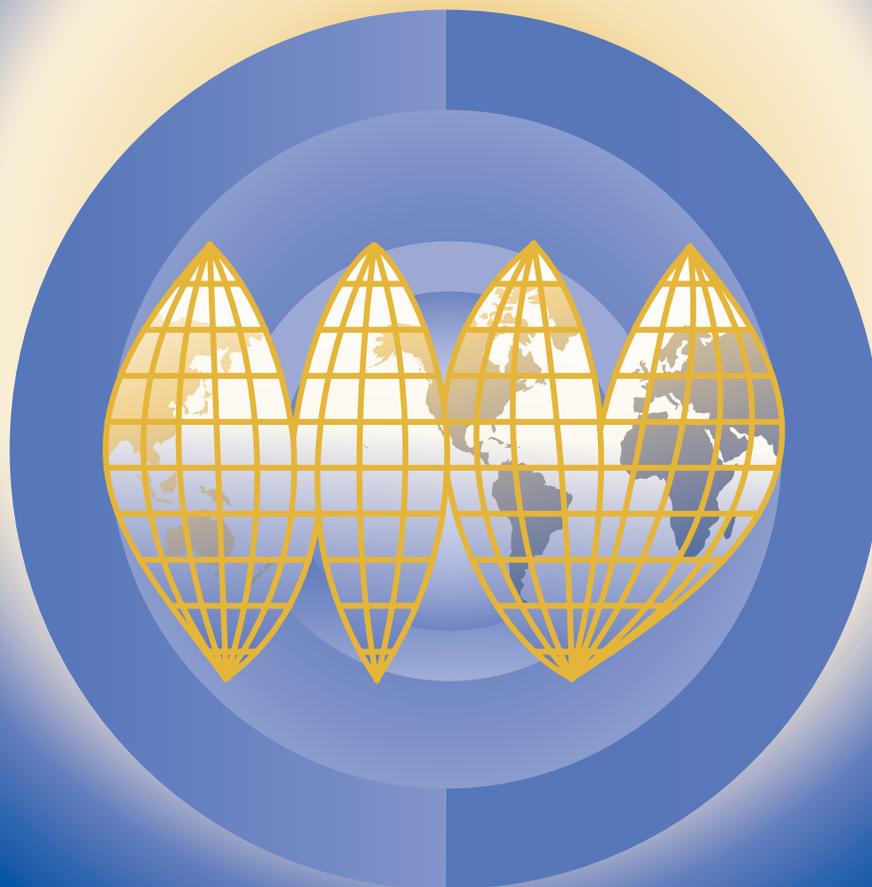


**Multilateral Treaty Framework:  
An Invitation to Universal Participation**

**Focus 2007:  
Towards Universal Participation and Implementation**  
A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights



**Treaty Event  
25-27 September and 1-2 October 2007  
United Nations Headquarters**

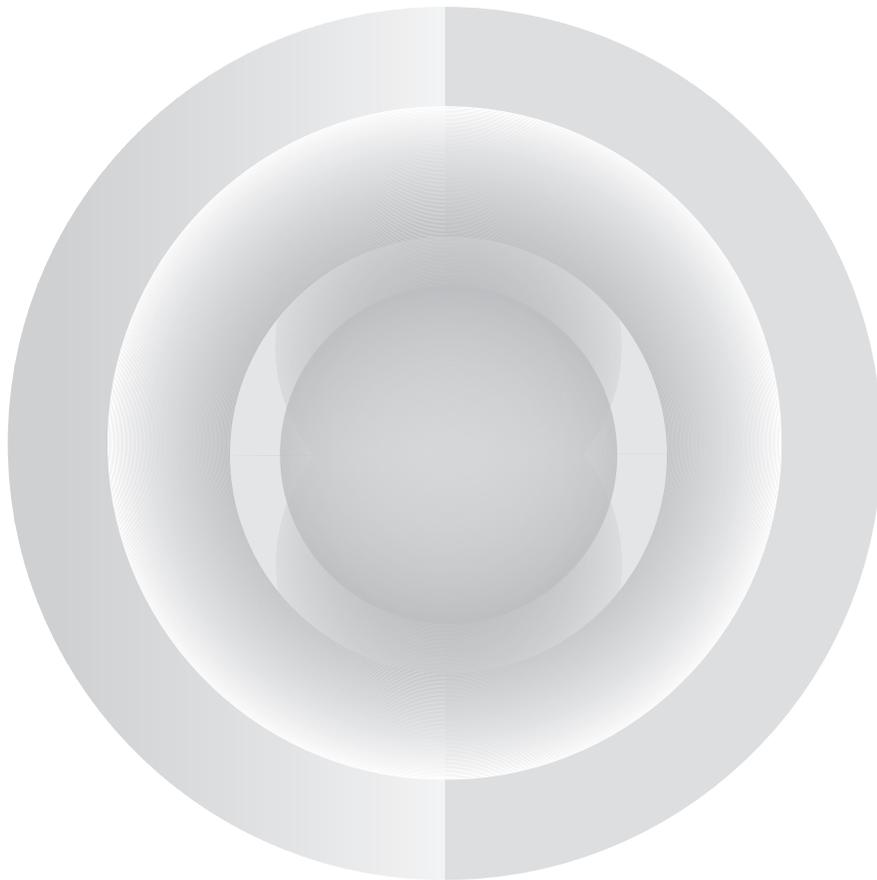


**United Nations**

**Multilateral Treaty Framework:  
An Invitation to Universal Participation**

**Focus 2007:  
Towards Universal Participation  
and Implementation**

**A Comprehensive Legal Framework  
for Peace, Development and Human Rights**



**Treaty Event  
25-27 September and 1-2 October 2007  
United Nations Headquarters**



**United Nations  
New York, 2007**

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07-33228—June 2007— 2,500

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



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

9 May 2007

Excellency,

Every year, since the Millennium Summit in the Year 2000, a treaty event has been held on the margins of the General Assembly General Debate where delegations are provided an opportunity to sign, ratify or accede to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, thereby demonstrating their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations. This year, the annual treaty event will be held on 25 to 27 September and 1 to 2 October 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, to coincide with the General Debate of the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly. The treaty event is entitled “Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation - A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights”. 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.

The General Assembly has consistently reminded Member States of the importance of becoming parties to conventions concluded under its auspices. It has called upon Member States to consider becoming parties to conventions and implementing them. In particular, Member States, in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, specifically gave support to the annual treaty event and stressed the importance of States becoming parties to and implementing conventions deposited with the Secretary-General in a range of subject areas.

This year's theme, for the first treaty event that will take place during my term as Secretary-General, will assist in focusing attention on the important goal of moving towards universal participation and implementation and will target those areas directly affecting human beings, their security, environment, development and human dignity.

Attached for your consideration is a list of treaties deposited with me that will be highlighted during the 2007 treaty event. The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will be publishing a document entitled *Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation - A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights*, summarizing the objectives and key provisions of the highlighted treaties.

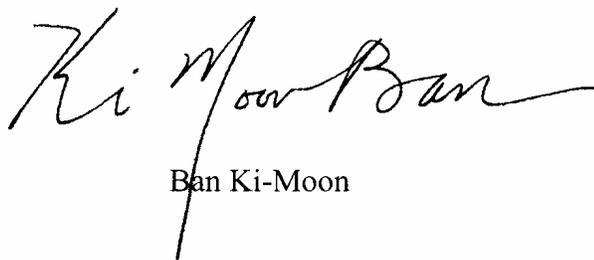
Continuing the tradition established during the Millennium Summit, the Treaty Event will be held in a specially designated location in the General Assembly Building with facilities to accommodate the media.

Of course, this opportunity could be used to sign and ratify or accede to any other treaty of which I am the depositary.

In addition to undertaking actions to participate in the international treaty framework, States 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 predecessor's 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 2007 of your intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the treaties of which I am the depositary during the Focus 2007 treaty event so that the necessary arrangements can be made by the Secretariat.

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



Ban Ki-Moon

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

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE: LA41TR/221/1

25 May 2007

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 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation - A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights*. This year's event will be held from 25-27 September and 1-2 October 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York during the General Debate of the sixty-second General Assembly. The treaty event will highlight treaties deposited with the Secretary-General that directly affect human beings, their security, environment, development and human dignity.

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 2006* (ST/LEG/SER.E/25), 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, in the fall of 2007, 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.



Advice before **1 September 2007** 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](mailto:treaty@un.org).

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Michel'.

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



## FOREWORD

In September 2000, the United Nations invited world leaders attending the landmark Millennium Summit to take advantage of their presence at the Organization's Headquarters to sign a wide range of major international treaties. A successful side event called "an invitation to universal participation" offered a platform for Governments to showcase their commitment to strengthening the rule of law at home and in the global arena. Similar events have been held eight times since then, resulting in more than 1,200 new signatures, ratifications, acceptances, accessions and other treaty-related actions.

Building on that progress, this year's annual treaty event – to be held in parallel with the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly -- focuses on the theme, "Towards Universal Participation and Implementation -- A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights." This booklet summarizes the objectives and key provisions of the international agreements being highlighted. Those agreements address subjects ranging from trade, crime and corruption to human rights, development, the environment and the law of the sea. Each has significant bearing on our quest to create a safer, more just, and more prosperous world. The attention of Member States is drawn in particular to the instruments on the prevention and suppression of international terrorism, in light of the General Assembly's adoption of a Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy; and to the instruments on disarmament and non-proliferation, given the need to revitalize collective action in this area.

I encourage all Member States, if they have not already done so, to sign, ratify, or accede to the multilateral treaties that have been deposited with the UN Secretary-General. Together, by participating in the international treaty framework, we can succeed in advancing in our mission of building a global society based on respect for the rule of law.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long vertical stroke extending downwards from the end of the name.

Ban Ki-Moon



***Summaries and Status (as at 11 May 2007) of the Highlighted  
Multilateral Treaties Featured in the Focus 2007 Treaty Event***

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# **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).

**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: 85. Parties: 173.  
**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	Dominican Republic . . . . .		25 May 1983 a
Albania . . . . .		11 May 1994 a	Ecuador . . . . .		22 Sep 1966 a
Algeria . . . . .	9 Dec 1966	14 Feb 1972	Egypt . . . . .	28 Sep 1966	1 May 1967
Andorra . . . . .	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	El Salvador . . . . .		30 Nov 1979 a
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .		25 Oct 1988 d	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		8 Oct 2002 a
Argentina . . . . .	13 Jul 1967	2 Oct 1968	Eritrea . . . . .		31 Jul 2001 a
Armenia . . . . .		23 Jun 1993 a	Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a
Australia . . . . .	13 Oct 1966	30 Sep 1975	Ethiopia . . . . .		23 Jun 1976 a
Austria . . . . .	22 Jul 1969	9 May 1972	Fiji . . . . .		11 Jan 1973 d
Azerbaijan . . . . .		16 Aug 1996 a	Finland . . . . .	6 Oct 1966	14 Jul 1970
Bahamas . . . . .		5 Aug 1975 d	France . . . . .		28 Jul 1971 a
Bahrain . . . . .		27 Mar 1990 a	Gabon . . . . .	20 Sep 1966	29 Feb 1980
Bangladesh . . . . .		11 Jun 1979 a	Gambia . . . . .		29 Dec 1978 a
Barbados . . . . .		8 Nov 1972 a	Georgia . . . . .		2 Jun 1999 a
Belarus . . . . .	7 Mar 1966	8 Apr 1969	Germany . . . . .	10 Feb 1967	16 May 1969
Belgium . . . . .	17 Aug 1967	7 Aug 1975	Ghana . . . . .	8 Sep 1966	8 Sep 1966
Belize . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	14 Nov 2001	Greece . . . . .	7 Mar 1966	18 Jun 1970
Benin . . . . .	2 Feb 1967	30 Nov 2001	Grenada . . . . .	17 Dec 1981	
Bhutan . . . . .	26 Mar 1973		Guatemala . . . . .	8 Sep 1967	18 Jan 1983
Bolivia . . . . .	7 Jun 1966	22 Sep 1970	Guinea . . . . .	24 Mar 1966	14 Mar 1977
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		16 Jul 1993 d	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	12 Sep 2000	
Botswana . . . . .		20 Feb 1974 a	Guyana . . . . .	11 Dec 1968	15 Feb 1977
Brazil . . . . .	7 Mar 1966	27 Mar 1968	Haiti . . . . .	30 Oct 1972	19 Dec 1972
Bulgaria . . . . .	1 Jun 1966	8 Aug 1966	Holy See . . . . .	21 Nov 1966	1 May 1969
Burkina Faso . . . . .		18 Jul 1974 a	Honduras . . . . .		10 Oct 2002 a
Burundi . . . . .	1 Feb 1967	27 Oct 1977	Hungary . . . . .	15 Sep 1966	4 May 1967
Cambodia . . . . .	12 Apr 1966	28 Nov 1983	Iceland . . . . .	14 Nov 1966	13 Mar 1967
Cameroon . . . . .	12 Dec 1966	24 Jun 1971	India . . . . .	2 Mar 1967	3 Dec 1968
Canada . . . . .	24 Aug 1966	14 Oct 1970	Indonesia . . . . .		25 Jun 1999 a
Cape Verde . . . . .		3 Oct 1979 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	8 Mar 1967	29 Aug 1968
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .	7 Mar 1966	16 Mar 1971	Iraq . . . . .	18 Feb 1969	14 Jan 1970
Chad . . . . .		17 Aug 1977 a	Ireland . . . . .	21 Mar 1968	29 Dec 2000
Chile . . . . .	3 Oct 1966	20 Oct 1971	Israel . . . . .	7 Mar 1966	3 Jan 1979
China . . . . .		29 Dec 1981 a	Italy . . . . .	13 Mar 1968	5 Jan 1976
Colombia . . . . .	23 Mar 1967	2 Sep 1981	Jamaica . . . . .	14 Aug 1966	4 Jun 1971
Comoros . . . . .	22 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2004	Japan . . . . .		15 Dec 1995 a
Congo . . . . .		11 Jul 1988 a	Jordan . . . . .		30 May 1974 a
Costa Rica . . . . .	14 Mar 1966	16 Jan 1967	Kazakhstan . . . . .		26 Aug 1998 a
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		4 Jan 1973 a	Kenya . . . . .		13 Sep 2001 a
Croatia . . . . .		12 Oct 1992 d	Kuwait . . . . .		15 Oct 1968 a
Cuba . . . . .	7 Jun 1966	15 Feb 1972	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		5 Sep 1997 a
Cyprus . . . . .	12 Dec 1966	21 Apr 1967	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1974 a
Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d	Latvia . . . . .		14 Apr 1992 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		21 Apr 1976 a	Lebanon . . . . .		12 Nov 1971 a
Denmark . . . . .	21 Jun 1966	9 Dec 1971	Lesotho . . . . .		4 Nov 1971 a
Djibouti . . . . .	14 Jun 2006		Liberia . . . . .		5 Nov 1976 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>
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		3 Jul 1968 a	Senegal	22 Jul 1968	19 Apr 1972
Liechtenstein		1 Mar 2000 a	Serbia		12 Mar 2001 d
Lithuania	8 Jun 1998	10 Dec 1998	Seychelles		7 Mar 1978 a
Luxembourg	12 Dec 1967	1 May 1978	Sierra Leone	17 Nov 1966	2 Aug 1967
Madagascar	18 Dec 1967	7 Feb 1969	Slovakia		28 May 1993 d
Malawi		11 Jun 1996 a	Slovenia		6 Jul 1992 d
Maldives		24 Apr 1984 a	Solomon Islands		17 Mar 1982 d
Mali		16 Jul 1974 a	Somalia	26 Jan 1967	26 Aug 1975
Malta	5 Sep 1968	27 May 1971	South Africa	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
Mauritania	21 Dec 1966	13 Dec 1988	Spain		13 Sep 1968 a
Mauritius		30 May 1972 a	Sri Lanka		18 Feb 1982 a
Mexico	1 Nov 1966	20 Feb 1975	Sudan		21 Mar 1977 a
Moldova		26 Jan 1993 a	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
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	Switzerland		29 Nov 1994 a
Morocco	18 Sep 1967	18 Dec 1970	Syrian Arab Republic		21 Apr 1969 a
Mozambique		18 Apr 1983 a	Tajikistan		11 Jan 1995 a
Namibia		11 Nov 1982 a	Thailand		28 Jan 2003 a
Nauru	12 Nov 2001		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia		18 Jan 1994 d
Nepal		30 Jan 1971 a	Timor-Leste		16 Apr 2003 a
Netherlands	24 Oct 1966	10 Dec 1971	Togo		1 Sep 1972 a
New Zealand	25 Oct 1966	22 Nov 1972	Tonga		16 Feb 1972 a
Nicaragua		15 Feb 1978 a	Trinidad and Tobago	9 Jun 1967	4 Oct 1973
Niger	14 Mar 1966	27 Apr 1967	Tunisia	12 Apr 1966	13 Jan 1967
Nigeria		16 Oct 1967 a	Turkey	13 Oct 1972	16 Sep 2002
Norway	21 Nov 1966	6 Aug 1970	Turkmenistan		29 Sep 1994 a
Oman		2 Jan 2003 a	Uganda		21 Nov 1980 a
Pakistan	19 Sep 1966	21 Sep 1966	Ukraine	7 Mar 1966	7 Mar 1969
Panama	8 Dec 1966	16 Aug 1967	United Arab Emirates		20 Jun 1974 a
Papua New Guinea		27 Jan 1982 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 Oct 1966	7 Mar 1969
Paraguay	13 Sep 2000	18 Aug 2003	United Republic of Tanzania		27 Oct 1972 a
Peru	22 Jul 1966	29 Sep 1971	United States of Amer- ica	28 Sep 1966	21 Oct 1994
Philippines	7 Mar 1966	15 Sep 1967	Uruguay	21 Feb 1967	30 Aug 1968
Poland	7 Mar 1966	5 Dec 1968	Uzbekistan		28 Sep 1995 a
Portugal		24 Aug 1982 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	21 Apr 1967	10 Oct 1967
Qatar		22 Jul 1976 a	Viet Nam		9 Jun 1982 a
Republic of Korea	8 Aug 1978	5 Dec 1978	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 Kitts and Nevis		13 Oct 2006 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			

## **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.

## 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: 156.  
**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	13 Feb 2007
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

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>
Malawi . . . . .		22 Dec 1993 a	Solomon Islands . . . . .		17 Mar 1982 d
Maldives . . . . .		19 Sep 2006 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
Moldova . . . . .		26 Jan 1993 a	Swaziland . . . . .		26 Mar 2004 a
Monaco . . . . .	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug 1997	Sweden . . . . .	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971
Mongolia . . . . .	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov 1974	Switzerland . . . . .		18 Jun 1992 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .		21 Apr 1969 a
Morocco . . . . .	19 Jan 1977	3 May 1979	Tajikistan . . . . .		4 Jan 1999 a
Namibia . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a	Thailand . . . . .		5 Sep 1999 a
Nepal . . . . .		14 May 1991 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		18 Jan 1994 d
Netherlands . . . . .	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978	Timor-Leste . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
New Zealand . . . . .	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	Togo . . . . .		24 May 1984 a
Nicaragua . . . . .		12 Mar 1980 a	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .		8 Dec 1978 a
Niger . . . . .		7 Mar 1986 a	Tunisia . . . . .	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969
Nigeria . . . . .		29 Jul 1993 a	Turkey . . . . .	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003
Norway . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972	Turkmenistan . . . . .		1 May 1997 a
Pakistan . . . . .	3 Nov 2004	8 Mar 1977	Uganda . . . . .		21 Jan 1987 a
Panama . . . . .	27 Jul 1976	10 Jun 1992 a	Ukraine . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973
Paraguay . . . . .		10 Jun 1992 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976
Peru . . . . .	11 Aug 1977	28 Apr 1978	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		11 Jun 1976 a
Philippines . . . . .	19 Dec 1966	7 Jun 1974	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	5 Oct 1977	
Poland . . . . .	2 Mar 1967	18 Mar 1977	Uruguay . . . . .	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Portugal . . . . .	7 Oct 1976	31 Jul 1978	Uzbekistan . . . . .		28 Sep 1995 a
Republic of Korea . . . . .		10 Apr 1990 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Romania . . . . .	27 Jun 1968	9 Dec 1974	Viet Nam . . . . .		24 Sep 1982 a
Russian Federation . . . . .	18 Mar 1968	16 Oct 1973	Yemen . . . . .		9 Feb 1987 a
Rwanda . . . . .		16 Apr 1975 a	Zambia . . . . .		10 Apr 1984 a
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		9 Nov 1981 a	Zimbabwe . . . . .		13 May 1991 a
San Marino . . . . .		18 Oct 1985 a			
Sao Tome and Principe . . . . .	31 Oct 1995	13 Feb 1978			
Senegal . . . . .	6 Jul 1970	12 Mar 2001 d			
Serbia . . . . .		5 May 1992 a			
Seychelles . . . . .		23 Aug 1996 a			
Sierra Leone . . . . .		28 May 1993 d			
Slovakia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d			
Slovenia . . . . .					

## **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 of thought, conscience and 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, before the law 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: 160.

