels, 21 May 1974
2. Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 27 March 1976
2. a). Amendment to article 11, paragraph 2 (a), of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 13 November 1981
2. b). Amendments to articles 3 (5) and 9 (8) of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific telecommunity. Colombo, 29 November 1991
2. c). Amendments to the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. New Delhi, 23 October 2002
3. Agreement establishing the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development. Kuala Lumpur, 12 August 1977
3. a). Amendments to the Agreement establishing the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development. Islamabad, 21 July 1999
4. Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations. Tampere, 18 June 1998

CHAPTER XXVI. DISARMAMENT

1. Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques. New York, 10 December 1976
2. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III). Geneva, 10 October 1980
2. a). Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons). Vienna, 13 October 1995
2. b). Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 3 May 1996
2. c). Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 21 December 2001

2. d). Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V). Geneva, 28 November 2003
3. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. Geneva, 3 September 1992
4. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. New York, 10 September 1996
5. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their destruction. Oslo, 18 September 1997

CHAPTER XXVII. ENVIRONMENT

1. Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Geneva, 13 November 1979
1. a). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Long-term Financing of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP). Geneva, 28 September 1984
1. b). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air pollution on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30 per cent. Helsinki, 8 July 1985
1. c). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution concerning the control of emissions of nitrogen oxides or their transboundary fluxes. Sofia, 31 October 1988
1. d). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes. Geneva, 18 November 1991
1. e). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions. Oslo, 14 June 1994
1. f). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Heavy Metals. Aarhus, 24 June 1998
1. g). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Aarhus, 24 June 1998
1. h). Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone. Gothenburg (Sweden), 30 November 1999
2. Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Vienna, 22 March 1985
2. a). Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Montreal, 16 September 1987
2. b). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. London, 29 June 1990
2. c). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Copenhagen, 25 November 1992
2. d). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer adopted by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties. Montreal, 17 September 1997
2. e). Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Beijing, 3 December 1999
3. Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel, 22 March 1989
3. a). Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Geneva, 22 September 1995
3. b). Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel, 10 December 1999
4. Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Espoo, Finland, 25 February 1991
4. a). Amendment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Sofia, 27 February 2001
4. b). Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Kiev, 21 May 2003
4. c). Amendment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Cavtat, 4 June 2004
5. Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Helsinki, 17 March 1992
5. a). Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. London, 17 June 1999
5. b). Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Geneva, 17 February 2004
6. Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Helsinki, 17 March 1992
7. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. New York, 9 May 1992

7. a). Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Kyoto, 11 December 1997
8. Convention on biological diversity. Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1992
8. a). Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montreal, 29 January 2000
9. Agreement on the conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas. New York, 17 March 1992
10. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. Paris, 14 October 1994
11. Lusaka Agreement on Co-operative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. Lusaka, 8 September 1994
12. Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses. New York, 21 May 1997
13. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998
13. a). Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. Kiev, 21 May 2003
13. b). Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. Almaty, 27 May 2005
14. Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade. Rotterdam, 10 September 1998
15. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Stockholm, 22 May 2001
16. Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and to the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Kiev, 21 May 2003

CHAPTER XXVIII. FISCAL MATTERS

1. a). Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties. Madrid, 13 December 1979
1. b). Additional Protocol to the Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties. Madrid, 13 December 1979

CHAPTER XXIX. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Agreement on Succession Issues. Vienna, 29 June 2001

LEAGUE OF NATIONS MULTILATERAL TREATIES

1. International Convention concerning the Use of Broadcasting in the Cause of Peace. Geneva, 23 September 1936
2. Special Protocol concerning Statelessness. The Hague, 12 April 1930
3. Protocol relating to a Certain Case of Statelessness. The Hague, 12 April 1930
4. Convention on Certain Questions relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws. The Hague, 12 April 1930
5. Protocol relating to Military Obligations in Certain Cases of Double Nationality. The Hague, 12 April 1930
6. Protocol on Arbitration Clauses. Geneva, 24 September 1923
7. Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards. Geneva, 26 September 1927
8. Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
9. Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in connection with Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
10. Convention providing a Uniform Law for Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
11. Convention providing a Uniform Law for Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
12. Convention on the Stamp Laws in connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. Geneva, 7 June 1930
13. Convention on the Stamp Laws in connection with Cheques. Geneva, 19 March 1931
14. a). International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929
14. b). Protocol to the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929
15. Optional Protocol regarding the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency. Geneva, 20 April 1929
16. Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
17. Convention and Statute on the Regime of Navigable Waterways of International Concern. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
18. Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Regime of Navigable Waterways of International Concern. Barcelona, 20 April 1921
19. Declaration recognising the Right to a Flag of States having no Sea-coast. Barcelona, 20 April 1921

20. Convention and Statute on the International Régime of Maritime Ports. Geneva, 9 December 1923
21. Convention on the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles. Geneva, 30 March 1931
22. International Convention relating to the Simplification of Customs Formalities. Geneva, 3 November 1923
23. International Convention for the Campaign against Contagious Diseases of Animals. Geneva, 20 February 1935
24. International Convention concerning the Transit of Animals, Meat and Other Products of Animal Origin. Geneva, 20 February 1935
25. International Convention concerning the Export and Import of Animal Products (other than Meat, Meat Preparations, Fresh Animal Products, Milk and Milk Products). Geneva, 20 February 1935
26. Convention establishing an International Relief Union. Geneva, 12 July 1927
27. Convention on the International Régime of Railways. Geneva, 9 December 1923
28. Convention regarding the Measurement of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation. Paris, 27 November 1925
29. General Act of Arbitration (Pacific Settlement of International Disputes). Geneva, 26 September 1928
30. Convention concerning the Unification of Road Signals. Geneva, 30 March 1931
31. Agreement concerning Maritime Signals. Lisbon, 23 October 1930
32. Convention relating to the Non-Fortification and Neutralisation of the Aaland Islands. Geneva, 20 October 1921
33. Agreement concerning Manned Lightships not on their Stations. Lisbon, 23 October 1930