**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	Denmark . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972
Albania . . . . .		4 Oct 1991 a	Djibouti . . . . .		5 Nov 2002 a
Algeria . . . . .	10 Dec 1968	12 Sep 1989	Dominica . . . . .		17 Jun 1993 a
Andorra . . . . .	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Dominican Republic . . . . .		4 Jan 1978 a
Angola . . . . .		10 Jan 1992 a	Ecuador . . . . .	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969
Argentina . . . . .	19 Feb 1968	8 Aug 1986	Egypt . . . . .	4 Aug 1967	14 Jan 1982
Armenia . . . . .		23 Jun 1993 a	El Salvador . . . . .	21 Sep 1967	30 Nov 1979
Australia . . . . .	18 Dec 1972	13 Aug 1980	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		25 Sep 1987 a
Austria . . . . .	10 Dec 1973	10 Sep 1978	Eritrea . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .		13 Aug 1992 a	Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a
Bahrain . . . . .		20 Sep 2006 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 Herzegovi- na . . . . .		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 Repub- lic . . . . .		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
			Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		7 Oct 1994 a
			Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .	7 Dec 2000	

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>
Latvia . . . . .		14 Apr 1992 a	Senegal . . . . .	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978
Lebanon . . . . .		3 Nov 1972 a	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Lesotho . . . . .		9 Sep 1992 a	Seychelles . . . . .		5 May 1992 a
Liberia . . . . .	18 Apr 1967	22 Sep 2004	Sierra Leone . . . . .		23 Aug 1996 a
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		15 May 1970 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Liechtenstein . . . . .		10 Dec 1998 a	Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d
Lithuania . . . . .		20 Nov 1991 a	Somalia . . . . .		24 Jan 1990 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	26 Nov 1974	18 Aug 1983	South Africa . . . . .	3 Oct 1994	10 Dec 1998
Madagascar . . . . .	17 Sep 1969	21 Jun 1971	Spain . . . . .	28 Sep 1976	27 Apr 1977
Malawi . . . . .		22 Dec 1993 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .		11 Jun 1980 a
Maldives . . . . .		19 Sep 2006 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
Moldova . . . . .		26 Jan 1993 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		4 Jan 1999 a
Monaco . . . . .	26 Jun 1997	28 Aug 1997	Thailand . . . . .		29 Oct 1996 a
Mongolia . . . . .	5 Jun 1968	18 Nov 1974	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		18 Jan 1994 d
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Timor-Leste . . . . .		18 Sep 2003 a
Morocco . . . . .	19 Jan 1977	3 May 1979	Togo . . . . .		24 May 1984 a
Mozambique . . . . .		21 Jul 1993 a	Trinidad and Tobago .		21 Dec 1978 a
Namibia . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a	Tunisia . . . . .	30 Apr 1968	18 Mar 1969
Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001		Turkey . . . . .	15 Aug 2000	23 Sep 2003
Nepal . . . . .		14 May 1991 a	Turkmenistan . . . . .		1 May 1997 a
Netherlands . . . . .	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978	Uganda . . . . .		21 Jun 1995 a
New Zealand . . . . .	12 Nov 1968	28 Dec 1978	Ukraine . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	12 Nov 1973
Nicaragua . . . . .		12 Mar 1980 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	16 Sep 1968	20 May 1976
Niger . . . . .		7 Mar 1986 a	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		11 Jun 1976 a
Nigeria . . . . .		29 Jul 1993 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	5 Oct 1977	8 Jun 1992
Norway . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972	Uruguay . . . . .	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Panama . . . . .	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977	Uzbekistan . . . . .		28 Sep 1995 a
Paraguay . . . . .		10 Jun 1992 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	24 Jun 1969	10 May 1978
Peru . . . . .	11 Aug 1977	28 Apr 1978	Viet Nam . . . . .		24 Sep 1982 a
Philippines . . . . .	19 Dec 1966	23 Oct 1986	Yemen . . . . .		9 Feb 1987 a
Poland . . . . .	2 Mar 1967	18 Mar 1977	Zambia . . . . .		10 Apr 1984 a
Portugal . . . . .	7 Oct 1976	15 Jun 1978	Zimbabwe . . . . .		13 May 1991 a
Republic of Korea . . . .		10 Apr 1990 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				

## **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: 109.  
**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	22 Sep 2006	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 . . . . .	[19 Dec 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 Herzegovi- na . . . . .	1 Mar 1995	1 Mar 1995	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		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	Maldives . . . . .		19 Sep 2006 a
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .		8 May 1981 a	Mali . . . . .		24 Oct 2001 a
Chad . . . . .		9 Jun 1995 a	Malta . . . . .		13 Sep 1990 a
Chile . . . . .		27 May 1992 a	Mauritius . . . . .		12 Dec 1973 a
China . . . . .			Mexico . . . . .		15 Mar 2002 a
Colombia . . . . .	21 Dec 1966	29 Oct 1969	Moldova . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Congo . . . . .		5 Oct 1983 a	Mongolia . . . . .		16 Apr 1991 a
Costa Rica . . . . .	19 Dec 1966	29 Nov 1968	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		5 Mar 1997 a	Namibia . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a
Croatia . . . . .		12 Oct 1995 a	Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	
Cyprus . . . . .	19 Dec 1966	15 Apr 1992	Nepal . . . . .		14 May 1991 a
Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d	Netherlands . . . . .	25 Jun 1969	11 Dec 1978
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		1 Nov 1976 a	New Zealand . . . . .		26 May 1989 a
Denmark . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	6 Jan 1972	Nicaragua . . . . .		12 Mar 1980 a
Djibouti . . . . .		5 Nov 2002 a	Niger . . . . .		7 Mar 1986 a
Dominican Republic . . . . .		4 Jan 1978 a	Norway . . . . .	20 Mar 1968	13 Sep 1972
Ecuador . . . . .	4 Apr 1968	6 Mar 1969	Panama . . . . .	27 Jul 1976	8 Mar 1977
El Salvador . . . . .	21 Sep 1967	6 Jun 1995	Paraguay . . . . .		10 Jan 1995 a
Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		25 Sep 1987 a	Peru . . . . .	11 Aug 1977	3 Oct 1980
Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a	Philippines . . . . .	19 Dec 1966	22 Aug 1989
Finland . . . . .	11 Dec 1967	19 Aug 1975	Poland . . . . .		7 Nov 1991 a
France . . . . .		17 Feb 1984 a	Portugal . . . . .	1 Aug 1978	3 May 1983
Gambia . . . . .		9 Jun 1988 a	Republic of Korea . . . . .		10 Apr 1990 a
Georgia . . . . .		3 May 1994 a	Romania . . . . .		20 Jul 1993 a
Germany . . . . .		25 Aug 1993 a	Russian Federation . . . . .		1 Oct 1991 a
Ghana . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		9 Nov 1981 a
Greece . . . . .		5 May 1997 a	San Marino . . . . .		18 Oct 1985 a
Guatemala . . . . .		28 Nov 2000 a	Sao Tome and Principe . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	
			Senegal . . . . .	6 Jul 1970	13 Feb 1978

<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>
Serbia .....	12 Mar 2001 d	6 Sep 2001	Togo .....		30 Mar 1988 a
Seychelles.....		5 May 1992 a	Trinidad and Tobago .		[14Nov 1980 a]
Sierra Leone .....		23 Aug 1996 a	Turkey .....	3 Feb 2004	24 Nov 2006
Slovakia .....		28 May 1993 d	Turkmenistan .....		1 May 1997 a
Slovenia .....		16 Jul 1993 a	Uganda .....		14 Nov 1995 a
Somalia .....		24 Jan 1990 a	Ukraine .....		25 Jul 1991 a
South Africa .....		28 Aug 2002 a	Uruguay .....	21 Feb 1967	1 Apr 1970
Spain .....		25 Jan 1985 a	Uzbekistan .....		28 Sep 1995 a
Sri Lanka .....		3 Oct 1997 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) .....	15 Nov 1976	10 May 1978
Suriname.....		28 Dec 1976 a	Zambia .....		10 Apr 1984 a
Sweden .....	29 Sep 1967	6 Dec 1971			
Tajikistan .....		4 Jan 1999 a			
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia.....	12 Dec 1994 d	12 Dec 1994			

## **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).

### ***DENUNCIATION/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: 35. Parties: 60.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Andorra . . . . .	5 Aug 2002	22 Sep 2006	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Argentina . . . . .	20 Dec 2006		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 Herzegovi- na . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	16 Mar 2001	Nicaragua . . . . .	21 Feb 1990	
Bulgaria . . . . .	11 Mar 1999	10 Aug 1999	Norway . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	5 Sep 1991
Canada . . . . .		25 Nov 2005 a	Panama . . . . .		21 Jan 1993 a
Cape Verde . . . . .		19 May 2000 a	Paraguay . . . . .		18 Aug 2003 a
Chile . . . . .	15 Nov 2001		Philippines . . . . .	20 Sep 2006	
Colombia . . . . .		5 Aug 1997 a	Poland . . . . .	21 Mar 2000	
Costa Rica . . . . .	14 Feb 1990	5 Jun 1998	Portugal . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	17 Oct 1990
Croatia . . . . .		12 Oct 1995 a	Romania . . . . .	15 Mar 1990	27 Feb 1991
Cyprus . . . . .		10 Sep 1999 a	San Marino . . . . .	26 Sep 2003	17 Aug 2004
Czech Republic . . . . .		15 Jun 2004 a	Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000	
Denmark . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	24 Feb 1994	Serbia . . . . .		6 Sep 2001 a
Djibouti . . . . .		5 Nov 2002 a	Seychelles . . . . .		15 Dec 1994 a
Ecuador . . . . .		23 Feb 1993 a	Slovakia . . . . .	22 Sep 1998	22 Jun 1999
Estonia . . . . .		30 Jan 2004 a	Slovenia . . . . .	14 Sep 1993	10 Mar 1994
Finland . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	4 Apr 1991	South Africa . . . . .		28 Aug 2002 a
Georgia . . . . .		22 Mar 1999 a	Spain . . . . .	23 Feb 1990	11 Apr 1991
Germany . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	18 Aug 1992	Sweden . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	11 May 1990
Greece . . . . .		5 May 1997 a	Switzerland . . . . .		16 Jun 1994 a
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	12 Sep 2000		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		26 Jan 1995 a
Honduras . . . . .	10 May 1990		Timor-Leste . . . . .		18 Sep 2003 a
Hungary . . . . .		24 Feb 1994 a	Turkey . . . . .	6 Apr 2004	2 Mar 2006
Iceland . . . . .	30 Jan 1991	2 Apr 1991	Turkmenistan . . . . .		11 Jan 2000 a
Ireland . . . . .		18 Jun 1993 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	31 Mar 1999	10 Dec 1999
Italy . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	14 Feb 1995	Uruguay . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	21 Jan 1993
Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	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			
Moldova . . . . .		20 Sep 2006 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.

**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: 185.

**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	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....	17 Jul 1980	17 Oct 1986
Albania.....		11 May 1994 a	Denmark.....	17 Jul 1980	21 Apr 1983
Algeria.....		22 May 1996 a	Djibouti.....		2 Dec 1998 a
Andorra.....		15 Jan 1997 a	Dominica.....	15 Sep 1980	15 Sep 1980
Angola.....		17 Sep 1986 a	Dominican Republic..	17 Jul 1980	2 Sep 1982
Antigua and Barbuda .		1 Aug 1989 a	Ecuador.....	17 Jul 1980	9 Nov 1981
Argentina.....	17 Jul 1980	15 Jul 1985	Egypt.....	16 Jul 1980	18 Sep 1981
Armenia.....		13 Sep 1993 a	El Salvador.....	14 Nov 1980	19 Aug 1981
Australia.....	17 Jul 1980	28 Jul 1983	Equatorial Guinea....		23 Oct 1984 a
Austria.....	17 Jul 1980	31 Mar 1982	Eritrea.....		5 Sep 1995 a
Azerbaijan.....		10 Jul 1995 a	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Bahamas.....		6 Oct 1993 a	Ethiopia.....	8 Jul 1980	10 Sep 1981
Bahrain.....		18 Jun 2002 a	Fiji.....		28 Aug 1995 a
Bangladesh.....		6 Nov 1984 a	Finland.....	17 Jul 1980	4 Sep 1986
Barbados.....	24 Jul 1980	16 Oct 1980	France.....	17 Jul 1980	14 Dec 1983
Belarus.....	17 Jul 1980	4 Feb 1981	Gabon.....	17 Jul 1980	21 Jan 1983
Belgium.....	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul 1985	Gambia.....	29 Jul 1980	16 Apr 1993
Belize.....	7 Mar 1990	16 May 1990	Georgia.....		26 Oct 1994 a
Benin.....	11 Nov 1981	12 Mar 1992	Germany.....	17 Jul 1980	10 Jul 1985
Bhutan.....	17 Jul 1980	31 Aug 1981	Ghana.....	17 Jul 1980	2 Jan 1986
Bolivia.....	30 May 1980	8 Jun 1990	Greece.....	2 Mar 1982	7 Jun 1983
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na.....		1 Sep 1993 d	Grenada.....	17 Jul 1980	30 Aug 1990
Botswana.....		13 Aug 1996 a	Guatemala.....	8 Jun 1981	12 Aug 1982
Brazil.....	31 Mar 1981	1 Feb 1984	Guinea.....	17 Jul 1980	9 Aug 1982
Brunei Darussalam...		24 May 2006 a	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 Repub- lic.....		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
Cook Islands.....		11 Aug 2006 a	Kazakhstan.....		26 Aug 1998 a
Costa Rica.....	17 Jul 1980	4 Apr 1986	Kenya.....		9 Mar 1984 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....	17 Jul 1980	18 Dec 1995	Kiribati.....		17 Mar 2004 a
Croatia.....		9 Sep 1992 d	Kuwait.....		2 Sep 1994 a
Cuba.....	6 Mar 1980	17 Jul 1980	Kyrgyzstan.....		10 Feb 1997 a
Cyprus.....		23 Jul 1985 a	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic ...	17 Jul 1980	14 Aug 1981
Czech Republic.....		22 Feb 1993 d	Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea.		27 Feb 2001 a	Lebanon.....		16 Apr 1997 a
			Lesotho.....	17 Jul 1980	22 Aug 1995

<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>
Liberia . . . . .		17 Jul 1984 a	Sao Tome and Principe	31 Oct 1995	3 Jun 2003
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		16 May 1989 a	Saudi Arabia . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Liechtenstein . . . . .		22 Dec 1995 a	Senegal . . . . .	29 Jul 1980	5 Feb 1985
Lithuania . . . . .		18 Jan 1994 a	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Luxembourg . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	2 Feb 1989	Seychelles . . . . .		5 May 1992 a
Madagascar . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	17 Mar 1989	Sierra Leone . . . . .	21 Sep 1988	11 Nov 1988
Malawi . . . . .		12 Mar 1987 a	Singapore . . . . .		5 Oct 1995 a
Malaysia . . . . .		5 Jul 1995 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Maldives . . . . .		1 Jul 1993 a	Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d
Mali . . . . .	5 Feb 1985	10 Sep 1985	Solomon Islands . . . . .		6 May 2002 a
Malta . . . . .		8 Mar 1991 a	South Africa . . . . .	29 Jan 1993	15 Dec 1995
Marshall Islands . . . . .		2 Mar 2006 a	Spain . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	5 Jan 1984
Mauritania . . . . .		10 May 2001 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	5 Oct 1981
Mauritius . . . . .		9 Jul 1984 a	Suriname . . . . .		1 Mar 1993 a
Mexico . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	23 Mar 1981	Swaziland . . . . .		26 Mar 2004 a
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .		1 Sep 2004 a	Sweden . . . . .	7 Mar 1980	2 Jul 1980
Moldova . . . . .		1 Jul 1994 a	Switzerland . . . . .	23 Jan 1987	27 Mar 1997
Monaco . . . . .		18 Mar 2005 a	Syrian Arab Republic		28 Mar 2003 a
Mongolia . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	20 Jul 1981	Tajikistan . . . . .		26 Oct 1993 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Thailand . . . . .		9 Aug 1985 a
Morocco . . . . .		21 Jun 1993 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		18 Jan 1994 d
Mozambique . . . . .		21 Apr 1997 a	Timor-Leste . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Myanmar . . . . .		22 Jul 1997 a	Togo . . . . .		26 Sep 1983 a
Namibia . . . . .		23 Nov 1992 a	Trinidad and Tobago .	27 Jun 1985	12 Jan 1990
Nepal . . . . .	5 Feb 1991	22 Apr 1991	Tunisia . . . . .	24 Jul 1980	20 Sep 1985
Netherlands . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	23 Jul 1991	Turkey . . . . .		20 Dec 1985 a
New Zealand . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	10 Jan 1985	Turkmenistan . . . . .		1 May 1997 a
Nicaragua . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	27 Oct 1981	Tuvalu . . . . .		6 Oct 1999 a
Niger . . . . .		8 Oct 1999 a	Uganda . . . . .	30 Jul 1980	22 Jul 1985
Nigeria . . . . .	23 Apr 1984	13 Jun 1985	Ukraine . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	12 Mar 1981
Norway . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	21 May 1981	United Arab Emirates		6 Oct 2004 a
Oman . . . . .		7 Feb 2006 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .	22 Jul 1981	7 Apr 1986
Pakistan . . . . .		12 Mar 1996 a	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	20 Aug 1985
Panama . . . . .	26 Jun 1980	29 Oct 1981	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	
Papua New Guinea . . .		12 Jan 1995 a	Uruguay . . . . .	30 Mar 1981	9 Oct 1981
Paraguay . . . . .		6 Apr 1987 a	Uzbekistan . . . . .		19 Jul 1995 a
Peru . . . . .	23 Jul 1981	13 Sep 1982	Vanuatu . . . . .		8 Sep 1995 a
Philippines . . . . .	15 Jul 1980	5 Aug 1981	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	2 May 1983
Poland . . . . .	29 May 1980	30 Jul 1980	Viet Nam . . . . .	29 Jul 1980	17 Feb 1982
Portugal . . . . .	24 Apr 1980	30 Jul 1980	Yemen . . . . .		30 May 1984 a
Republic of Korea . . .	25 May 1983	27 Dec 1984	Zambia . . . . .	17 Jul 1980	21 Jun 1985
Romania . . . . .	4 Sep 1980	7 Jan 1982	Zimbabwe . . . . .		13 May 1991 a
Russian Federation . .	17 Jul 1980	23 Jan 1981			
Rwanda . . . . .	1 May 1980	2 Mar 1981			
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, 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: 77. Parties: 86.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, p. 83.

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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania . . . . .		23 Jun 2003 a	Kazakhstan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001
Andorra . . . . .	9 Jul 2001	14 Oct 2002	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		22 Jul 2002 a
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .		5 Jun 2006 a	Lesotho . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004
Argentina . . . . .	28 Feb 2000	20 Mar 2007	Liberia . . . . .	22 Sep 2004	
Armenia . . . . .		14 Sep 2006 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		18 Jun 2004 a
Austria . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	6 Sep 2000	Liechtenstein . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	24 Oct 2001
Azerbaijan . . . . .	6 Jun 2000	1 Jun 2001	Lithuania . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	5 Aug 2004
Bangladesh . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Luxembourg . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	1 Jul 2003
Belarus . . . . .	29 Apr 2002	3 Feb 2004	Madagascar . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Belgium . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	17 Jun 2004	Malawi . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Belize . . . . .		9 Dec 2002 a	Maldives . . . . .		13 Mar 2006 a
Benin . . . . .	25 May 2000		Mali . . . . .		5 Dec 2000 a
Bolivia . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	27 Sep 2000	Mauritius . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	Mexico . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	15 Mar 2002
Botswana . . . . .		21 Feb 2007 a	Moldova . . . . .		28 Feb 2006 a
Brazil . . . . .	13 Mar 2001	28 Jun 2002	Mongolia . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	28 Mar 2002
Bulgaria . . . . .	6 Jun 2000	20 Sep 2006	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Burkina Faso . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	10 Oct 2005	Namibia . . . . .	19 May 2000	26 May 2000
Burundi . . . . .	13 Nov 2001		Nepal . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	
Cambodia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001		Netherlands . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	22 May 2002
Cameroon . . . . .		7 Jan 2005 a	New Zealand . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000
Canada . . . . .		18 Oct 2002 a	Niger . . . . .		30 Sep 2004 a
Chile . . . . .	10 Dec 1999		Nigeria . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	22 Nov 2004
Colombia . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	23 Jan 2007	Norway . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	5 Mar 2002
Costa Rica . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	20 Sep 2001	Panama . . . . .	9 Jun 2000	9 May 2001
Croatia . . . . .	5 Jun 2000	7 Mar 2001	Paraguay . . . . .	28 Dec 1999	14 May 2001
Cuba . . . . .	17 Mar 2000		Peru . . . . .	22 Dec 2000	9 Apr 2001
Cyprus . . . . .	8 Feb 2001	26 Apr 2002	Philippines . . . . .	21 Mar 2000	12 Nov 2003
Czech Republic . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	26 Feb 2001	Poland . . . . .		22 Dec 2003 a
Denmark . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	31 May 2000	Portugal . . . . .	16 Feb 2000	26 Apr 2002
Dominican Republic . . . . .	14 Mar 2000	10 Aug 2001	Republic of Korea . . . . .		18 Oct 2006 a
Ecuador . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	5 Feb 2002	Romania . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	25 Aug 2003
El Salvador . . . . .	4 Apr 2001		Russian Federation . . . . .	8 May 2001	28 Jul 2004
Finland . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	29 Dec 2000	Saint Kitts and Nevis . . . . .		20 Jan 2006 a
France . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	9 Jun 2000	San Marino . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a
Gabon . . . . .		5 Nov 2004 a	Sao Tome and Principe . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	
Georgia . . . . .		1 Aug 2002 a	Senegal . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	26 May 2000
Germany . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	15 Jan 2002	Serbia . . . . .		31 Jul 2003 a
Ghana . . . . .	24 Feb 2000		Seychelles . . . . .	22 Jul 2002	
Greece . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	24 Jan 2002	Sierra Leone . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Guatemala . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002	Slovakia . . . . .	5 Jun 2000	17 Nov 2000
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	12 Sep 2000		Slovenia . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	23 Sep 2004
Hungary . . . . .		22 Dec 2000 a	Solomon Islands . . . . .		6 May 2002 a
Iceland . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	6 Mar 2001	South Africa . . . . .		18 Oct 2005 a
Indonesia . . . . .	28 Feb 2000		Spain . . . . .	14 Mar 2000	6 Jul 2001
Ireland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Sri Lanka . . . . .		15 Oct 2002 a
Italy . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	22 Sep 2000	Sweden . . . . .	10 Dec 1999	24 Apr 2003

**Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation**

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<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>
Switzerland . . . . .	15 Feb 2007		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .		17 Dec 2004 a
Tajikistan . . . . .	7 Sep 2000		United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		12 Jan 2006 a
Thailand . . . . .	14 Jun 2000	14 Jun 2000	Uruguay . . . . .	9 May 2000	26 Jul 2001
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	3 Apr 2000	17 Oct 2003	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	17 Mar 2000	13 May 2002
Timor-Leste . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a			
Turkey . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	29 Oct 2002			
Ukraine . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	26 Sep 2003			

## **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 punishing 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 is 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: 144.  
**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	22 Sep 2006	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

<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>
Moldova . . . . .		28 Nov 1995 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Monaco . . . . .		6 Dec 1991 a	Slovenia . . . . .		16 Jul 1993 a
Mongolia . . . . .		24 Jan 2002 a	Somalia . . . . .		24 Jan 1990 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	South Africa . . . . .	29 Jan 1993	10 Dec 1998
Morocco . . . . .	8 Jan 1986	21 Jun 1993	Spain . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	21 Oct 1987
Mozambique . . . . .		14 Sep 1999 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .		3 Jan 1994 a
Namibia . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a	Sudan . . . . .	4 Jun 1986	
Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001		Swaziland . . . . .		26 Mar 2004 a
Nepal . . . . .		14 May 1991 a	Sweden . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	8 Jan 1986
Netherlands . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	21 Dec 1988	Switzerland . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	2 Dec 1986
New Zealand . . . . .	14 Jan 1986	10 Dec 1989	Syrian Arab Republic		19 Aug 2004 a
Nicaragua . . . . .	15 Apr 1985	5 Jul 2005	Tajikistan . . . . .		11 Jan 1995 a
Niger . . . . .		5 Oct 1998 a	The Former Yugoslav		
Nigeria . . . . .	28 Jul 1988	28 Jun 2001	Republic of Mace-		
Norway . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	9 Jul 1986	donia . . . . .		12 Dec 1994 d
Panama . . . . .	22 Feb 1985	24 Aug 1987	Timor-Leste . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Paraguay . . . . .	23 Oct 1989	12 Mar 1990	Togo . . . . .	25 Mar 1987	18 Nov 1987
Peru . . . . .	29 May 1985	7 Jul 1988	Tunisia . . . . .	26 Aug 1987	23 Sep 1988
Philippines . . . . .		18 Jun 1986 a	Turkey . . . . .	25 Jan 1988	2 Aug 1988
Poland . . . . .	13 Jan 1986	26 Jul 1989	Turkmenistan . . . . .		25 Jun 1999 a
Portugal . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	9 Feb 1989	Uganda . . . . .		3 Nov 1986 a
Qatar . . . . .		11 Jan 2000 a	Ukraine . . . . .	27 Feb 1986	24 Feb 1987
Republic of Korea . . .		9 Jan 1995 a	United Kingdom of		
Romania . . . . .		18 Dec 1990 a	Great Britain and		
Russian Federation . .	10 Dec 1985	3 Mar 1987	Northern Ireland .	15 Mar 1985	8 Dec 1988
Saint Vincent and the			United States of Amer-		
Grenadines . . . . .		1 Aug 2001 a	ica . . . . .	18 Apr 1988	21 Oct 1994
San Marino . . . . .	18 Sep 2002	27 Nov 2006	Uruguay . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	24 Oct 1986
Sao Tome and Principe	6 Sep 2000		Uzbekistan . . . . .		28 Sep 1995 a
Saudi Arabia . . . . .		23 Sep 1997 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian		
Senegal . . . . .	4 Feb 1985	21 Aug 1986	Republic of) . . . . .	15 Feb 1985	29 Jul 1991
Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d	Yemen . . . . .		5 Nov 1991 a
Seychelles . . . . .		5 May 1992 a	Zambia . . . . .		7 Oct 1998 a
Sierra Leone . . . . .	18 Mar 1985	25 Apr 2001			

## **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; centres 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 entered into force on 22 June 2006 (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*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 22 June 2006, in accordance with article 28 (1) 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."

**REGISTRATION:** 22 June 2006, No. 24841.

**STATUS:** Signatories: 57. Parties: 34.

**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, 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>
Albania . . . . .		1 Oct 2003 a	Malta . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2003
Argentina . . . . .	30 Apr 2003	15 Nov 2004	Mauritius . . . . .		21 Jun 2005 a
Armenia . . . . .		14 Sep 2006 a	Mexico . . . . .	23 Sep 2003	11 Apr 2005
Austria . . . . .	25 Sep 2003		Moldova . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	24 Jul 2006
Azerbaijan . . . . .	15 Sep 2005		Montenegro . . . . .	23 Oct 2006 d	
Belgium . . . . .	24 Oct 2005		Netherlands . . . . .	3 Jun 2005	
Benin . . . . .	24 Feb 2005	20 Sep 2006	New Zealand . . . . .	23 Sep 2003	14 Mar 2007
Bolivia . . . . .	22 May 2006	23 May 2006	Nicaragua . . . . .	14 Mar 2007	
Brazil . . . . .	13 Oct 2003	12 Jan 2007	Norway . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	21 Sep 2005		Paraguay . . . . .	22 Sep 2004	2 Dec 2005
Cambodia . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	30 Mar 2007	Peru . . . . .		14 Sep 2006 a
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	Romania . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	
Cyprus . . . . .	26 Jul 2004		Senegal . . . . .	4 Feb 2003	18 Oct 2006
Czech Republic . . . . .	13 Sep 2004	10 Jul 2006	Serbia . . . . .	25 Sep 2003	26 Sep 2006
Denmark . . . . .	26 Jun 2003	25 Jun 2004	Sierra Leone . . . . .	26 Sep 2003	
Estonia . . . . .	21 Sep 2004	18 Dec 2006	Slovenia . . . . .		23 Jan 2007 a
Finland . . . . .	23 Sep 2003		South Africa . . . . .	20 Sep 2006	
France . . . . .	16 Sep 2005		Spain . . . . .	13 Apr 2005	4 Apr 2006
Gabon . . . . .	15 Dec 2004		Sweden . . . . .	26 Jun 2003	14 Sep 2005
Georgia . . . . .		9 Aug 2005 a	Switzerland . . . . .	25 Jun 2004	
Germany . . . . .	20 Sep 2006		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	1 Sep 2006	
Ghana . . . . .	6 Nov 2006		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	23 May 2006	Ukraine . . . . .	23 Sep 2005	19 Sep 2006
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	3 Nov 2006			
Luxembourg . . . . .	13 Jan 2005				
Madagascar . . . . .	24 Sep 2003				
Maldives . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	15 Feb 2006			
Mali . . . . .	19 Jan 2004	12 May 2005			

## **Convention on the Rights of the Child** *(New York, 20 November 1989)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention) is the principal children's treaty encompassing a full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The Convention aims at protecting children from discrimination, neglect and abuse. It grants and provides for the implementation of rights for children both in times of peace and during armed conflict. The Convention constitutes a rallying point and a useful tool for civil society and individuals, and works for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child. In many respects, it is an innovative instrument.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention is the first legally binding international instrument which provides in a single text universally recognized norms and standards concerning the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.

The Convention emphasizes the spirit of complementary and interdependence of human rights by combining civil and political rights with economic, social and cultural rights. It calls for a holistic approach in analysis and recognizes that the enjoyment of one right cannot be separated from the enjoyment of others.

It establishes a new vision of the child, combining provisions aimed at protecting the child through positive action by the State, the parents and relevant institutions, with the recognition of the child as a holder of participatory rights and freedoms.

In so doing, it establishes rights in new areas which were not covered by previous international instruments, such as the right of the child to freely express views and have them given due weight, and the right of the child to a name and nationality from birth. In addition, the Convention establishes standards in new areas including the issue of alternative care, the rights of disabled and refugee children and the administration of juvenile justice. The need for recovery and social reintegration of a child victim of neglect, exploitation or abuse is also set forth.

The Convention acknowledges the primary role of the family and parents in the care and protection of the child, while stressing the obligation of the State to help families in carrying out this task. It calls for positive action by institutions and the State or parents.

It constitutes a useful tool for advocacy and greater awareness of the new perspective of children's rights, and attaches special importance to international cooperation and assistance as ways of achieving the effective protection of children's rights.

Four general principles are enshrined in the Convention. They express the philosophy the Convention conveys and provide guidance for national programmes of implementation. The key provisions focus on (1) non-discrimination; (2) best interests of the child; (3) right to life, survival and development; and (4) views of the child.

Article 43 of the Convention establishes the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a monitoring body of ten experts whose purpose is to examine the progress made by States Parties in implementing the Convention.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 2 September 1990 (article 49).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is open for signature indefinitely by all States and to ratification and accession (articles 46, 47 and 48).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

### ***RESERVATIONS***

Any State may, at the time of ratification or accession, make reservations to articles of the Convention that are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention. Any State making a reservation may at any time withdraw the reservation by communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General (article 51).

### ***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 52).

## CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

New York, 20 November 1989

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 2 September 1990, in accordance with article 49 (1).  
**REGISTRATION:** 2 September 1990, No. 27531.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 140. Parties: 193.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, p. 3; depositary notifications C.N.147.1993.TREATIES-5 of 15 May 1993 [amendments to article 43 (2)]; and C.N.322.1995.TREATIES-7 of 7 November 1995 [amendment to article 43 (2)].

*Note:* The Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, was adopted by resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989 at the Forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Convention is open for signature by all States at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .	27 Sep 1990	28 Mar 1994	Cyprus . . . . .	5 Oct 1990	7 Feb 1991
Albania . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	27 Feb 1992	Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d
Algeria . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	16 Apr 1993	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	23 Aug 1990	21 Sep 1990
Andorra . . . . .	2 Oct 1995	2 Jan 1996	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	20 Mar 1990	27 Sep 1990
Angola . . . . .	14 Feb 1990	5 Dec 1990	Denmark . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	19 Jul 1991
Antigua and Barbuda .	12 Mar 1991	5 Oct 1993	Djibouti . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	6 Dec 1990
Argentina . . . . .	29 Jun 1990	4 Dec 1990	Dominica . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	13 Mar 1991
Armenia . . . . .		23 Jun 1993 a	Dominican Republic .	8 Aug 1990	11 Jun 1991
Australia . . . . .	22 Aug 1990	17 Dec 1990	Ecuador . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	23 Mar 1990
Austria . . . . .	26 Aug 1990	6 Aug 1992	Egypt . . . . .	5 Feb 1990	6 Jul 1990
Azerbaijan . . . . .		13 Aug 1992 a	El Salvador . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	10 Jul 1990
Bahamas . . . . .	30 Oct 1990	20 Feb 1991	Equatorial Guinea . . .		15 Jun 1992 a
Bahrain . . . . .		13 Feb 1992 a	Eritrea . . . . .	20 Dec 1993	3 Aug 1994
Bangladesh . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	3 Aug 1990	Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a
Barbados . . . . .	19 Apr 1990	9 Oct 1990	Ethiopia . . . . .		14 May 1991 a
Belarus . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	1 Oct 1990	Fiji . . . . .	2 Jul 1993	13 Aug 1993
Belgium . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	16 Dec 1991	Finland . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	20 Jun 1991
Belize . . . . .	2 Mar 1990	2 May 1990	France . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	7 Aug 1990
Benin . . . . .	25 Apr 1990	3 Aug 1990	Gabon . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	9 Feb 1994
Bhutan . . . . .	4 Jun 1990	1 Aug 1990	Gambia . . . . .	5 Feb 1990	8 Aug 1990
Bolivia . . . . .	8 Mar 1990	26 Jun 1990	Georgia . . . . .		2 Jun 1994 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		1 Sep 1993 d	Germany . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	6 Mar 1992
Botswana . . . . .		14 Mar 1995 a	Ghana . . . . .	29 Jan 1990	5 Feb 1990
Brazil . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	24 Sep 1990	Greece . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	11 May 1993
Brunei Darussalam . .		27 Dec 1995 a	Grenada . . . . .	21 Feb 1990	5 Nov 1990
Bulgaria . . . . .	31 May 1990	3 Jun 1991	Guatemala . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	6 Jun 1990
Burkina Faso . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	31 Aug 1990	Guinea . . . . .		13 Jul 1990 a
Burundi . . . . .	8 May 1990	19 Oct 1990	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	20 Aug 1990
Cambodia . . . . .		15 Oct 1992 a	Guyana . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	14 Jan 1991
Cameroon . . . . .	25 Sep 1990	11 Jan 1993	Haiti . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	8 Jun 1995
Canada . . . . .	28 May 1990	13 Dec 1991	Holy See . . . . .	20 Apr 1990	20 Apr 1990
Cape Verde . . . . .		4 Jun 1992 a	Honduras . . . . .	31 May 1990	10 Aug 1990
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .	30 Jul 1990	23 Apr 1992	Hungary . . . . .	14 Mar 1990	7 Oct 1991
Chad . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	2 Oct 1990	Iceland . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	28 Oct 1992
Chile . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	13 Aug 1990	India . . . . .		11 Dec 1992 a
China . . . . .	29 Aug 1990	2 Mar 1992	Indonesia . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	5 Sep 1990
Colombia . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	28 Jan 1991	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	5 Sep 1991	13 Jul 1994
Comoros . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	22 Jun 1993	Iraq . . . . .		15 Jun 1994 a
Congo . . . . .		14 Oct 1993 a	Ireland . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	28 Sep 1992
Cook Islands . . . . .		6 Jun 1997 a	Israel . . . . .	3 Jul 1990	3 Oct 1991
Costa Rica . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1990	Italy . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	5 Sep 1991
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	4 Feb 1991	Jamaica . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	14 May 1991
Croatia . . . . .		12 Oct 1992 d	Japan . . . . .	21 Sep 1990	22 Apr 1994
Cuba . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1991			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Jordan . . . . .	29 Aug 1990	24 May 1991	Rwanda . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	24 Jan 1991
Kazakhstan . . . . .	16 Feb 1994	12 Aug 1994	Saint Kitts and Nevis . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	24 Jul 1990
Kenya . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	30 Jul 1990	Saint Lucia . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	16 Jun 1993
Kiribati . . . . .		11 Dec 1995 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .	20 Sep 1993	26 Oct 1993
Kuwait . . . . .	7 Jun 1990	21 Oct 1991	Samoa . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	29 Nov 1994
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		7 Oct 1994 a	San Marino . . . . .		25 Nov 1991 a
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		8 May 1991 a	Sao Tome and Principe		14 May 1991 a
Latvia . . . . .		14 Apr 1992 a	Saudi Arabia . . . . .		26 Jan 1996 a
Lebanon . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	14 May 1991	Senegal . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	31 Jul 1990
Lesotho . . . . .	21 Aug 1990	10 Mar 1992	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Liberia . . . . .	26 Apr 1990	4 Jun 1993	Seychelles . . . . .		7 Sep 1990 a
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		15 Apr 1993 a	Sierra Leone . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	18 Jun 1990
Liechtenstein . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	22 Dec 1995	Singapore . . . . .		5 Oct 1995 a
Lithuania . . . . .		31 Jan 1992 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Luxembourg . . . . .	21 Mar 1990	7 Mar 1994	Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d
Madagascar . . . . .	19 Apr 1990	19 Mar 1991	Solomon Islands . . . . .		10 Apr 1995 a
Malawi . . . . .		2 Jan 1991 a	Somalia . . . . .	9 May 2002	
Malaysia . . . . .		17 Feb 1995 a	South Africa . . . . .	29 Jan 1993	16 Jun 1995
Maldives . . . . .	21 Aug 1990	11 Feb 1991	Spain . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	6 Dec 1990
Mali . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	20 Sep 1990	Sri Lanka . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	12 Jul 1991
Malta . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	30 Sep 1990	Sudan . . . . .	24 Jul 1990	3 Aug 1990
Marshall Islands . . . . .	14 Apr 1993	4 Oct 1993	Suriname . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	1 Mar 1993
Mauritania . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	16 May 1991	Swaziland . . . . .	22 Aug 1990	7 Sep 1995
Mauritius . . . . .		26 Jul 1990 a	Sweden . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	29 Jun 1990
Mexico . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Sep 1990	Switzerland . . . . .	1 May 1991	24 Feb 1997
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .		5 May 1993 a	Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .	18 Sep 1990	15 Jul 1993
Moldova . . . . .		26 Jan 1993 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		26 Oct 1993 a
Monaco . . . . .		21 Jun 1993 a	Thailand . . . . .		27 Mar 1992 a
Mongolia . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	5 Jul 1990	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		2 Dec 1993 d
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Timor-Leste . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Morocco . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Jun 1993	Togo . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	1 Aug 1990
Mozambique . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	26 Apr 1994	Tonga . . . . .		6 Nov 1995 a
Myanmar . . . . .		15 Jul 1991 a	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	5 Dec 1991
Namibia . . . . .	26 Sep 1990	30 Sep 1990	Tunisia . . . . .	26 Feb 1990	30 Jan 1992
Nauru . . . . .		27 Jul 1994 a	Turkey . . . . .	14 Sep 1990	4 Apr 1995
Nepal . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	14 Sep 1990	Turkmenistan . . . . .		20 Sep 1993 a
Netherlands . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	6 Feb 1995 A	Tuvalu . . . . .		22 Sep 1995 a
New Zealand . . . . .	1 Oct 1990	6 Apr 1993	Uganda . . . . .	17 Aug 1990	17 Aug 1990
Nicaragua . . . . .	6 Feb 1990	5 Oct 1990	Ukraine . . . . .	21 Feb 1990	28 Aug 1991
Niger . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	30 Sep 1990	United Arab Emirates . . . . .		3 Jan 1997 a
Nigeria . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	19 Apr 1991	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	19 Apr 1990	16 Dec 1991
Niue . . . . .		20 Dec 1995 a	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	1 Jun 1990	10 Jun 1991
Norway . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	8 Jan 1991	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	16 Feb 1995	
Oman . . . . .		9 Dec 1996 a	Uruguay . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	20 Nov 1990
Pakistan . . . . .	20 Sep 1990	12 Nov 1990	Uzbekistan . . . . .		29 Jun 1994 a
Palau . . . . .		4 Aug 1995 a	Vanuatu . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	7 Jul 1993
Panama . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	12 Dec 1990	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	13 Sep 1990
Papua New Guinea . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	2 Mar 1993	Viet Nam . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	28 Feb 1990
Paraguay . . . . .	4 Apr 1990	25 Sep 1990	Yemen . . . . .	13 Feb 1990	1 May 1991
Peru . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	4 Sep 1990	Zambia . . . . .	30 Sep 1990	6 Dec 1991
Philippines . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Aug 1990	Zimbabwe . . . . .	8 Mar 1990	11 Sep 1990
Poland . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	7 Jun 1991			
Portugal . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	21 Sep 1990			
Qatar . . . . .	8 Dec 1992	3 Apr 1995			
Republic of Korea . . . . .	25 Sep 1990	20 Nov 1991			
Romania . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	28 Sep 1990			
Russian Federation . . . . .	26 Jan 1990	16 Aug 1990			

## **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: 122. Parties: 115.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Fiji . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Andorra . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	Finland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	10 Apr 2002
Argentina . . . . .	15 Jun 2000	10 Sep 2002	France . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003
Armenia . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	30 Sep 2005	Gabon . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Australia . . . . .	21 Oct 2002	26 Sep 2006	Gambia . . . . .	21 Dec 2000	
Austria . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	1 Feb 2002	Germany . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	13 Dec 2004
Azerbaijan . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	Ghana . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	
Bahrain . . . . .		21 Sep 2004 a	Greece . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	22 Oct 2003
Bangladesh . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Guatemala . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Belarus . . . . .		25 Jan 2006 a	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Belgium . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2002	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 . . . . .		14 Aug 2002 a
Bhutan . . . . .	15 Sep 2005		Hungary . . . . .	11 Mar 2002	
Bolivia . . . . .		22 Dec 2004 a	Iceland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	1 Oct 2001
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	10 Oct 2003	India . . . . .	15 Nov 2004	30 Nov 2005
Botswana . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	4 Oct 2004	Indonesia . . . . .	24 Sep 2001	
Brazil . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Ireland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	18 Nov 2002
Bulgaria . . . . .	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Israel . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	18 Jul 2005
Burkina Faso . . . . .	16 Nov 2001		Italy . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Burundi . . . . .	13 Nov 2001		Jamaica . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Cambodia . . . . .	27 Jun 2000	16 Jul 2004	Japan . . . . .	10 May 2002	2 Aug 2004
Cameroon . . . . .	5 Oct 2001		Jordan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	
Canada . . . . .	5 Jun 2000	7 Jul 2000	Kazakhstan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	10 Apr 2003
Cape Verde . . . . .		10 May 2002 a	Kenya . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	28 Jan 2002
Chad . . . . .	3 May 2002	28 Aug 2002	Kuwait . . . . .		26 Aug 2004 a
Chile . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	31 Jul 2003	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		13 Aug 2003 a
China . . . . .	15 Mar 2001		Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		20 Sep 2006 a
Colombia . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	25 May 2005	Latvia . . . . .	1 Feb 2002	19 Dec 2005
Costa Rica . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	24 Jan 2003	Lebanon . . . . .	11 Feb 2002	
Croatia . . . . .	8 May 2002	1 Nov 2002	Lesotho . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2003
Cuba . . . . .	13 Oct 2000	9 Feb 2007	Liberia . . . . .	22 Sep 2004	
Czech Republic . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	30 Nov 2001	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		29 Oct 2004 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2001	Liechtenstein . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	4 Feb 2005
Denmark . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	27 Aug 2002	Lithuania . . . . .	13 Feb 2002	20 Feb 2003
Djibouti . . . . .	14 Jun 2006		Luxembourg . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	4 Aug 2004
Dominica . . . . .		20 Sep 2002 a	Madagascar . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	22 Sep 2004
Dominican Republic . . . . .	9 May 2002		Malawi . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Ecuador . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	7 Jun 2004	Maldives . . . . .	10 May 2002	29 Dec 2004
Egypt . . . . .		6 Feb 2007 a	Mali . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	16 May 2002
El Salvador . . . . .	18 Sep 2000	18 Apr 2002	Malta . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Eritrea . . . . .		16 Feb 2005 a	Mauritius . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	
Estonia . . . . .	24 Sep 2003		Mexico . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	15 Mar 2002

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>
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	8 May 2002		Somalia . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Moldova . . . . .	8 Feb 2002	7 Apr 2004	South Africa . . . . .	8 Feb 2002	
Monaco . . . . .	26 Jun 2000	13 Nov 2001	Spain . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	8 Mar 2002
Mongolia . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	6 Oct 2004	Sri Lanka . . . . .	21 Aug 2000	8 Sep 2000
Montenegro . . . . .		2 May 2007 d	Sudan . . . . .	9 May 2002	26 Jul 2005
Morocco . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	22 May 2002	Suriname . . . . .	10 May 2002	
Mozambique . . . . .		19 Oct 2004 a	Sweden . . . . .	8 Jun 2000	20 Feb 2003
Namibia . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	16 Apr 2002	Switzerland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	26 Jun 2002
Nauru . . . . .	8 Sep 2000		Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .		17 Oct 2003 a
Nepal . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	3 Jan 2007	Tajikistan . . . . .		5 Aug 2002 a
Netherlands . . . . .	7 Sep 2000		Thailand . . . . .		27 Feb 2006 a
New Zealand . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	12 Nov 2001	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia . . . . .	17 Jul 2001	12 Jan 2004
Nicaragua . . . . .		17 Mar 2005 a	Timor-Leste . . . . .		2 Aug 2004 a
Nigeria . . . . .	8 Sep 2000		Togo . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	28 Nov 2005
Norway . . . . .	13 Jun 2000	23 Sep 2003	Tunisia . . . . .	22 Apr 2002	2 Jan 2003
Oman . . . . .		17 Sep 2004 a	Turkey . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	4 May 2004
Pakistan . . . . .	26 Sep 2001		Turkmenistan . . . . .		29 Apr 2005 a
Panama . . . . .	31 Oct 2000	8 Aug 2001	Uganda . . . . .		6 May 2002 a
Paraguay . . . . .	13 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2002	Ukraine . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	11 Jul 2005
Peru . . . . .	1 Nov 2000	8 May 2002	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	24 Jun 2003
Philippines . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	26 Aug 2003	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		11 Nov 2004 a
Poland . . . . .	13 Feb 2002	7 Apr 2005	United States of America . . . . .	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec 2002
Portugal . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	19 Aug 2003	Uruguay . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 Sep 2003
Qatar . . . . .		25 Jul 2002 a	Vanuatu . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Republic of Korea . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2004	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2003
Romania . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	10 Nov 2001	Viet Nam . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec 2001
Russian Federation . . . . .	15 Feb 2001		Yemen . . . . .		2 Mar 2007 a
Rwanda . . . . .		23 Apr 2002 a			
San Marino . . . . .	5 Jun 2000				
Senegal . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	3 Mar 2004			
Serbia . . . . .	8 Oct 2001	31 Jan 2003			
Seychelles . . . . .	23 Jan 2001				
Sierra Leone . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	15 May 2002			
Singapore . . . . .	7 Sep 2000				
Slovakia . . . . .	30 Nov 2001	7 Jul 2006			
Slovenia . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2004			

## **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 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: 115. Parties: 120.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .		19 Sep 2002 a	Dominican Republic .		6 Dec 2006 a
Algeria . . . . .		27 Dec 2006 a	Ecuador . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	30 Jan 2004
Andorra . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	30 Apr 2001	Egypt . . . . .		12 Jul 2002 a
Angola . . . . .		24 Mar 2005 a	El Salvador . . . . .	13 Sep 2002	17 May 2004
Antigua and Barbuda.	18 Dec 2001	30 Apr 2002	Equatorial Guinea . . .		7 Feb 2003 a
Argentina . . . . .	1 Apr 2002	25 Sep 2003	Eritrea . . . . .		16 Feb 2005 a
Armenia . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	30 Jun 2005	Estonia . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	3 Aug 2004
Australia . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	8 Jan 2007	Fiji . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Austria . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	6 May 2004	Finland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Azerbaijan . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2002	France . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	5 Feb 2003
Bahrain . . . . .		21 Sep 2004 a	Gabon . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Bangladesh . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	Gambia . . . . .	21 Dec 2000	
Belarus . . . . .		23 Jan 2002 a	Georgia . . . . .		28 Jun 2005 a
Belgium . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	17 Mar 2006	Germany . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	
Belize . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	1 Dec 2003	Ghana . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	
Benin . . . . .	22 Feb 2001	31 Jan 2005	Greece . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Bhutan . . . . .	15 Sep 2005		Guatemala . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Bolivia . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	3 Jun 2003	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	4 Sep 2002	Haiti . . . . .	15 Aug 2002	
Botswana . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Holy See . . . . .	10 Oct 2000	24 Oct 2001
Brazil . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	27 Jan 2004	Honduras . . . . .		8 May 2002 a
Brunei Darussalam . .		21 Nov 2006 a	Hungary . . . . .	11 Mar 2002	
Bulgaria . . . . .	8 Jun 2001	12 Feb 2002	Iceland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 Jul 2001
Burkina Faso . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	31 Mar 2006	India . . . . .	15 Nov 2004	16 Aug 2005
Cambodia . . . . .	27 Jun 2000	30 May 2002	Indonesia . . . . .	24 Sep 2001	
Cameroon . . . . .	5 Oct 2001		Ireland . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	
Canada . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	14 Sep 2005	Israel . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	
Cape Verde . . . . .		10 May 2002 a	Italy . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	9 May 2002
Chad . . . . .	3 May 2002	28 Aug 2002	Jamaica . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Chile . . . . .	28 Jun 2000	6 Feb 2003	Japan . . . . .	10 May 2002	24 Jan 2005
China . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	3 Dec 2002	Jordan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	4 Dec 2006
Colombia . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	11 Nov 2003	Kazakhstan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Aug 2001
Comoros . . . . .		23 Feb 2007 a	Kenya . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	
Costa Rica . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	9 Apr 2002	Kuwait . . . . .		26 Aug 2004 a
Croatia . . . . .	8 May 2002	13 May 2002	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		12 Feb 2003 a
Cuba . . . . .	13 Oct 2000	25 Sep 2001	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . .		20 Sep 2006 a
Cyprus . . . . .	8 Feb 2001	6 Apr 2006	Latvia . . . . .	1 Feb 2002	22 Feb 2006
Czech Republic . . . .	26 Jan 2005		Lebanon . . . . .	10 Oct 2001	8 Nov 2004
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		11 Nov 2001 a	Lesotho . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Sep 2003
Denmark . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	24 Jul 2003	Liberia . . . . .	22 Sep 2004	
Djibouti . . . . .	14 Jun 2006		Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		18 Jun 2004 a
Dominica . . . . .		20 Sep 2002 a	Liechtenstein . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	

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>
Lithuania.....		5 Aug 2004 a	Senegal.....	8 Sep 2000	5 Nov 2003
Luxembourg.....	8 Sep 2000		Serbia.....	8 Oct 2001	10 Oct 2002
Madagascar.....	7 Sep 2000	22 Sep 2004	Seychelles.....	23 Jan 2001	
Malawi.....	7 Sep 2000		Sierra Leone.....	8 Sep 2000	17 Sep 2001
Maldives.....	10 May 2002	10 May 2002	Slovakia.....	30 Nov 2001	25 Jun 2004
Mali.....		16 May 2002 a	Slovenia.....	8 Sep 2000	23 Sep 2004
Malta.....	7 Sep 2000		South Africa.....		30 Jun 2003 a
Mauritania.....		23 Apr 2007 a	Spain.....	6 Sep 2000	18 Dec 2001
Mauritius.....	11 Nov 2001		Sri Lanka.....	8 May 2002	22 Sep 2006
Mexico.....	7 Sep 2000	15 Mar 2002	Sudan.....		2 Nov 2004 a
Micronesia (Federated States of).....	8 May 2002		Suriname.....	10 May 2002	
Moldova.....	8 Feb 2002	12 Apr 2007	Sweden.....	8 Sep 2000	19 Jan 2007
Monaco.....	26 Jun 2000		Switzerland.....	7 Sep 2000	19 Sep 2006
Mongolia.....	12 Nov 2001	27 Jun 2003	Syrian Arab Republic..		15 May 2003 a
Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d	Tajikistan.....		5 Aug 2002 a
Morocco.....	8 Sep 2000	2 Oct 2001	Thailand.....		11 Jan 2006 a
Mozambique.....		6 Mar 2003 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia.....	17 Jul 2001	17 Oct 2003
Namibia.....	8 Sep 2000	16 Apr 2002	Timor-Leste.....		16 Apr 2003 a
Nauru.....	8 Sep 2000		Togo.....	15 Nov 2001	2 Jul 2004
Nepal.....	8 Sep 2000	20 Jan 2006	Tunisia.....	22 Apr 2002	13 Sep 2002
Netherlands.....	7 Sep 2000	23 Aug 2005	Turkey.....	8 Sep 2000	19 Aug 2002
New Zealand.....	7 Sep 2000		Turkmenistan.....		28 Mar 2005 a
Nicaragua.....		2 Dec 2004 a	Uganda.....		30 Nov 2001 a
Niger.....	27 Mar 2002	26 Oct 2004	Ukraine.....	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2003
Nigeria.....	8 Sep 2000		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland..	7 Sep 2000	
Norway.....	13 Jun 2000	2 Oct 2001	United Republic of Tanzania.....		24 Apr 2003 a
Oman.....		17 Sep 2004 a	United States of Amer- ica.....	5 Jul 2000	23 Dec 2002
Pakistan.....	26 Sep 2001	9 Feb 2001	Uruguay.....	7 Sep 2000	3 Jul 2003
Panama.....	31 Oct 2000	18 Aug 2003	Vanuatu.....	16 Sep 2005	
Paraguay.....	13 Sep 2000	8 May 2002	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	7 Sep 2000	8 May 2002
Peru.....	1 Nov 2000	28 May 2002	Viet Nam.....	8 Sep 2000	20 Dec 2001
Philippines.....	8 Sep 2000	4 Feb 2005	Yemen.....		15 Dec 2004 a
Poland.....	13 Feb 2002	16 May 2003			
Portugal.....	6 Sep 2000	14 Dec 2001 a			
Qatar.....		24 Sep 2004			
Republic of Korea....	6 Sep 2000	18 Oct 2001			
Romania.....	6 Sep 2000	14 Mar 2002 a			
Rwanda.....		15 Sep 2005 a			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....					
San Marino.....	5 Jun 2000				

**Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes  
against Internationally Protected Persons,  
including Diplomatic Agents  
(New York, 14 December 1973)**

***OBJECTIVES***

Crimes against diplomatic agents and other internationally protected persons create a serious threat to the maintenance of normal international relations which are necessary for cooperation among States. The objective of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (the Convention) is to establish effective measures for the prevention and punishment of such crimes.

***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention applies to the crimes of direct involvement or complicity in the murder, kidnapping, or attack, whether actual, attempted or threatened, on the person, official premises, private accommodation or means of transport of diplomatic agents and other "internationally protected persons". Internationally protected persons are defined as Heads of State or Government, Ministers for Foreign Affairs, State officials and representatives of international organizations entitled to special protection in a foreign State, and their families.

Parties are obliged to establish jurisdiction over the offences described; make the offences punishable by appropriate penalties; take alleged offenders into custody; prosecute or extradite alleged offenders; cooperate in preventive measures; and exchange information and evidence needed in related criminal proceedings. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties under existing extradition treaties, and under the Convention itself.

***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 20 February 1977 (article 17).

***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by signatory States. The Convention is open to accession by any State (articles 15 and 16).

***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 11).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 13, paragraph 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 13).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect six months following the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 18).

**CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF CRIMES AGAINST  
INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS, INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC AGENTS**

*New York, 14 December 1973*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 20 February 1977, in accordance with article 17 (1).

**REGISTRATION:** 20 February 1977, No. 15410.

**STATUS:** Signatories: 25. Parties: 165.

**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1035, p. 167.

*Note:* The Convention was opened for signature at New York on 14 December 1973 until 31 December 1974.

<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 Sep 2003 a	Ecuador . . . . .	27 Aug 1974	12 Mar 1975
Albania . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a	Egypt . . . . .		25 Jun 1986 a
Algeria . . . . .		7 Nov 2000 a	El Salvador . . . . .		8 Aug 1980 a
Andorra . . . . .		23 Sep 2004 a	Equatorial Guinea . . .		7 Feb 2003 a
Antigua and Barbuda .		19 Jul 1993 a	Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a
Argentina . . . . .		18 Mar 1982 a	Ethiopia . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Armenia . . . . .		18 May 1994 a	Finland . . . . .	10 May 1974	31 Oct 1978
Australia . . . . .	30 Dec 1974	20 Jun 1977	France . . . . .		26 Aug 2003 a
Austria . . . . .		3 Aug 1977 a	Gabon . . . . .		14 Oct 1981 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .		2 Apr 2001 a	Georgia . . . . .		18 Feb 2004 a
Bahamas . . . . .		22 Jul 1986 a	Germany . . . . .	15 Aug 1974	25 Jan 1977
Bahrain . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a	Ghana . . . . .		25 Apr 1975 a
Bangladesh . . . . .		20 May 2005 a	Greece . . . . .		3 Jul 1984 a
Barbados . . . . .		26 Oct 1979 a	Grenada . . . . .		13 Dec 2001 a
Belarus . . . . .	11 Jun 1974	5 Feb 1976	Guatemala . . . . .	12 Dec 1974	18 Jan 1983
Belgium . . . . .		19 May 2004 a	Guinea . . . . .		22 Dec 2004 a
Belize . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a	Haiti . . . . .		25 Aug 1980 a
Benin . . . . .		31 Jul 2003 a	Honduras . . . . .		29 Jan 2003 a
Bhutan . . . . .		16 Jan 1989 a	Hungary . . . . .	6 Nov 1974	26 Mar 1975
Bolivia . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a	Iceland . . . . .	10 May 1974	2 Aug 1977
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		1 Sep 1993 d	India . . . . .		11 Apr 1978 a
Botswana . . . . .		25 Oct 2000 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .		12 Jul 1978 a
Brazil . . . . .		7 Jun 1999 a	Iraq . . . . .		28 Feb 1978 a
Brunei Darussalam . .		13 Nov 1997 a	Ireland . . . . .		30 Jun 2005 a
Bulgaria . . . . .	27 Jun 1974	18 Jul 1974	Israel . . . . .		31 Jul 1980 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .		1 Oct 2003 a	Italy . . . . .	30 Dec 1974	30 Aug 1985
Burundi . . . . .		17 Dec 1980 a	Jamaica . . . . .		21 Sep 1978 a
Cambodia . . . . .		27 Jul 2006 a	Japan . . . . .		8 Jun 1987 a
Cameroon . . . . .		8 Jun 1992 a	Jordan . . . . .		18 Dec 1984 a
Canada . . . . .	26 Jun 1974	4 Aug 1976	Kazakhstan . . . . .		21 Feb 1996 a
Cape Verde . . . . .		10 Sep 2002 a	Kenya . . . . .		16 Nov 2001 a
Chile . . . . .		21 Jan 1977 a	Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a
China . . . . .		5 Aug 1987 a	Kuwait . . . . .		1 Mar 1989 a
Colombia . . . . .		16 Jan 1996 a	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		2 Oct 2003 a
Comoros . . . . .		25 Sep 2003 a	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . .		22 Aug 2002 a
Costa Rica . . . . .		2 Nov 1977 a	Latvia . . . . .		14 Apr 1992 a
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		13 Mar 2002 a	Lebanon . . . . .		3 Jun 1997 a
Croatia . . . . .		12 Oct 1992 d	Liberia . . . . .		30 Sep 1975 a
Cuba . . . . .		10 Jun 1998 a	Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		25 Sep 2000 a
Cyprus . . . . .		24 Dec 1975 a	Liechtenstein . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a
Czech Republic . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d	Lithuania . . . . .		23 Oct 2002 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		1 Dec 1982 a	Luxembourg . . . . .		10 May 2006 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . .		25 Jul 1977 a	Madagascar . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a
Denmark . . . . .	10 May 1974	1 Jul 1975	Malawi . . . . .		14 Mar 1977 a
Djibouti . . . . .		1 Jun 2004 a	Malaysia . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a
Dominica . . . . .		24 Sep 2004 a	Maldives . . . . .		21 Aug 1990 a
Dominican Republic .		8 Jul 1977 a	Mali . . . . .		12 Apr 2002 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>
Malta . . . . .		11 Nov 2001 a	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Marshall Islands . . . . .		27 Jan 2003 a	Seychelles . . . . .		29 May 1980 a
Mauritania . . . . .		9 Feb 1998 a	Sierra Leone . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a
Mauritius . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Mexico . . . . .		22 Apr 1980 a	Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .		6 Jul 2004 a	South Africa . . . . .		23 Sep 2003 a
Moldova . . . . .		8 Sep 1997 a	Spain . . . . .		8 Aug 1985 a
Monaco . . . . .		27 Nov 2002 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .		27 Feb 1991 a
Mongolia . . . . .	23 Aug 1974	8 Aug 1975	Sudan . . . . .		10 Oct 1994 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Swaziland . . . . .		4 Apr 2003 a
Morocco . . . . .		9 Jan 2002 a	Sweden . . . . .	10 May 1974	1 Jul 1975
Mozambique . . . . .		14 Jan 2003 a	Switzerland . . . . .		5 Mar 1985 a
Myanmar . . . . .		4 Jun 2004 a	Syrian Arab Republic .		25 Apr 1988 a
Nauru . . . . .		2 Aug 2005 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		19 Oct 2001 a
Nepal . . . . .		9 Mar 1990 a	Thailand . . . . .		23 Feb 2007 a
Netherlands . . . . .		6 Dec 1988 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		12 Mar 1998 d
New Zealand . . . . .		12 Nov 1985 a	Togo . . . . .		30 Dec 1980 a
Nicaragua . . . . .	29 Oct 1974	10 Mar 1975	Tonga . . . . .		9 Dec 2002 a
Niger . . . . .		17 Jun 1985 a	Trinidad and Tobago .		15 Jun 1979 a
Norway . . . . .	10 May 1974	28 Apr 1980	Tunisia . . . . .	15 May 1974	21 Jan 1977
Oman . . . . .		22 Mar 1988 a	Turkey . . . . .		11 Jun 1981 a
Pakistan . . . . .		29 Mar 1976 a	Turkmenistan . . . . .		25 Jun 1999 a
Palau . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a	Uganda . . . . .		5 Nov 2003 a
Panama . . . . .		17 Jun 1980 a	Ukraine . . . . .	18 Jun 1974	20 Jan 1976
Papua New Guinea . . .		30 Sep 2003 a	United Arab Emirates .		25 Feb 2003 a
Paraguay . . . . .	25 Oct 1974	24 Nov 1975	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	13 Dec 1974	2 May 1979
Peru . . . . .		25 Apr 1978 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	28 Dec 1973	26 Oct 1976
Philippines . . . . .		26 Nov 1976 a	Uruguay . . . . .		13 Jun 1978 a
Poland . . . . .	7 Jun 1974	14 Dec 1982	Uzbekistan . . . . .		19 Jan 1998 a
Portugal . . . . .		11 Sep 1995 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .		19 Apr 2005 a
Qatar . . . . .		3 Mar 1997 a	Viet Nam . . . . .		2 May 2002 a
Republic of Korea . . .		25 May 1983 a	Yemen . . . . .		9 Feb 1987 a
Romania . . . . .	27 Dec 1974	15 Aug 1978			
Russian Federation . . .	7 Jun 1974	15 Jan 1976			
Rwanda . . . . .	15 Oct 1974	29 Nov 1977			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		12 Sep 2000 a			
Sao Tome and Principe		12 Apr 2006 a			
Saudi Arabia . . . . .		1 Mar 2004 a			
Senegal . . . . .		7 Apr 2006 a			

## **International Convention against the Taking of Hostages** *(New York, 17 December 1979)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The objective of the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (the Convention) is to develop international cooperation between States in devising and adopting effective measures for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of all acts of taking hostages as manifestations of international terrorism.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The act of hostage-taking for the purposes of the Convention refers to any person who seizes or detains and threatens to kill, to injure or to continue to detain a hostage in order to compel a State, an international intergovernmental organization, a natural or juridical person, or a group of persons, to do or abstain from doing any act as an explicit or implicit condition for the release of the hostage. Any person also commits such an offence if that person attempts to commit an offence as set forth above or participates as an accomplice of anyone who commits or attempts to commit an act of hostage-taking.

Each Party is required to make this offence punishable by appropriate penalties. Where hostages are held in the territory of a Party, the Party is obliged to take all measures it considers appropriate to ease the situation of the hostages and secure their release. After the release of the hostages, the Party is also required to facilitate the departure of the hostages. Parties are additionally obliged to cooperate with each other in the prevention of acts of hostage-taking.

Each Party is obligated to take such actions as may be necessary to establish jurisdiction over the offence of hostage-taking as set forth above. Parties are also required to take alleged offenders into custody, prosecute or extradite alleged offenders, cooperate in preventive measures, and exchange information and evidence needed in related criminal proceedings. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties under existing extradition treaties, and under the Convention itself.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 3 June 1983 (article 18).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by signatory States. The Convention is open to accession by any State (article 17).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 7).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 16 (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 16).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 19).

## INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES

New York, 17 December 1979

- ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 3 June 1983, in accordance with article 18 (2) which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification or accession."
- REGISTRATION:** 3 June 1983, No. 21931.
- STATUS:** Signatories: 39. Parties: 158.
- TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1316, p. 205; and depositary notifications C.N.209.1987.TREATIES-6 of 8 October 1987 and C.N.324.1987.TREATIES-9 of 1 February 1988 (procès-verbal of rectification of the original Russian text).

*Note:* The Convention was adopted by resolution 34/146 of the General Assembly of the United Nations dated 17 December 1979. It was opened for signature from 18 December 1979 to 31 December 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 . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea		12 Nov 2001 a
Albania . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	2 Jul 1980	
Algeria . . . . .		18 Dec 1996 a	Denmark . . . . .		11 Aug 1987 a
Andorra . . . . .		23 Sep 2004 a	Djibouti . . . . .		1 Jun 2004 a
Antigua and Barbuda.		6 Aug 1986 a	Dominica . . . . .		9 Sep 1986 a
Argentina . . . . .		18 Sep 1991 a	Dominican Republic .	12 Aug 1980	
Armenia . . . . .		16 Mar 2004 a	Ecuador . . . . .		2 May 1988 a
Australia . . . . .		21 May 1990 a	Egypt . . . . .	18 Dec 1980	2 Oct 1981
Austria . . . . .	3 Oct 1980	22 Aug 1986	El Salvador . . . . .	10 Jun 1980	12 Feb 1981
Azerbaijan . . . . .		29 Feb 2000 a	Equatorial Guinea . . .		7 Feb 2003 a
Bahamas . . . . .		4 Jun 1981 a	Estonia . . . . .		8 Mar 2002 a
Bahrain . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a	Ethiopia . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Bangladesh . . . . .		20 May 2005 a	Finland . . . . .	29 Oct 1980	14 Apr 1983
Barbados . . . . .		9 Mar 1981 a	France . . . . .		9 Jun 2000 a
Belarus . . . . .		1 Jul 1987 a	Gabon . . . . .	29 Feb 1980	19 Apr 2005
Belgium . . . . .	3 Jan 1980	16 Apr 1999	Georgia . . . . .		18 Feb 2004 a
Belize . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a	Germany . . . . .	18 Dec 1979	15 Dec 1980
Benin . . . . .		31 Jul 2003 a	Ghana . . . . .		10 Nov 1987 a
Bhutan . . . . .		31 Aug 1981 a	Greece . . . . .	18 Mar 1980	18 Jun 1987
Bolivia . . . . .	25 Mar 1980	7 Jan 2002	Grenada . . . . .		10 Dec 1990 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		1 Sep 1993 d	Guatemala . . . . .	30 Apr 1980	11 Mar 1983
Botswana . . . . .		8 Sep 2000 a	Guinea . . . . .		22 Dec 2004 a
Brazil . . . . .		8 Mar 2000 a	Haiti . . . . .	21 Apr 1980	17 May 1989
Brunei Darussalam . .		18 Oct 1988 a	Honduras . . . . .	11 Jun 1980	1 Jun 1981
Bulgaria . . . . .		10 Mar 1988 a	Hungary . . . . .		2 Sep 1987 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .		1 Oct 2003 a	Iceland . . . . .		6 Jul 1981 a
Cambodia . . . . .		27 Jul 2006 a	India . . . . .		7 Sep 1994 a
Cameroon . . . . .		9 Mar 1988 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .		20 Nov 2006 a
Canada . . . . .	18 Feb 1980	4 Dec 1985	Iraq . . . . .	14 Oct 1980	
Cape Verde . . . . .		10 Sep 2002 a	Ireland . . . . .		30 Jun 2005 a
Chad . . . . .		1 Nov 2006 a	Israel . . . . .	19 Nov 1980	
Chile . . . . .	3 Jan 1980	12 Nov 1981	Italy . . . . .	18 Apr 1980	20 Mar 1986
China . . . . .		26 Jan 1993 a	Jamaica . . . . .	27 Feb 1980	9 Aug 2005
Colombia . . . . .		14 Apr 2005 a	Japan . . . . .	22 Dec 1980	8 Jun 1987
Comoros . . . . .		25 Sep 2003 a	Jordan . . . . .		19 Feb 1986 a
Costa Rica . . . . .		24 Jan 2003 a	Kazakhstan . . . . .		21 Feb 1996 a
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		22 Aug 1989 a	Kenya . . . . .		8 Dec 1981 a
Croatia . . . . .		23 Sep 2003 d	Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a
Cuba . . . . .		15 Nov 2001 a	Kuwait . . . . .		6 Feb 1989 a
Cyprus . . . . .		13 Sep 1991 a	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		2 Oct 2003 a
Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d			

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>
Lao People's Democratic Republic . . .		22 Aug 2002 a	Rwanda . . . . .		13 May 2002 a
Latvia . . . . .		14 Nov 2002 a	Saint Kitts and Nevis .		17 Jan 1991 a
Lebanon . . . . .		4 Dec 1997 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		12 Sep 2000 a
Lesotho . . . . .	17 Apr 1980	5 Nov 1980	Sao Tome and Principe		23 Aug 2006 a
Liberia . . . . .	30 Jan 1980	5 Mar 2003	Saudi Arabia . . . . .		8 Jan 1991 a
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		25 Sep 2000 a	Senegal . . . . .	2 Jun 1980	10 Mar 1987
Liechtenstein . . . . .		28 Nov 1994 a	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Lithuania . . . . .		2 Feb 2001 a	Seychelles . . . . .		12 Nov 2003 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	18 Dec 1979	29 Apr 1991	Sierra Leone . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a
Madagascar . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Malawi . . . . .		17 Mar 1986 a	Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d
Mali . . . . .		8 Feb 1990 a	South Africa . . . . .		23 Sep 2003 a
Malta . . . . .		11 Nov 2001 a	Spain . . . . .		26 Mar 1984 a
Marshall Islands . . . . .		27 Jan 2003 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .		8 Sep 2000 a
Mauritania . . . . .		13 Mar 1998 a	Sudan . . . . .		19 Jun 1990 a
Mauritius . . . . .	18 Jun 1980	17 Oct 1980	Suriname . . . . .	30 Jul 1980	5 Nov 1981
Mexico . . . . .		28 Apr 1987 a	Swaziland . . . . .		4 Apr 2003 a
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .		6 Jul 2004 a	Sweden . . . . .	25 Feb 1980	15 Jan 1981
Moldova . . . . .		10 Oct 2002 a	Switzerland . . . . .	18 Jul 1980	5 Mar 1985
Monaco . . . . .		16 Oct 2001 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		6 May 2002 a
Mongolia . . . . .		9 Jun 1992 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		12 Mar 1998 d
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Togo . . . . .	8 Jul 1980	25 Jul 1986
Mozambique . . . . .		14 Jan 2003 a	Tonga . . . . .		9 Dec 2002 a
Myanmar . . . . .		4 Jun 2004 a	Trinidad and Tobago .		1 Apr 1981 a
Nauru . . . . .		2 Aug 2005 a	Tunisia . . . . .		18 Jun 1997 a
Nepal . . . . .		9 Mar 1990 a	Turkey . . . . .		15 Aug 1989 a
Netherlands . . . . .	18 Dec 1980	6 Dec 1988	Turkmenistan . . . . .		25 Jun 1999 a
New Zealand . . . . .	24 Dec 1980	12 Nov 1985	Uganda . . . . .	10 Nov 1980	5 Nov 2003
Nicaragua . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Ukraine . . . . .		19 Jun 1987 a
Niger . . . . .		26 Oct 2004 a	United Arab Emirates .		24 Sep 2003 a
Norway . . . . .	18 Dec 1980	2 Jul 1981	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	18 Dec 1979	22 Dec 1982
Oman . . . . .		22 Jul 1988 a	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		22 Jan 2003 a
Pakistan . . . . .		8 Sep 2000 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	21 Dec 1979	7 Dec 1984
Palau . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a	Uruguay . . . . .		4 Mar 2003 a
Panama . . . . .	24 Jan 1980	19 Aug 1982	Uzbekistan . . . . .		19 Jan 1998 a
Papua New Guinea . . .		30 Sep 2003 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .		13 Dec 1988 a
Paraguay . . . . .		22 Sep 2004 a	Yemen . . . . .		14 Jul 2000 a
Peru . . . . .		6 Jul 2001 a			
Philippines . . . . .	2 May 1980	14 Oct 1980			
Poland . . . . .		25 May 2000 a			
Portugal . . . . .	16 Jun 1980	6 Jul 1984			
Republic of Korea . . .		4 May 1983 a			
Romania . . . . .		17 May 1990 a			
Russian Federation . . .		11 Jun 1987 a			

## **International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings** *(New York, 15 December 1997)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The objective of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (the Convention) is to enhance international cooperation among States in devising and adopting effective and practical measures for the prevention of the acts of terrorism, and for the prosecution and punishment of their perpetrators.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

Any person commits an offence within the meaning of the Convention if that person unlawfully and intentionally delivers, places, discharges or detonates an explosive or other lethal device in, into or against a place of public use, a State or government facility, a public transportation system or an infrastructure facility, with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or extensive destruction likely to result or actually resulting in major economic loss. Any person also commits such an offence if that person attempts to commit an offence as set forth above or participates as an accomplice in an offence, organizes or directs others to commit an offence or in any other way contributes to the commission of such an offence by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. The Convention does not apply where an act of this nature does not involve any international elements as defined by the Convention.

Parties are required to establish jurisdiction over and make punishable, under their domestic laws, the offences described, to extradite or submit for prosecution persons accused of committing or aiding in the commission of the offences, and to assist each other in connection with criminal proceedings under the Convention. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties under existing extradition treaties and under the Convention itself.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 23 May 2001 (article 22).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. The Convention is open to accession by any State (article 21).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Pursuant to article 6 (2), a Party may establish additional jurisdiction over offences under the Convention when the offence is committed under certain circumstances. Upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Convention, each Party shall notify the Secretary-General of the jurisdiction it has established in accordance with article 6 (2) (article 6).

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall, in accordance with its domestic law or applicable procedures, communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General (article 16).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. Pursuant to article 20 (2), States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 20 (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 20).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 23).

## INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF TERRORIST BOMBINGS

New York, 15 December 1997

- ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 23 May 2001, in accordance with article 22 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."
- REGISTRATION:** 23 May 2001, No. 37517.
- STATUS:** Signatories: 58. Parties: 149.
- TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, p. 256; depositary notification C.N.801.2001.TREATIES-9 of 12 October 2001 [proposal for corrections to the original of the Convention (authentic Chinese text)] and C.N.16.2002.TREATIES-1 of 10 January 2002 [rectification of the original text of the Convention (Chinese authentic text)]; C.N.310.2002.TREATIES-14 of 4 April 2002 [proposal of a correction to the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)] and C.N.416.2002.TREATIES-16 of 3 May 2002 [rectification of the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)]; C.N.1161.2005.TREATIES-15 of 15 November 2005 [proposal of a correction to the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)].

*Note:* The Convention was adopted by resolution A/RES/52/164 of the General Assembly on 15 December 1997. In accordance with its article 21(1), the Convention will be open for signature by all States on 12 January 1998 until 31 December 1999 at United Nations Headquarters.

<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 . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Chile . . . . .		10 Nov 2001 a
Albania . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a	China . . . . .		13 Nov 2001 a
Algeria . . . . .	17 Dec 1998	8 Nov 2001	Colombia . . . . .		14 Sep 2004 a
Andorra . . . . .		23 Sep 2004 a	Comoros . . . . .	1 Oct 1998	25 Sep 2003
Argentina . . . . .	2 Sep 1998	25 Sep 2003	Costa Rica . . . . .	16 Jan 1998	20 Sep 2001
Armenia . . . . .		16 Mar 2004 a	Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	25 Sep 1998	13 Mar 2002
Australia . . . . .		9 Aug 2002 a	Croatia . . . . .		2 Jun 2005 a
Austria . . . . .	9 Feb 1998	6 Sep 2000	Cuba . . . . .		15 Nov 2001 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .		2 Apr 2001 a	Cyprus . . . . .	26 Mar 1998	24 Jan 2001
Bahrain . . . . .		21 Sep 2004 a	Czech Republic . . . . .	29 Jul 1998	6 Sep 2000
Bangladesh . . . . .		20 May 2005 a	Denmark . . . . .	23 Dec 1999	31 Aug 2001
Barbados . . . . .		18 Sep 2002 a	Djibouti . . . . .		1 Jun 2004 a
Belarus . . . . .	20 Sep 1999	1 Oct 2001	Dominica . . . . .		24 Sep 2004 a
Belgium . . . . .	12 Jan 1998	20 May 2005	Egypt . . . . .	14 Dec 1999	9 Aug 2005
Belize . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a	El Salvador . . . . .		15 May 2003 a
Benin . . . . .		31 Jul 2003 a	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		7 Feb 2003 a
Bolivia . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a	Estonia . . . . .	27 Dec 1999	10 Apr 2002
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		11 Aug 2003 a	Ethiopia . . . . .		16 Apr 2003 a
Botswana . . . . .		8 Sep 2000 a	Finland . . . . .	23 Jan 1998	28 May 2002 A
Brazil . . . . .	12 Mar 1999	23 Aug 2002	France . . . . .	12 Jan 1998	19 Aug 1999
Brunei Darussalam . . . . .		14 Mar 2002 a	Gabon . . . . .		10 Mar 2005 a
Bulgaria . . . . .		12 Feb 2002 a	Georgia . . . . .		18 Feb 2004 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .		1 Oct 2003 a	Germany . . . . .	26 Jan 1998	23 Apr 2003
Burundi . . . . .	4 Mar 1998		Ghana . . . . .		6 Sep 2002 a
Cambodia . . . . .		31 Jul 2006 a	Greece . . . . .	2 Feb 1998	27 May 2003
Cameroon . . . . .		21 Mar 2005 a	Grenada . . . . .		13 Dec 2001 a
Canada . . . . .	12 Jan 1998	3 Apr 2002	Guatemala . . . . .		12 Feb 2002 a
Cape Verde . . . . .		10 May 2002 a	Guinea . . . . .		7 Sep 2000 a
			Honduras . . . . .		25 Mar 2003 a

<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>
Hungary	21 Dec 1999	13 Nov 2001	Peru		10 Nov 2001 a
Iceland	28 Sep 1998	15 Apr 2002	Philippines	23 Sep 1998	7 Jan 2004
India	17 Sep 1999	22 Sep 1999	Poland	14 Jun 1999	3 Feb 2004
Indonesia		29 Jun 2006 a	Portugal	30 Dec 1999	10 Nov 2001
Ireland	29 May 1998	30 Jun 2005	Republic of Korea	3 Dec 1999	17 Feb 2004
Israel	29 Jan 1999	10 Feb 2003	Romania	30 Apr 1998	29 Jul 2004
Italy	4 Mar 1998	16 Apr 2003	Russian Federation	12 Jan 1998	8 May 2001
Jamaica		9 Aug 2005 a	Rwanda		13 May 2002 a
Japan	17 Apr 1998	16 Nov 2001 A	Saint Kitts and Nevis		16 Nov 2001 a
Kazakhstan		6 Nov 2002 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		15 Sep 2005 a
Kenya		16 Nov 2001 a	San Marino		12 Mar 2002 a
Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a	Sao Tome and Principe		12 Apr 2006 a
Kuwait		19 Apr 2004 a	Senegal		27 Oct 2003 a
Kyrgyzstan		1 May 2001 a	Serbia		31 Jul 2003 a
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic		22 Aug 2002 a	Seychelles		22 Aug 2003 a
Latvia		25 Nov 2002 a	Sierra Leone		26 Sep 2003 a
Lesotho		12 Nov 2001 a	Slovakia	28 Jul 1998	8 Dec 2000
Liberia		5 Mar 2003 a	Slovenia	30 Oct 1998	25 Sep 2003
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya		22 Sep 2000 a	South Africa	21 Dec 1999	1 May 2003
Liechtenstein		26 Nov 2002 a	Spain	1 May 1998	30 Apr 1999
Lithuania	8 Jun 1998	17 Mar 2004	Sri Lanka	12 Jan 1998	23 Mar 1999
Luxembourg	6 Feb 1998	6 Feb 2004	Sudan	7 Oct 1999	8 Sep 2000
Madagascar	1 Oct 1999	24 Sep 2003	Swaziland		4 Apr 2003 a
Malawi		11 Aug 2003 a	Sweden	12 Feb 1998	6 Sep 2001
Malaysia		24 Sep 2003 a	Switzerland		23 Sep 2003 a
Maldives		7 Sep 2000 a	Tajikistan		29 Jul 2002 a
Mali		28 Mar 2002 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia	16 Dec 1998	30 Aug 2004
Malta		11 Nov 2001 a	Togo	21 Aug 1998	10 Mar 2003
Marshall Islands		27 Jan 2003 a	Tonga		9 Dec 2002 a
Mauritania		30 Apr 2003 a	Trinidad and Tobago		2 Apr 2001 a
Mauritius		24 Jan 2003 a	Tunisia		22 Apr 2005 a
Mexico		20 Jan 2003 a	Turkey	20 May 1999	30 May 2002
Micronesia (Federated States of)		23 Sep 2002 a	Turkmenistan	18 Feb 1999	25 Jun 1999
Moldova		10 Oct 2002 a	Uganda	11 Jun 1999	5 Nov 2003
Monaco	25 Nov 1998	6 Sep 2001	Ukraine		26 Mar 2002 a
Mongolia		7 Sep 2000 a	United Arab Emirates		23 Sep 2005 a
Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12 Jan 1998	7 Mar 2001
Mozambique		14 Jan 2003 a	United Republic of Tanzania		22 Jan 2003 a
Myanmar		12 Nov 2001 a	United States of Amer- ica	12 Jan 1998	26 Jun 2002
Nauru		2 Aug 2005 a	Uruguay	23 Nov 1998	10 Nov 2001
Nepal	24 Sep 1999	7 Feb 2002 A	Uzbekistan	23 Feb 1998	30 Nov 1998
Netherlands	12 Mar 1998	4 Nov 2002 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	23 Sep 1998	23 Sep 2003
New Zealand		17 Jan 2003 a	Yemen		23 Apr 2001 a
Nicaragua		26 Oct 2004 a			
Niger		20 Sep 1999			
Norway	31 Jul 1998	13 Aug 2002 a			
Pakistan		14 Nov 2001 a			
Palau		5 Mar 1999			
Panama	3 Sep 1998	30 Sep 2003 a			
Papua New Guinea		22 Sep 2004 a			
Paraguay					

## **International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism** *(New York, 9 December 1999)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The objective of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (the Convention) is to enhance international cooperation among States in devising and adopting effective measures for the prevention of the financing of terrorism, as well as for its suppression through the prosecution and punishment of its perpetrators.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

Any person commits an offence within the meaning of the Convention if that person by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and wilfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or with the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, to carry out any of the offences described in the treaties listed in the annex to the Convention, or an act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to any person not actively involved in armed conflict in order to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act. Any person also commits such an offence if that person attempts to commit an offence as set forth above or participates as an accomplice in an offence, organizes or directs others to commit an offence or contributes to the commission of such an offence by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. For an act to constitute an offence, it is not necessary that funds were actually used to carry out an offence as described above. The provision or collection of funds in this manner is an offence whether or not the funds are actually used to carry out the proscribed acts. The Convention does not apply where an act of this nature does not involve any international elements as defined by the Convention.

The Convention requires each Party to take appropriate measures, in accordance with its domestic legal principles, for the detection and freezing, seizure or forfeiture of any funds used or allocated for the purposes of committing the offences described. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences and Parties have obligations to establish their jurisdiction over the offences described, make the offences punishable by appropriate penalties, take alleged offenders into custody, prosecute or extradite alleged offenders, cooperate in preventive measures and countermeasures, and exchange information and evidence needed in related criminal proceedings. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties under existing extradition treaties and under the Convention itself.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 10 April 2002 (article 26).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. The Convention is open to accession by any State (article 25).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Upon ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, a Party which is not a Party to a treaty listed in the annex to the Convention may declare that, in the application of the Convention to the Party, the treaty shall be deemed not to be included in the annex referred to. Such declaration ceases to have effect as soon as the treaty enters into force for the Party, which shall notify the depositary of this fact (article 2).

When a Party ceases to be a party to a treaty listed in the annex to the Convention, it may make a declaration referred to in article 2 (2) (a), with respect to that treaty (article 2).

Pursuant to article 7 (2), a Party may establish additional jurisdiction over offences under the Convention when the offence is committed under certain circumstances. Upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Convention, each Party shall notify the Secretary-General of the jurisdiction it has established in accordance with article 7 (2) (article 7).

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall, in accordance with its domestic law or applicable procedures, communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General (article 19).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. Pursuant to article 24 (2), States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 24 (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 24).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 27).

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE FINANCING OF  
TERRORISM**

*New York, 9 December 1999*

- ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 10 April 2002, in accordance with article 26 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."
- REGISTRATION:** 10 April 2002, No. 38349.
- STATUS:** Signatories: 132. Parties: 157.
- TEXT:** Resolution A/RES/54/109; depositary notifications C.N.327.2000.TREATIES-12 of 30 May 2000 (rectification of the original text of the Convention); and C.N.3.2002.TREATIES-1 of 2 January 2002 [proposal for corrections to the original text of the Convention (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)] and C.N.86.2002.TREATIES-4 of 1 February 2002 [Rectification of the original of the Convention (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts)]; C.N.312.2002.TREATIES-14 of 4 April 2002 [proposal of a correction to the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)] and C.N.420.2002.TREATIES-20 of 3 May 2002 [rectification of the original of the Convention (Spanish authentic text)].

*Note:* The Convention was adopted by Resolution 54/109 of 9 December 1999 at the fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In accordance with its article 25 (1), the Convention will be open for signature by all States at United Nations Headquarters from 10 January 2000 to 31 December 2001.

<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 . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Central African Republic . . . . .	19 Dec 2001	
Albania . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	10 Apr 2002	Chile . . . . .	2 May 2001	10 Nov 2001
Algeria . . . . .	18 Jan 2000	8 Nov 2001	China . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	19 Apr 2006
Andorra . . . . .	11 Nov 2001		Colombia . . . . .	30 Oct 2001	14 Sep 2004
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .		11 Mar 2002 a	Comoros . . . . .	14 Jan 2000	25 Sep 2003
Argentina . . . . .	28 Mar 2001	22 Aug 2005	Congo . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	20 Apr 2007
Armenia . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	16 Mar 2004	Cook Islands . . . . .	24 Dec 2001	4 Mar 2004
Australia . . . . .	15 Oct 2001	26 Sep 2002	Costa Rica . . . . .	14 Jun 2000	24 Jan 2003
Austria . . . . .	24 Sep 2001	15 Apr 2002	Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		13 Mar 2002 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .	4 Oct 2001	26 Oct 2001	Croatia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	1 Dec 2003
Bahamas . . . . .	2 Oct 2001	1 Nov 2005	Cuba . . . . .	19 Oct 2001	15 Nov 2001
Bahrain . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	21 Sep 2004	Cyprus . . . . .	1 Mar 2001	30 Nov 2001
Bangladesh . . . . .		26 Aug 2005 a	Czech Republic . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	27 Dec 2005
Barbados . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	18 Sep 2002	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	12 Nov 2001	
Belarus . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	6 Oct 2004	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	28 Oct 2005
Belgium . . . . .	27 Sep 2001	17 May 2004	Denmark . . . . .	25 Sep 2001	27 Aug 2002
Belize . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	1 Dec 2003	Djibouti . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	13 Mar 2006
Benin . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	30 Aug 2004	Dominica . . . . .		24 Sep 2004 a
Bhutan . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	22 Mar 2004	Dominican Republic . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	
Bolivia . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	7 Jan 2002	Ecuador . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	9 Dec 2003
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	10 Jun 2003	Egypt . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	1 Mar 2005
Botswana . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	8 Sep 2000	El Salvador . . . . .		15 May 2003 a
Brazil . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	16 Sep 2005	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		7 Feb 2003 a
Brunei Darussalam . . . . .		4 Dec 2002 a	Estonia . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	22 May 2002
Bulgaria . . . . .	19 Mar 2001	15 Apr 2002	Finland . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	28 Jun 2002 A
Burkina Faso . . . . .		1 Oct 2003 a	France . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	7 Jan 2002
Burundi . . . . .	13 Nov 2001		Gabon . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	10 Mar 2005
Cambodia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	12 Dec 2005	Georgia . . . . .	23 Jun 2000	27 Sep 2002
Cameroon . . . . .		6 Feb 2006 a	Germany . . . . .	20 Jul 2000	17 Jun 2004
Canada . . . . .	10 Feb 2000	19 Feb 2002			
Cape Verde . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	10 May 2002			

<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>
Ghana . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	6 Sep 2002	Peru . . . . .	14 Sep 2000	10 Nov 2001
Greece . . . . .	8 Mar 2000	16 Apr 2004	Philippines . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	7 Jan 2004
Grenada . . . . .		12 Dec 2001 a	Poland . . . . .	4 Oct 2001	26 Sep 2003
Guatemala . . . . .	23 Oct 2001	12 Feb 2002	Portugal . . . . .	16 Feb 2000	18 Oct 2002
Guinea . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	14 Jul 2003	Republic of Korea . . .	9 Oct 2001	17 Feb 2004
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	14 Nov 2001		Romania . . . . .	26 Sep 2000	9 Jan 2003
Honduras . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	25 Mar 2003	Russian Federation . . .	3 Apr 2000	27 Nov 2002
Hungary . . . . .	30 Nov 2001	14 Oct 2002	Rwanda . . . . .	4 Dec 2001	13 May 2002
Iceland . . . . .	1 Oct 2001	15 Apr 2002	Saint Kitts and Nevis .	12 Nov 2001	16 Nov 2001
India . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	22 Apr 2003	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .	3 Dec 2001	28 Mar 2002
Indonesia . . . . .	24 Sep 2001	29 Jun 2006	Samoa . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	27 Sep 2002
Ireland . . . . .	15 Oct 2001	30 Jun 2005	San Marino . . . . .	26 Sep 2000	12 Mar 2002
Israel . . . . .	11 Jul 2000	10 Feb 2003	Sao Tome and Principe		12 Apr 2006 a
Italy . . . . .	13 Jan 2000	27 Mar 2003	Saudi Arabia . . . . .	29 Nov 2001	
Jamaica . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	16 Sep 2005	Senegal . . . . .		24 Sep 2004 a
Japan . . . . .	30 Oct 2001	11 Jun 2002 A	Serbia . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	10 Oct 2002
Jordan . . . . .	24 Sep 2001	28 Aug 2003	Seychelles . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	30 Mar 2004
Kazakhstan . . . . .		24 Feb 2003 a	Sierra Leone . . . . .	27 Nov 2001	26 Sep 2003
Kenya . . . . .	4 Dec 2001	27 Jun 2003	Singapore . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	30 Dec 2002
Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a	Slovakia . . . . .	26 Jan 2001	13 Sep 2002
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		2 Oct 2003 a	Slovenia . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	23 Sep 2004
Latvia . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	14 Nov 2002	Somalia . . . . .	19 Dec 2001	
Lesotho . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	12 Nov 2001	South Africa . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	1 May 2003
Liberia . . . . .		5 Mar 2003 a	Spain . . . . .	8 Jan 2001	9 Apr 2002
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	9 Jul 2002	Sri Lanka . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	8 Sep 2000
Liechtenstein . . . . .	2 Oct 2001	9 Jul 2003	Sudan . . . . .	29 Feb 2000	5 May 2003
Lithuania . . . . .		20 Feb 2003 a	Swaziland . . . . .		4 Apr 2003 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	20 Sep 2001	5 Nov 2003	Sweden . . . . .	15 Oct 2001	6 Jun 2002
Madagascar . . . . .	1 Oct 2001	24 Sep 2003	Switzerland . . . . .	13 Jun 2001	23 Sep 2003
Malawi . . . . .		11 Aug 2003 a	Syrian Arab Republic .		24 Apr 2005 a
Maldives . . . . .		20 Apr 2004 a	Tajikistan . . . . .	6 Nov 2001	16 Jul 2004
Mali . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	28 Mar 2002	Thailand . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	29 Sep 2004
Malta . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	11 Nov 2001	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	31 Jan 2000	30 Aug 2004
Marshall Islands . . . . .		27 Jan 2003 a	Togo . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	10 Mar 2003
Mauritania . . . . .		30 Apr 2003 a	Tonga . . . . .		9 Dec 2002 a
Mauritius . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	14 Dec 2004	Tunisia . . . . .	2 Nov 2001	10 Jun 2003
Mexico . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	20 Jan 2003	Turkey . . . . .	27 Sep 2001	28 Jun 2002
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	23 Sep 2002	Turkmenistan . . . . .		7 Jan 2005 a
Moldova . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	10 Oct 2002	Uganda . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	5 Nov 2003
Monaco . . . . .	10 Nov 2001	10 Nov 2001	Ukraine . . . . .	8 Jun 2000	6 Dec 2002
Mongolia . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	25 Feb 2004	United Arab Emirates .		23 Sep 2005 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	10 Jan 2000	7 Mar 2001
Morocco . . . . .	12 Oct 2001	19 Sep 2002	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		22 Jan 2003 a
Mozambique . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	14 Jan 2003	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	26 Jun 2002
Myanmar . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	16 Aug 2006	Uruguay . . . . .	25 Oct 2001	8 Jan 2004
Namibia . . . . .	10 Nov 2001		Uzbekistan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	9 Jul 2001
Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	24 May 2005	Vanuatu . . . . .		31 Oct 2005 a
Netherlands . . . . .	10 Jan 2000	7 Feb 2002 A	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	23 Sep 2003
New Zealand . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	4 Nov 2002	Viet Nam . . . . .		25 Sep 2002 a
Nicaragua . . . . .	17 Oct 2001	14 Nov 2002			
Niger . . . . .		30 Sep 2004 a			
Nigeria . . . . .	1 Jun 2000	16 Jun 2003			
Norway . . . . .	1 Oct 2001	15 Jul 2002			
Palau . . . . .		14 Nov 2001 a			
Panama . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	3 Jul 2002			
Papua New Guinea . . .		30 Sep 2003 a			
Paraguay . . . . .	12 Oct 2001	30 Nov 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: 133.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Cuba . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2007
Albania . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	21 Aug 2002	Cyprus . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	22 Apr 2003
Algeria . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	7 Oct 2002	Czech Republic . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Andorra . . . . .	11 Nov 2001		Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		28 Oct 2005 a
Angola . . . . .	13 Dec 2000		Denmark . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	30 Sep 2003
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .	26 Sep 2001	24 Jul 2002	Djibouti . . . . .		20 Apr 2005 a
Argentina . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	19 Nov 2002	Dominican Republic . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	26 Oct 2006
Armenia . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	1 Jul 2003	Ecuador . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Australia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	27 May 2004	Egypt . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Mar 2004
Austria . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2004	El Salvador . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	18 Mar 2004
Azerbaijan . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	7 Feb 2003
Bahamas . . . . .	9 Apr 2001		Estonia . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	10 Feb 2003
Bahrain . . . . .		7 Jun 2004 a	Ethiopia . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Barbados . . . . .	26 Sep 2001		European Community . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	21 May 2004 AA
Belarus . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	Finland . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	10 Feb 2004
Belgium . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	France . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Belize . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a	Gabon . . . . .		15 Dec 2004 a
Benin . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	30 Aug 2004	Gambia . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Bolivia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	10 Oct 2005	Georgia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Sep 2006
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	24 Apr 2002	Germany . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	14 Jun 2006
Botswana . . . . .	10 Apr 2002	29 Aug 2002	Greece . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Brazil . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	29 Jan 2004	Grenada . . . . .		21 May 2004 a
Bulgaria . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Dec 2001	Guatemala . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	25 Sep 2003
Burkina Faso . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Guinea . . . . .		9 Nov 2004 a
Burundi . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Cambodia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	12 Dec 2005	Guyana . . . . .		14 Sep 2004 a
Cameroon . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Haiti . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Canada . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	Honduras . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	2 Dec 2003
Cape Verde . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	Hungary . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	22 Dec 2006
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .		14 Sep 2004 a	Iceland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Chile . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	29 Nov 2004	India . . . . .	12 Dec 2002	
China . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Indonesia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Colombia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	4 Aug 2004	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Comoros . . . . .		25 Sep 2003 a	Ireland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Congo . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Israel . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	27 Dec 2006
Cook Islands . . . . .		4 Mar 2004 a	Italy . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	2 Aug 2006
Costa Rica . . . . .	16 Mar 2001	24 Jul 2003	Jamaica . . . . .	26 Sep 2001	29 Sep 2003
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	15 Dec 2000		Japan . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Croatia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003	Jordan . . . . .	26 Nov 2002	

<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>
Kazakhstan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000		Saint Kitts and Nevis .	20 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Kenya . . . . .		16 Jun 2004 a	Saint Lucia . . . . .	26 Sep 2001	
Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .	24 Jul 2002	
Kuwait . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	12 May 2006	San Marino . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003	Sao Tome and Principe		12 Apr 2006 a
Lao People's Demo- cratic 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 . . . . .	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 Jamahir- iya . . . . .	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	22 Sep 2006
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	27 Oct 2006
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	
Moldova . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	16 Sep 2005	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	12 Jan 2005
Monaco . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Jun 2001	Togo . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	2 Jul 2004
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Trinidad and Tobago .	26 Sep 2001	
Morocco . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	19 Sep 2002	Tunisia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	19 Jun 2003
Mozambique . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	20 Sep 2006	Turkey . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	25 Mar 2003
Myanmar . . . . .		30 Mar 2004 a	Turkmenistan . . . . .		28 Mar 2005 a
Namibia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	16 Aug 2002	Uganda . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	9 Mar 2005
Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001		Ukraine . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	21 May 2004
Nepal . . . . .	12 Dec 2002		United Arab Emirates .	9 Dec 2002	7 May 2007
Netherlands . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	14 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2006
New Zealand . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	19 Jul 2002	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	24 May 2006
Nicaragua . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	9 Sep 2002	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	3 Nov 2005
Niger . . . . .	21 Aug 2001	30 Sep 2004	Uruguay . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2005
Nigeria . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	28 Jun 2001	Uzbekistan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	9 Dec 2003
Norway . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Vanuatu . . . . .		4 Jan 2006 a
Oman . . . . .		13 May 2005 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002
Pakistan . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	18 Aug 2004	Viet Nam . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Panama . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	22 Sep 2004	Yemen . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	
Paraguay . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	23 Jan 2002	Zambia . . . . .		24 Apr 2005 a
Peru . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	28 May 2002	Zimbabwe . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Philippines . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	12 Nov 2001			
Poland . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	10 May 2004			
Portugal . . . . .	12 Dec 2000				
Republic of Korea . . .	13 Dec 2000	4 Dec 2002			
Romania . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	26 May 2004			
Russian Federation . . .	12 Dec 2000	26 Sep 2003			
Rwanda . . . . .	14 Dec 2000				

**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: 111.

**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 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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	21 Aug 2002	Croatia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003
Algeria . . . . .	6 Jun 2001	9 Mar 2004	Cyprus . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	6 Aug 2003
Argentina . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	19 Nov 2002	Czech Republic . . . . .	10 Dec 2002	
Armenia . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	1 Jul 2003	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		28 Oct 2005 a
Australia . . . . .	11 Dec 2002	14 Sep 2005	Denmark . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	30 Sep 2003
Austria . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Djibouti . . . . .		20 Apr 2005 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	Dominican Republic . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	
Bahamas . . . . .	9 Apr 2001		Ecuador . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Bahrain . . . . .		7 Jun 2004 a	Egypt . . . . .	1 May 2002	5 Mar 2004
Barbados . . . . .	26 Sep 2001		El Salvador . . . . .	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004
Belarus . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	7 Feb 2003
Belgium . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	Estonia . . . . .	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004
Belize . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a	European Community	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2006 AA
Benin . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	30 Aug 2004	Finland . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	7 Sep 2006 A
Bolivia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	18 May 2006	France . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Bosnia and Herzegovina . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	24 Apr 2002	Gambia . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Botswana . . . . .	10 Apr 2002	29 Aug 2002	Georgia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Sep 2006
Brazil . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	29 Jan 2004	Germany . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	14 Jun 2006
Bulgaria . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Dec 2001	Greece . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Grenada . . . . .		21 May 2004 a
Burundi . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Guatemala . . . . .		1 Apr 2004 a
Cambodia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001		Guinea . . . . .		9 Nov 2004 a
Cameroon . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Canada . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	Guyana . . . . .		14 Sep 2004 a
Cape Verde . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	Haiti . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Central African Republic . . . . .		6 Oct 2006 a	Hungary . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	22 Dec 2006
Chile . . . . .	8 Aug 2002	29 Nov 2004	Iceland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Colombia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	4 Aug 2004	India . . . . .	12 Dec 2002	
Congo . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Indonesia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Costa Rica . . . . .	16 Mar 2001	9 Sep 2003	Ireland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
			Israel . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	
			Italy . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	2 Aug 2006

<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>
Jamaica . . . . .	13 Feb 2002	29 Sep 2003	Rwanda . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	26 Sep 2003
Japan . . . . .	9 Dec 2002		Saint Kitts and Nevis . . . . .		21 May 2004 a
Kenya . . . . .		5 Jan 2005 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .	20 Nov 2002	
Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a	San Marino . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Kuwait . . . . .		12 May 2006 a	Sao Tome and Principe		23 Aug 2006 a
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003	Saudi Arabia . . . . .	10 Dec 2002	
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a	Senegal . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	27 Oct 2003
Latvia . . . . .	10 Dec 2002	25 May 2004	Serbia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2001
Lebanon . . . . .	9 Dec 2002	5 Oct 2005	Seychelles . . . . .	22 Jul 2002	22 Jun 2004
Lesotho . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Sierra Leone . . . . .	27 Nov 2001	
Liberia . . . . .		22 Sep 2004 a	Slovakia . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	21 Sep 2004
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	24 Sep 2004	Slovenia . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Liechtenstein . . . . .	14 Mar 2001		South Africa . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	20 Feb 2004
Lithuania . . . . .	25 Apr 2002	23 Jun 2003	Spain . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	1 Mar 2002
Luxembourg . . . . .	13 Dec 2000		Sri Lanka . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Madagascar . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	15 Sep 2005	Swaziland . . . . .	8 Jan 2001	
Malawi . . . . .		17 Mar 2005 a	Sweden . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	1 Jul 2004
Mali . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	12 Apr 2002	Switzerland . . . . .	2 Apr 2002	27 Oct 2006
Malta . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	24 Sep 2003	Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Mauritania . . . . .		22 Jul 2005 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		8 Jul 2002 a
Mauritius . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Thailand . . . . .	18 Dec 2001	
Mexico . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2003	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	12 Jan 2005
Moldova . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	16 Sep 2005	Togo . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Monaco . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Jun 2001	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .	26 Sep 2001	
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Tunisia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	14 Jul 2003
Mozambique . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	20 Sep 2006	Turkey . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	25 Mar 2003
Myanmar . . . . .		30 Mar 2004 a	Turkmenistan . . . . .		28 Mar 2005 a
Namibia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	16 Aug 2002	Uganda . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001		Ukraine . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Netherlands . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	27 Jul 2005 A	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	9 Feb 2006
New Zealand . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	19 Jul 2002	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	24 May 2006
Nicaragua . . . . .		12 Oct 2004 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	3 Nov 2005
Niger . . . . .	21 Aug 2001	30 Sep 2004	Uruguay . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	4 Mar 2005
Nigeria . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	28 Jun 2001	Uzbekistan . . . . .	28 Jun 2001	
Norway . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	23 Sep 2003	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002
Oman . . . . .		13 May 2005 a	Zambia . . . . .		24 Apr 2005 a
Panama . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	18 Aug 2004			
Paraguay . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	22 Sep 2004			
Peru . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	23 Jan 2002			
Philippines . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	28 May 2002			
Poland . . . . .	4 Oct 2001	26 Sep 2003			
Portugal . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	10 May 2004			
Republic of Korea . . . . .	13 Dec 2000				
Romania . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	4 Dec 2002			
Russian Federation . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	26 May 2004			

**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: 105.

**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</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	8 Dec 2006
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 . . . . .	21 Dec 2001	27 May 2004	Ecuador . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	17 Sep 2002
Austria . . . . .	12 Dec 2000		Egypt . . . . .		1 Mar 2005 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	30 Oct 2003	El Salvador . . . . .	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004
Bahamas . . . . .	9 Apr 2001		Equatorial Guinea . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Bahrain . . . . .		7 Jun 2004 a	Estonia . . . . .	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004
Barbados . . . . .	26 Sep 2001		European Community	12 Dec 2000	6 Sep 2006 AA
Belarus . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	25 Jun 2003	Finland . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	7 Sep 2006 A
Belgium . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	11 Aug 2004	France . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	29 Oct 2002
Belize . . . . .		14 Sep 2006 a	Gambia . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	5 May 2003
Benin . . . . .	17 May 2002	30 Aug 2004	Georgia . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	5 Sep 2006
Bolivia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000		Germany . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	14 Jun 2006
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 . . . . .		8 Jun 2005 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .	15 Dec 2000	15 May 2002	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	
Burundi . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Haiti . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Cambodia . . . . .	11 Nov 2001	12 Dec 2005	Hungary . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	22 Dec 2006
Cameroon . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	6 Feb 2006	Iceland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Canada . . . . .	14 Dec 2000	13 May 2002	India . . . . .	12 Dec 2002	
Cape Verde . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	15 Jul 2004	Indonesia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .		6 Oct 2006 a	Ireland . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	
Chile . . . . .	8 Aug 2002	29 Nov 2004	Italy . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	2 Aug 2006
Congo . . . . .	14 Dec 2000		Jamaica . . . . .	13 Feb 2002	29 Sep 2003
Costa Rica . . . . .	16 Mar 2001	7 Aug 2003	Japan . . . . .	9 Dec 2002	
Croatia . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	24 Jan 2003	Kenya . . . . .		5 Jan 2005 a
Cyprus . . . . .	12 Dec 2000	6 Aug 2003	Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a
Czech Republic . . . . .	10 Dec 2002		Kuwait . . . . .		12 May 2006 a
			Kyrgyzstan . . . . .	13 Dec 2000	2 Oct 2003

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

**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: 62.

**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Algeria . . . . .		25 Aug 2004 a	European Community	16 Jan 2002	
Argentina . . . . .	7 Oct 2002	18 Dec 2006	Finland . . . . .	23 Jan 2002	
Australia . . . . .	21 Dec 2001		Germany . . . . .	3 Sep 2002	
Austria . . . . .	12 Nov 2001		Greece . . . . .	10 Oct 2002	
Azerbaijan . . . . .		3 Dec 2004 a	Grenada . . . . .		21 May 2004 a
Barbados . . . . .	26 Sep 2001		Guatemala . . . . .		1 Apr 2004 a
Belarus . . . . .		6 Oct 2004 a	Iceland . . . . .	15 Nov 2001	
Belgium . . . . .	11 Jun 2002	24 Sep 2004	India . . . . .	12 Dec 2002	
Benin . . . . .	17 May 2002	30 Aug 2004	Italy . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	2 Aug 2006
Brazil . . . . .	11 Jul 2001	31 Mar 2006	Jamaica . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	29 Sep 2003
Bulgaria . . . . .	15 Feb 2002	6 Aug 2002	Japan . . . . .	9 Dec 2002	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	17 Oct 2001	15 May 2002	Kenya . . . . .		5 Jan 2005 a
Cambodia . . . . .		12 Dec 2005 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a
Canada . . . . .	20 Mar 2002		Latvia . . . . .		28 Jul 2004 a
Cape Verde . . . . .		15 Jul 2004 a	Lebanon . . . . .	26 Sep 2002	13 Nov 2006
Central African Republic . . . . .		6 Oct 2006 a	Lesotho . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a
China . . . . .	9 Dec 2002		Liberia . . . . .		22 Sep 2004 a
Costa Rica . . . . .	12 Nov 2001	9 Sep 2003	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	18 Jun 2004
Croatia . . . . .		7 Feb 2005 a	Lithuania . . . . .	12 Dec 2002	24 Feb 2005
Cuba . . . . .		9 Feb 2007 a	Luxembourg . . . . .	11 Dec 2002	
Cyprus . . . . .	14 Aug 2002	6 Aug 2003	Madagascar . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	15 Sep 2005
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		28 Oct 2005 a	Malawi . . . . .		17 Mar 2005 a
Denmark . . . . .	27 Aug 2002		Mali . . . . .	11 Jul 2001	3 May 2002
Dominican Republic . . . . .	15 Nov 2001		Mauritania . . . . .		22 Jul 2005 a
Ecuador . . . . .	12 Oct 2001		Mauritius . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a
El Salvador . . . . .	15 Aug 2002	18 Mar 2004	Mexico . . . . .	31 Dec 2001	10 Apr 2003
Estonia . . . . .	20 Sep 2002	12 May 2004	Moldova . . . . .		28 Feb 2006 a

<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>
Monaco.....	24 Jun 2002		Seychelles.....	22 Jul 2002	
Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d	Sierra Leone.....	27 Nov 2001	
Mozambique.....		20 Sep 2006 a	Slovakia.....	26 Aug 2002	21 Sep 2004
Nauru.....	12 Nov 2001		Slovenia.....	15 Nov 2001	21 May 2004
Netherlands.....		8 Feb 2005 a	South Africa.....	14 Oct 2002	20 Feb 2004
Nigeria.....	13 Nov 2001	3 Mar 2006	Spain.....		9 Feb 2007 a
Norway.....	10 May 2002	23 Sep 2003	Sweden.....	10 Jan 2002	
Oman.....		13 May 2005 a	Tunisia.....	10 Jul 2002	
Panama.....	5 Oct 2001	18 Aug 2004	Turkey.....	28 Jun 2002	4 May 2004
Peru.....		23 Sep 2003 a	Turkmenistan.....		28 Mar 2005 a
Poland.....	12 Dec 2002	4 Apr 2005	Uganda.....		9 Mar 2005 a
Portugal.....	3 Sep 2002		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	6 May 2002	
Republic of Korea....	4 Oct 2001		United Republic of Tanzania.....		24 May 2006 a
Romania.....		16 Apr 2004 a	Zambia.....		24 Apr 2005 a
Rwanda.....		4 Oct 2006 a			
Saint Kitts and Nevis .		21 May 2004 a			
Sao Tome and Principe		12 Apr 2006 a			
Senegal.....	17 Jan 2002	7 Apr 2006			
Serbia.....		20 Dec 2005 a			

## **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 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)).

## 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: 92.

**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .	20 Feb 2004		Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Albania . . . . .	18 Dec 2003	25 May 2006	Croatia . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	24 Apr 2005
Algeria . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	25 Aug 2004	Cuba . . . . .	9 Dec 2005	9 Feb 2007
Angola . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	29 Aug 2006	Cyprus . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .		21 Jun 2006 a	Czech Republic . . . . .	22 Apr 2005	
Argentina . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	28 Aug 2006	Denmark . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	26 Dec 2006
Armenia . . . . .	19 May 2005	8 Mar 2007	Djibouti . . . . .	17 Jun 2004	20 Apr 2005
Australia . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	7 Dec 2005	Dominican Republic . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	26 Oct 2006
Austria . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	11 Jan 2006	Ecuador . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	15 Sep 2005
Azerbaijan . . . . .	27 Feb 2004	1 Nov 2005	Egypt . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	25 Feb 2005
Bahrain . . . . .	8 Feb 2005		El Salvador . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	1 Jul 2004
Bangladesh . . . . .		27 Feb 2007 a	Ethiopia . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Barbados . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		European Community . . . . .	15 Sep 2005	
Belarus . . . . .	28 Apr 2004	17 Feb 2005	Finland . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	20 Jun 2006 A
Belgium . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		France . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	11 Jul 2005
Benin . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	14 Oct 2004	Gabon . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Bhutan . . . . .	15 Sep 2005		Germany . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Bolivia . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	5 Dec 2005	Ghana . . . . .	9 Dec 2004	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	26 Oct 2006	Greece . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Brazil . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	15 Jun 2005	Guatemala . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	3 Nov 2006
Brunei Darussalam . . . . .	11 Dec 2003		Guinea . . . . .	15 Jul 2005	
Bulgaria . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	20 Sep 2006	Haiti . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	10 Oct 2006	Honduras . . . . .	17 May 2004	23 May 2005
Burundi . . . . .		10 Mar 2006 a	Hungary . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	19 Apr 2005
Cameroon . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	6 Feb 2006	India . . . . .	9 Dec 2005	
Canada . . . . .	21 May 2004		Indonesia . . . . .	18 Dec 2003	19 Sep 2006
Cape Verde . . . . .	9 Dec 2003		Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .	11 Feb 2004	6 Oct 2006	Ireland . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Chile . . . . .	11 Dec 2003	13 Sep 2006	Israel . . . . .	29 Nov 2005	
China . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	13 Jan 2006	Italy . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Colombia . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	27 Oct 2006	Jamaica . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Comoros . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		Japan . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Congo . . . . .		13 Jul 2006 a	Jordan . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	24 Feb 2005
Costa Rica . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	21 Mar 2007	Kenya . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	9 Dec 2003
			Kuwait . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	16 Feb 2007

<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>
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	16 Sep 2005	Sao Tome and Principe	8 Dec 2005	12 Apr 2006
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		Saudi Arabia . . . . .	9 Jan 2004	
Latvia . . . . .	19 May 2005	4 Jan 2006	Senegal . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	16 Nov 2005
Lesotho . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	16 Sep 2005	Serbia . . . . .	11 Dec 2003	20 Dec 2005
Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a	Seychelles . . . . .	27 Feb 2004	16 Mar 2006
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .	23 Dec 2003	7 Jun 2005	Sierra Leone . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	30 Sep 2004
Liechtenstein . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		Singapore . . . . .	11 Nov 2005	
Lithuania . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	21 Dec 2006	Slovakia . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	1 Jun 2006
Luxembourg . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		South Africa . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	22 Nov 2004
Madagascar . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	22 Sep 2004	Spain . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	19 Jun 2006
Malawi . . . . .	21 Sep 2004		Sri Lanka . . . . .	15 Mar 2004	31 Mar 2004
Malaysia . . . . .	9 Dec 2003		Sudan . . . . .	14 Jan 2005	
Maldives . . . . .		22 Mar 2007 a	Swaziland . . . . .	15 Sep 2005	
Mali . . . . .	9 Dec 2003		Sweden . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Malta . . . . .	12 May 2005		Switzerland . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Mauritania . . . . .		25 Oct 2006 a	Syrian Arab Republic .	9 Dec 2003	
Mauritius . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	15 Dec 2004	Tajikistan . . . . .		25 Sep 2006 a
Mexico . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	20 Jul 2004	Thailand . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	
Moldova . . . . .	28 Sep 2004		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	18 Aug 2005	13 Apr 2007
Mongolia . . . . .	29 Apr 2005	11 Jan 2006	Timor-Leste . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Togo . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	6 Jul 2005
Morocco . . . . .	9 Dec 2003		Trinidad and Tobago .	11 Dec 2003	31 May 2006
Mozambique . . . . .	25 May 2004		Tunisia . . . . .	30 Mar 2004	
Myanmar . . . . .	2 Dec 2005		Turkey . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	9 Nov 2006
Namibia . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	3 Aug 2004	Turkmenistan . . . . .		28 Mar 2005 a
Nepal . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		Uganda . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	9 Sep 2004
Netherlands . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	31 Oct 2006 A	Ukraine . . . . .	11 Dec 2003	
New Zealand . . . . .	10 Dec 2003		United Arab Emirates .	10 Aug 2005	22 Feb 2006
Nicaragua . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	15 Feb 2006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	9 Dec 2003	9 Feb 2006
Nigeria . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	14 Dec 2004	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	25 May 2005
Norway . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	29 Jun 2006	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	30 Oct 2006
Pakistan . . . . .	9 Dec 2003		Uruguay . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	10 Jan 2007
Panama . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	23 Sep 2005	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Papua New Guinea . . .	22 Dec 2004		Viet Nam . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	
Paraguay . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	1 Jun 2005	Yemen . . . . .	11 Dec 2003	7 Nov 2005
Peru . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	16 Nov 2004	Zambia . . . . .	11 Dec 2003	
Philippines . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	8 Nov 2006	Zimbabwe . . . . .	20 Feb 2004	8 Mar 2007
Poland . . . . .	10 Dec 2003	15 Sep 2006			
Portugal . . . . .	11 Dec 2003				
Qatar . . . . .	1 Dec 2005	30 Jan 2007			
Republic of Korea . . .	10 Dec 2003				
Romania . . . . .	9 Dec 2003	2 Nov 2004			
Russian Federation . . .	9 Dec 2003	9 May 2006			
Rwanda . . . . .	30 Nov 2004	4 Oct 2006			

## **International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism** *(New York, 13 April 2005)*

### **OBJECTIVES**

The General Assembly, by its resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, established an Ad Hoc Committee with the task to elaborate, among other instruments, a convention on nuclear terrorism. The Ad Hoc Committee finalized the text of International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (the Convention) at its ninth session, held from 28 March to 1 April 2005. The General Assembly, by its resolution 59/290 adopted without a vote the Convention on 13 April 2005. The main objective of the Convention is to prevent and suppress acts of nuclear terrorism.

### **KEY PROVISIONS**

Article 1 of the Convention provides for the definitions of, *inter alia*, “radioactive material”, “nuclear material”, “nuclear facility”, “device”, “State or government facility” and “military forces of a State”.

In accordance with article 2, the Convention applies to acts committed by individuals. Within the meaning of the Convention, any person commits an offence if that person possesses radioactive material or makes or possesses a device with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury or to cause substantial damage to property or to the environment. The use or threat of use of radioactive material or a device constitutes an offence under the Convention. Any person also commits a crime if that person attempts to commit an offence or participates as an accomplice in the commission of the above acts.

The Convention does not apply where the offence is committed within a single State, the alleged offender and the victims are nationals of that State, and no other State has a basis to exercise jurisdiction.

The Convention does not apply to the activities of armed forces during an armed conflict, which are governed by international humanitarian law. Nor does it apply to the activities of military forces in the exercise of their official duties in as much as they are governed by other rules of international law. The Convention does not address the issue of the legality of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons by States.

Parties are required to establish the acts referred to in article 2 as criminal offences under their national laws, and to make such offences punishable by appropriate penalties.

The Convention places an obligation on the Parties to cooperate in preventing acts of nuclear terrorism by, *inter alia*, exchanging accurate and verified information to detect, suppress and investigate the above offences.

Each Party is required to establish its jurisdiction over the offences committed in its territory or onboard a vessel or aircraft registered in that State, or when the alleged offender is a national of that State.

The Convention requires the Parties either to prosecute or extradite the alleged offender. It provides for the widest measure of mutual legal assistance between the Parties in connection with criminal proceedings.

Moreover, the Convention stipulates that each Party taking control of radioactive material, devices or nuclear facilities should adopt measures to render harmless such items and ensure that any nuclear material is held in accordance with IAEA safeguards. This article also regulates the return of the seized nuclear material or devices to the Parties concerned.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention is not in force. The Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 25).\*

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, and is open to accession (article 24).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Upon ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention, each Party shall notify the Secretary-General of the jurisdiction it has established under its national law in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 9. Should any change take place, the Party concerned shall immediately notify the Secretary-General (article 9).

Parties shall inform the Secretary-General of their competent authorities and liaison points responsible for sending and receiving the information referred to in article 7 (article 7).

When a Party, pursuant to article 10, has taken a person into custody, it shall immediately notify, directly or through the Secretary-General, the Parties which have established jurisdiction in accordance with articles 9 (1) and (2) and, if it considers it advisable, any other interested Parties, of the fact that the person is in custody and of the circumstances which warrant that person's detention.

The Party where the alleged offender is prosecuted shall, in accordance with its national law or applicable procedures, communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General, who shall transmit the information to the other Parties (article 19).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

Each State may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of the Convention or accession thereto, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of article 23 (mandatory arbitration and referral to the International Court of Justice) (article 23).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce the Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General. The denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 27).

\* On 7 June 2007, the conditions provided for in article 25 for the entry into force of the Convention were met. Accordingly, the Convention will enter into force on 7 July 2007.

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF ACTS OF NUCLEAR  
TERRORISM**

*New York, 13 April 2005*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** see article 25 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, acceptance or accession, the Convention 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: 115. Parties: 20.  
**TEXT:** A/RES/59/290.

*Note:* The above Convention was adopted on 13 April 2005 during the 91st plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/59/290. In accordance with its article 24, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 14 September 2005 until 31 December 2006 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Afghanistan	29 Dec 2005		Iceland	16 Sep 2005	
Albania	23 Nov 2005		India	24 Jul 2006	1 Dec 2006
Andorra	11 May 2006		Ireland	15 Sep 2005	
Argentina	14 Sep 2005		Israel	27 Dec 2006	
Armenia	15 Sep 2005		Italy	14 Sep 2005	
Australia	14 Sep 2005		Jamaica	5 Dec 2006	
Austria	15 Sep 2005	14 Sep 2006	Japan	15 Sep 2005	
Azerbaijan	15 Sep 2005		Jordan	16 Nov 2005	
Belarus	15 Sep 2005	13 Mar 2007	Kazakhstan	16 Sep 2005	
Belgium	14 Sep 2005		Kenya	15 Sep 2005	13 Apr 2006
Benin	15 Sep 2005		Kiribati	15 Sep 2005	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na	7 Dec 2005		Kuwait	16 Sep 2005	
Brazil	16 Sep 2005		Kyrgyzstan	5 May 2006	
Bulgaria	14 Sep 2005		Latvia	16 Sep 2005	25 Jul 2006
Burkina Faso	21 Sep 2005		Lebanon	23 Sep 2005	13 Nov 2006
Burundi	29 Mar 2006		Lesotho	16 Sep 2005	
Cambodia	7 Dec 2006		Liberia	16 Sep 2005	
Canada	14 Sep 2005		Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya	16 Sep 2005	
Chile	22 Sep 2005		Liechtenstein	16 Sep 2005	
China	14 Sep 2005		Lithuania	16 Sep 2005	
Colombia	1 Nov 2006		Luxembourg	15 Sep 2005	
Comoros		12 Mar 2007 a	Madagascar	15 Sep 2005	
Costa Rica	15 Sep 2005		Malaysia	16 Sep 2005	
Croatia	16 Sep 2005		Malta	15 Sep 2005	
Cyprus	15 Sep 2005		Mauritius	14 Sep 2005	
Czech Republic	15 Sep 2005	25 Jul 2006	Mexico	12 Jan 2006	27 Jun 2006
Denmark	14 Sep 2005	20 Mar 2007	Moldova	16 Sep 2005	
Djibouti	14 Jun 2006		Monaco	14 Sep 2005	
Ecuador	15 Sep 2005		Mongolia	3 Nov 2005	6 Oct 2006
Egypt	20 Sep 2005		Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d	
El Salvador	16 Sep 2005	27 Nov 2006	Morocco	19 Apr 2006	
Estonia	14 Sep 2005		Mozambique	1 May 2006	
Finland	14 Sep 2005		Netherlands	16 Sep 2005	
France	14 Sep 2005		New Zealand	14 Sep 2005	
Gabon	15 Sep 2005		Nicaragua	15 Sep 2005	
Germany	15 Sep 2005		Norway	16 Sep 2005	
Ghana	6 Nov 2006		Palau	15 Sep 2005	
Greece	15 Sep 2005		Panama	21 Feb 2006	
Guatemala	20 Sep 2005		Paraguay	16 Sep 2005	
Guinea	16 Sep 2005		Peru	14 Sep 2005	
Guyana	15 Sep 2005		Philippines	15 Sep 2005	
Hungary	14 Sep 2005	12 Apr 2007	Poland	14 Sep 2005	

Multilateral Treaty Framework: An Invitation to Universal Participation

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a)</i>
Portugal . . . . .	21 Sep 2005		Switzerland . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Qatar . . . . .	16 Feb 2006		Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Republic of Korea . . . . .	16 Sep 2005		Tajikistan . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Romania . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	24 Jan 2007	Thailand . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Russian Federation . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	29 Jan 2007	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	19 Mar 2007
Rwanda . . . . .	6 Mar 2006		Timor-Leste . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Sao Tome and Principe . . . . .	19 Dec 2005		Togo . . . . .	15 Sep 2005	
Saudi Arabia . . . . .	26 Dec 2006		Turkey . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Senegal . . . . .	21 Sep 2005		Ukraine . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Serbia . . . . .	15 Sep 2005	26 Sep 2006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Seychelles . . . . .	7 Oct 2005		United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	
Sierra Leone . . . . .	14 Sep 2005		Uruguay . . . . .	16 Sep 2005	
Singapore . . . . .	1 Dec 2006				
Slovakia . . . . .	15 Sep 2005	23 Mar 2006			
Slovenia . . . . .	14 Sep 2005				
South Africa . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	9 May 2007			
Spain . . . . .	14 Sep 2005	22 Feb 2007			
Sri Lanka . . . . .	14 Sep 2005				
Swaziland . . . . .	15 Sep 2005				
Sweden . . . . .	14 Sep 2005				

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

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>
Guatemala.....	13 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1995	Oman .....	11 Jun 1992	8 Feb 1995
Guinea.....	12 Jun 1992	7 May 1993	Pakistan .....	13 Jun 1992	1 Jun 1994
Guinea-Bissau.....	12 Jun 1992	27 Oct 1995	Palau.....		10 Dec 1999 a
Guyana.....	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	Panama.....	18 Mar 1993	23 May 1995
Haiti.....	13 Jun 1992	25 Sep 1996	Papua New Guinea...	13 Jun 1992	16 Mar 1993
Honduras.....	13 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1995	Paraguay.....	12 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994
Hungary.....	13 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994	Peru.....	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1993
Iceland.....	4 Jun 1992	16 Jun 1993	Philippines.....	12 Jun 1992	2 Aug 1994
India.....	10 Jun 1992	1 Nov 1993	Poland.....	5 Jun 1992	28 Jul 1994
Indonesia.....	5 Jun 1992	23 Aug 1994	Portugal.....	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	14 Jun 1992	18 Jul 1996	Qatar.....		18 Apr 1996 a
Ireland.....	13 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1994	Republic of Korea ...	13 Jun 1992	14 Dec 1993
Israel.....	4 Jun 1992	4 Jun 1996	Romania.....	5 Jun 1992	8 Jun 1994
Italy.....	5 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994	Russian Federation...	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Jamaica.....	12 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1995	Rwanda.....	10 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1998
Japan.....	13 Jun 1992	28 May 1993 A	Saint Kitts and Nevis .	12 Jun 1992	7 Jan 1993
Jordan.....	11 Jun 1992	12 Nov 1993	Saint Lucia.....	14 Jun 1993	14 Jun 1993
Kazakhstan.....	8 Jun 1992	17 May 1995	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....		2 Dec 1996 a
Kenya.....	12 Jun 1992	30 Aug 1994	Samoa.....	12 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994
Kiribati.....	13 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995	San Marino.....	10 Jun 1992	28 Oct 1994
Kuwait.....		28 Dec 1994 a	Sao Tome and Principe	12 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1999
Kyrgyzstan.....		25 May 2000 a	Saudi Arabia.....		28 Dec 1994 a
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic ...		4 Jan 1995 a	Senegal.....	13 Jun 1992	17 Oct 1994
Latvia.....	11 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1995	Serbia.....		12 Mar 2001 a
Lebanon.....	12 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1994	Seychelles.....	10 Jun 1992	22 Sep 1992
Lesotho.....	11 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995	Sierra Leone.....	11 Feb 1993	22 Jun 1995
Liberia.....	12 Jun 1992	5 Nov 2002	Singapore.....	13 Jun 1992	29 May 1997
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya.....	29 Jun 1992	14 Jun 1999	Slovakia.....	19 May 1993	25 Aug 1994 AA
Liechtenstein.....	4 Jun 1992	22 Jun 1994	Slovenia.....	13 Jun 1992	1 Dec 1995
Lithuania.....	11 Jun 1992	24 Mar 1995	Solomon Islands.....	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Luxembourg.....	9 Jun 1992	9 May 1994	South Africa.....	15 Jun 1993	29 Aug 1997
Madagascar.....	10 Jun 1992	2 Jun 1999	Spain.....	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Malawi.....	10 Jun 1992	21 Apr 1994	Sri Lanka.....	10 Jun 1992	23 Nov 1993
Malaysia.....	9 Jun 1993	13 Jul 1994	Sudan.....	9 Jun 1992	19 Nov 1993
Maldives.....	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1992	Suriname.....	13 Jun 1992	14 Oct 1997
Mali.....	30 Sep 1992	28 Dec 1994	Swaziland.....	12 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1996
Malta.....	12 Jun 1992	17 Mar 1994	Sweden.....	8 Jun 1992	23 Jun 1993
Marshall Islands.....	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1992	Switzerland.....	12 Jun 1992	10 Dec 1993
Mauritania.....	12 Jun 1992	20 Jan 1994	Syrian Arab Republic .		4 Jan 1996 a
Mauritius.....	10 Jun 1992	4 Sep 1992	Tajikistan.....		7 Jan 1998 a
Mexico.....	13 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1993	Thailand.....	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994
Micronesia (Federated States of).....	12 Jun 1992	18 Nov 1993	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia.....		28 Jan 1998 a
Moldova.....	12 Jun 1992	9 Jun 1995	Timor-Leste.....		10 Oct 2006 a
Monaco.....	11 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1992	Togo.....	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1995 A
Mongolia.....	12 Jun 1992	30 Sep 1993	Tonga.....		20 Jul 1998 a
Montenegro.....		23 Oct 2006 d	Trinidad and Tobago .	11 Jun 1992	24 Jun 1994
Morocco.....	13 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1995	Tunisia.....	13 Jun 1992	15 Jul 1993
Mozambique.....	12 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Turkey.....		24 Feb 2004 a
Myanmar.....	11 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1994	Turkmenistan.....		5 Jun 1995 a
Namibia.....	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1995	Tuvalu.....	8 Jun 1992	26 Oct 1993
Nauru.....	8 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1993	Uganda.....	13 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993
Nepal.....	12 Jun 1992	2 May 1994	Ukraine.....	11 Jun 1992	13 May 1997
Netherlands.....	4 Jun 1992	20 Dec 1993 A	United Arab Emirates .		29 Dec 1995 a
New Zealand.....	4 Jun 1992	16 Sep 1993	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ..	12 Jun 1992	8 Dec 1993
Nicaragua.....	13 Jun 1992	31 Oct 1995	United Republic of Tanzania.....	12 Jun 1992	17 Apr 1996
Niger.....	11 Jun 1992	25 Jul 1995	United States of Amer- ica.....	12 Jun 1992	15 Oct 1992
Nigeria.....	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994			
Niue.....		28 Feb 1996 a			
Norway.....	4 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1993			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Accession (a), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>
Uruguay . . . . .	4 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1994	Viet Nam . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	16 Nov 1994
Uzbekistan . . . . .		20 Jun 1993 a	Yemen . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	21 Feb 1996
Vanuatu . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1993	Zambia . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	28 May 1993
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	28 Dec 1994	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 (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs), per fluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), 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: 173.

**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)]; C.N.390.2007.TREATIES-5 of 17 April 2007 (Adoption of an amendment to Annex B of the Protocol).

*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	Canada . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	17 Dec 2002
Algeria . . . . .		16 Feb 2005 a	Cape Verde . . . . .		10 Feb 2006 a
Angola . . . . .		8 May 2007 a	Chile . . . . .	17 Jun 1998	26 Aug 2002
Antigua and Barbuda .	16 Mar 1998	3 Nov 1998	China . . . . .	29 May 1998	30 Aug 2002 AA
Argentina . . . . .	16 Mar 1998	28 Sep 2001	Colombia . . . . .		30 Nov 2001 a
Armenia . . . . .		25 Apr 2003 a	Congo . . . . .		12 Feb 2007 a
Australia . . . . .	29 Apr 1998		Cook Islands . . . . .	16 Sep 1998	27 Aug 2001
Austria . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Costa Rica . . . . .	27 Apr 1998	9 Aug 2002
Azerbaijan . . . . .		28 Sep 2000 a	Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		23 Apr 2007 a
Bahamas . . . . .		9 Apr 1999 a	Croatia . . . . .	11 Mar 1999	
Bahrain . . . . .		31 Jan 2006 a	Cuba . . . . .	15 Mar 1999	30 Apr 2002
Bangladesh . . . . .		22 Oct 2001 a	Cyprus . . . . .		16 Jul 1999 a
Barbados . . . . .		7 Aug 2000 a	Czech Republic . . . . .	23 Nov 1998	15 Nov 2001 AA
Belarus . . . . .		26 Aug 2005 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea .		27 Apr 2005 a
Belgium . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		23 Mar 2005 a
Belize . . . . .		26 Sep 2003 a	Denmark . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Benin . . . . .		25 Feb 2002 a	Djibouti . . . . .		12 Mar 2002 a
Bhutan . . . . .		26 Aug 2002 a	Dominica . . . . .		25 Jan 2005 a
Bolivia . . . . .	9 Jul 1998	30 Nov 1999	Dominican Republic . .		12 Feb 2002 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		16 Apr 2007 a	Ecuador . . . . .	15 Jan 1999	13 Jan 2000
Botswana . . . . .		8 Aug 2003 a	Egypt . . . . .	15 Mar 1999	12 Jan 2005
Brazil . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	23 Aug 2002	El Salvador . . . . .	8 Jun 1998	30 Nov 1998
Bulgaria . . . . .	18 Sep 1998	15 Aug 2002	Equatorial Guinea . . .		16 Aug 2000 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .		31 Mar 2005 a	Eritrea . . . . .		28 Jul 2005 a
Burundi . . . . .		18 Oct 2001 a	Estonia . . . . .	3 Dec 1998	14 Oct 2002
Cambodia . . . . .		22 Aug 2002 a	Ethiopia . . . . .		14 Apr 2005 a
Cameroon . . . . .		28 Aug 2002 a			

<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>
European Community	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA	Nauru . . . . .		16 Aug 2001 a
Fiji . . . . .	17 Sep 1998	17 Sep 1998	Nepal . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a
Finland . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Netherlands . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 A
France . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA	New Zealand . . . . .	22 May 1998	19 Dec 2002
Gabon . . . . .		12 Dec 2006 a	Nicaragua . . . . .	7 Jul 1998	18 Nov 1999
Gambia . . . . .		1 Jun 2001 a	Niger . . . . .	23 Oct 1998	30 Sep 2004
Georgia . . . . .		16 Jun 1999 a	Nigeria . . . . .		10 Dec 2004 a
Germany . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Niue . . . . .	8 Dec 1998	6 May 1999
Ghana . . . . .		30 May 2003 a	Norway . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	30 May 2002
Greece . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Oman . . . . .		19 Jan 2005 a
Grenada . . . . .		6 Aug 2002 a	Pakistan . . . . .		11 Jan 2005 a
Guatemala . . . . .	10 Jul 1998	5 Oct 1999	Palau . . . . .		10 Dec 1999 a
Guinea . . . . .		7 Sep 2000 a	Panama . . . . .	8 Jun 1998	5 Mar 1999
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .		18 Nov 2005 a	Papua New Guinea . . . . .	2 Mar 1999	28 Mar 2002
Guyana . . . . .		5 Aug 2003 a	Paraguay . . . . .	25 Aug 1998	27 Aug 1999
Haiti . . . . .		6 Jul 2005 a	Peru . . . . .	13 Nov 1998	12 Sep 2002
Honduras . . . . .	25 Feb 1999	19 Jul 2000	Philippines . . . . .	15 Apr 1998	20 Nov 2003
Hungary . . . . .		21 Aug 2002 a	Poland . . . . .	15 Jul 1998	13 Dec 2002
Iceland . . . . .		23 May 2002 a	Portugal . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002 AA
India . . . . .		26 Aug 2002 a	Qatar . . . . .		11 Jan 2005 a
Indonesia . . . . .	13 Jul 1998	3 Dec 2004	Republic of Korea . . . . .	25 Sep 1998	8 Nov 2002
Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .		22 Aug 2005 a	Romania . . . . .	5 Jan 1999	19 Mar 2001
Ireland . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Russian Federation . . . . .	11 Mar 1999	18 Nov 2004
Israel . . . . .	16 Dec 1998	15 Mar 2004	Rwanda . . . . .		22 Jul 2004 a
Italy . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Saint Lucia . . . . .	16 Mar 1998	20 Aug 2003
Jamaica . . . . .		28 Jun 1999 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .	19 Mar 1998	31 Dec 2004
Japan . . . . .	28 Apr 1998	4 Jun 2002 A	Samoa . . . . .	16 Mar 1998	27 Nov 2000
Jordan . . . . .		17 Jan 2003 a	Saudi Arabia . . . . .		31 Jan 2005 a
Kazakhstan . . . . .	12 Mar 1999		Senegal . . . . .		20 Jul 2001 a
Kenya . . . . .		25 Feb 2005 a	Seychelles . . . . .	20 Mar 1998	22 Jul 2002
Kiribati . . . . .		7 Sep 2000 a	Sierra Leone . . . . .		10 Nov 2006 a
Kuwait . . . . .		11 Mar 2005 a	Singapore . . . . .		12 Apr 2006 a
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		13 May 2003 a	Slovakia . . . . .	26 Feb 1999	31 May 2002
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		6 Feb 2003 a	Slovenia . . . . .	21 Oct 1998	2 Aug 2002
Latvia . . . . .	14 Dec 1998	5 Jul 2002	Solomon Islands . . . . .	29 Sep 1998	13 Mar 2003
Lebanon . . . . .		13 Nov 2006 a	South Africa . . . . .		31 Jul 2002 a
Lesotho . . . . .		6 Sep 2000 a	Spain . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Liberia . . . . .		5 Nov 2002 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .		3 Sep 2002 a
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .		24 Aug 2006 a	Sudan . . . . .		2 Nov 2004 a
Liechtenstein . . . . .	29 Jun 1998	3 Dec 2004	Suriname . . . . .		25 Sep 2006 a
Lithuania . . . . .	21 Sep 1998	3 Jan 2003	Swaziland . . . . .		13 Jan 2006 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002	Sweden . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Madagascar . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Switzerland . . . . .	16 Mar 1998	9 Jul 2003
Malawi . . . . .		26 Oct 2001 a	Syrian Arab Republic		27 Jan 2006 a
Malaysia . . . . .	12 Mar 1999	4 Sep 2002	Thailand . . . . .	2 Feb 1999	28 Aug 2002
Maldives . . . . .	16 Mar 1998	30 Dec 1998	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		18 Nov 2004 a
Mali . . . . .	27 Jan 1999	28 Mar 2002	Togo . . . . .		2 Jul 2004 a
Malta . . . . .	17 Apr 1998	11 Nov 2001	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .	7 Jan 1999	28 Jan 1999
Marshall Islands . . . . .	17 Mar 1998	11 Aug 2003	Tunisia . . . . .		22 Jan 2003 a
Mauritania . . . . .		22 Jul 2005 a	Turkmenistan . . . . .	28 Sep 1998	11 Jan 1999
Mauritius . . . . .		9 May 2001 a	Tuvalu . . . . .	16 Nov 1998	16 Nov 1998
Mexico . . . . .	9 Jun 1998	7 Sep 2000	Uganda . . . . .		25 Mar 2002 a
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	17 Mar 1998	21 Jun 1999	Ukraine . . . . .	15 Mar 1999	12 Apr 2004
Moldova . . . . .		22 Apr 2003 a	United Arab Emirates		26 Jan 2005 a
Monaco . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	27 Feb 2006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	29 Apr 1998	31 May 2002
Mongolia . . . . .		15 Dec 1999 a	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		26 Aug 2002 a
Morocco . . . . .		25 Jan 2002 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	12 Nov 1998	
Mozambique . . . . .		18 Jan 2005 a			
Myanmar . . . . .		13 Aug 2003 a			
Namibia . . . . .		4 Sep 2003 a			

<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>
Uruguay .....	29 Jul 1998	5 Feb 2001	Viet Nam .....	3 Dec 1998	25 Sep 2002
Uzbekistan .....	20 Nov 1998	12 Oct 1999	Yemen .....		15 Sep 2004 a
Vanuatu.....		17 Jul 2001 a	Zambia .....	5 Aug 1998	7 Jul 2006
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) .....		18 Feb 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).

## 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: 190.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan	12 Jun 1992	19 Sep 2002	Cyprus	12 Jun 1992	10 Jul 1996
Albania		5 Jan 1994 a	Czech Republic	4 Jun 1993	3 Dec 1993 AA
Algeria	13 Jun 1992	14 Aug 1995	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	11 Jun 1992	26 Oct 1994 AA
Angola	12 Jun 1992	1 Apr 1998	Democratic Republic of the Congo	11 Jun 1992	3 Dec 1994
Antigua and Barbuda	5 Jun 1992	9 Mar 1993	Denmark	12 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Argentina	12 Jun 1992	22 Nov 1994	Djibouti	13 Jun 1992	1 Sep 1994
Armenia	13 Jun 1992	14 May 1993 A	Dominica		6 Apr 1994 a
Australia	5 Jun 1992	18 Jun 1993	Dominican Republic	13 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1996
Austria	13 Jun 1992	18 Aug 1994	Ecuador	9 Jun 1992	23 Feb 1993
Azerbaijan	12 Jun 1992	3 Aug 2000 AA	Egypt	9 Jun 1992	2 Jun 1994
Bahamas	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993	El Salvador	13 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1994
Bahrain	9 Jun 1992	30 Aug 1996	Equatorial Guinea		6 Dec 1994 a
Bangladesh	5 Jun 1992	3 May 1994	Eritrea		21 Mar 1996 a
Barbados	12 Jun 1992	10 Dec 1993	Estonia	12 Jun 1992	27 Jul 1994
Belarus	11 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993	Ethiopia	10 Jun 1992	5 Apr 1994
Belgium	5 Jun 1992	22 Nov 1996	European Community	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993 AA
Belize	13 Jun 1992	30 Dec 1993	Fiji	9 Oct 1992	25 Feb 1993
Benin	13 Jun 1992	30 Jun 1994	Finland	5 Jun 1992	27 Jul 1994 A
Bhutan	11 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	France	13 Jun 1992	1 Jul 1994
Bolivia	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994	Gabon	12 Jun 1992	14 Mar 1997
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		26 Aug 2002 a	Gambia	12 Jun 1992	10 Jun 1994
Botswana	8 Jun 1992	12 Oct 1995	Georgia		2 Jun 1994 a
Brazil	5 Jun 1992	28 Feb 1994	Germany	12 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Bulgaria	12 Jun 1992	17 Apr 1996	Ghana	12 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994
Burkina Faso	12 Jun 1992	2 Sep 1993	Greece	12 Jun 1992	4 Aug 1994
Burundi	11 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1997	Grenada	3 Dec 1992	11 Aug 1994
Cambodia		9 Feb 1995 a	Guatemala	13 Jun 1992	10 Jul 1995
Cameroon	14 Jun 1992	19 Oct 1994	Guinea	12 Jun 1992	7 May 1993
Canada	11 Jun 1992	4 Dec 1992	Guinea-Bissau	12 Jun 1992	27 Oct 1995
Cape Verde	12 Jun 1992	29 Mar 1995	Guyana	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994
Central African Repub- lic	13 Jun 1992	15 Mar 1995	Haiti	13 Jun 1992	25 Sep 1996
Chad	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1994	Honduras	13 Jun 1992	31 Jul 1995
Chile	13 Jun 1992	9 Sep 1994	Hungary	13 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994
China	11 Jun 1992	5 Jan 1993	Iceland	10 Jun 1992	12 Sep 1994
Colombia	12 Jun 1992	28 Nov 1994	India	5 Jun 1992	18 Feb 1994
Comoros	11 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1994	Indonesia	5 Jun 1992	23 Aug 1994
Congo	11 Jun 1992	1 Aug 1996	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14 Jun 1992	6 Aug 1996
Cook Islands	12 Jun 1992	20 Apr 1993	Ireland	13 Jun 1992	22 Mar 1996
Costa Rica	13 Jun 1992	26 Aug 1994	Israel	11 Jun 1992	7 Aug 1995
Côte d'Ivoire	10 Jun 1992	29 Nov 1994	Italy	5 Jun 1992	15 Apr 1994
Croatia	11 Jun 1992	7 Oct 1996	Jamaica	11 Jun 1992	6 Jan 1995
Cuba	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1994			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Succession (d)</i>
Japan . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	28 May 1993 A	Russian Federation . . .	13 Jun 1992	5 Apr 1995
Jordan . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	12 Nov 1993	Rwanda . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	29 May 1996
Kazakhstan . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	6 Sep 1994	Saint Kitts and Nevis .	12 Jun 1992	7 Jan 1993
Kenya . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	26 Jul 1994	Saint Lucia . . . . .		28 Jul 1993 a
Kiribati . . . . .		16 Aug 1994 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		3 Jun 1996 a
Kuwait . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	2 Aug 2002	Samoa . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	9 Feb 1994
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		6 Aug 1996 a	San Marino . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	28 Oct 1994
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . .		20 Sep 1996 a	Sao Tome and Principe	12 Jun 1992	29 Sep 1999
Latvia . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	14 Dec 1995	Saudi Arabia . . . . .		3 Oct 2001 a
Lebanon . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	15 Dec 1994	Senegal . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	17 Oct 1994
Lesotho . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	10 Jan 1995	Serbia . . . . .	8 Jun 1992	1 Mar 2002
Liberia . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	8 Nov 2000	Seychelles . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	22 Sep 1992
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .	29 Jun 1992	12 Jul 2001	Sierra Leone . . . . .		12 Dec 1994 a
Liechtenstein . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	19 Nov 1997	Singapore . . . . .	10 Mar 1993	21 Dec 1995
Lithuania . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	1 Feb 1996	Slovakia . . . . .	19 May 1993	25 Aug 1994 AA
Luxembourg . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	9 May 1994	Slovenia . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1996
Madagascar . . . . .	8 Jun 1992	4 Mar 1996	Solomon Islands . . . .	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1995
Malawi . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	2 Feb 1994	South Africa . . . . .	4 Jun 1993	2 Nov 1995
Malaysia . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	24 Jun 1994	Spain . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993
Maldives . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1992	Sri Lanka . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	23 Mar 1994
Mali . . . . .	30 Sep 1992	29 Mar 1995	Sudan . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	30 Oct 1995
Malta . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	29 Dec 2000	Suriname . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	12 Jan 1996
Marshall Islands . . . .	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1992	Swaziland . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	9 Nov 1994
Mauritania . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	16 Aug 1996	Sweden . . . . .	8 Jun 1992	16 Dec 1993
Mauritius . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	4 Sep 1992	Switzerland . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	21 Nov 1994
Mexico . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	11 Mar 1993	Syrian Arab Republic .	3 May 1993	4 Jan 1996
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	20 Jun 1994	Tajikistan . . . . .		29 Oct 1997 a
Moldova . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	20 Oct 1995	Thailand . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	31 Oct 2003
Monaco . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1992	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		2 Dec 1997 a
Mongolia . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	30 Sep 1993	Timor-Leste . . . . .		10 Oct 2006 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Togo . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	4 Oct 1995 A
Morocco . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	21 Aug 1995	Tonga . . . . .		19 May 1998 a
Mozambique . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	25 Aug 1995	Trinidad and Tobago .	11 Jun 1992	1 Aug 1996
Myanmar . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	25 Nov 1994	Tunisia . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	15 Jul 1993
Namibia . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	16 May 1997	Turkey . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	14 Feb 1997
Nauru . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1993	Turkmenistan . . . . .		18 Sep 1996 a
Nepal . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	23 Nov 1993	Tuvalu . . . . .	8 Jun 1992	20 Dec 2002
Netherlands . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	12 Jul 1994 A	Uganda . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	8 Sep 1993
New Zealand . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	16 Sep 1993	Ukraine . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	7 Feb 1995
Nicaragua . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	20 Nov 1995	United Arab Emirates .	11 Jun 1992	10 Feb 2000
Niger . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	25 Jul 1995	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	12 Jun 1992	3 Jun 1994
Nigeria . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	29 Aug 1994	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	8 Mar 1996
Niue . . . . .		28 Feb 1996 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	4 Jun 1993	
Norway . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	9 Jul 1993	Uruguay . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	5 Nov 1993
Oman . . . . .	10 Jun 1992	8 Feb 1995	Uzbekistan . . . . .		19 Jul 1995 a
Pakistan . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	26 Jul 1994	Vanuatu . . . . .	9 Jun 1992	25 Mar 1993
Palau . . . . .		6 Jan 1999 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	13 Sep 1994
Panama . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	17 Jan 1995	Viet Nam . . . . .	28 May 1993	16 Nov 1994
Papua New Guinea . . .	13 Jun 1992	16 Mar 1993	Yemen . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	21 Feb 1996
Paraguay . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	24 Feb 1994	Zambia . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	28 May 1993
Peru . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	7 Jun 1993	Zimbabwe . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	11 Nov 1994
Philippines . . . . .	12 Jun 1992	8 Oct 1993			
Poland . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	18 Jan 1996			
Portugal . . . . .	13 Jun 1992	21 Dec 1993			
Qatar . . . . .	11 Jun 1992	21 Aug 1996			
Republic of Korea . . .	13 Jun 1992	3 Oct 1994			
Romania . . . . .	5 Jun 1992	17 Aug 1994			

## **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. Parties: 141.  
**TEXT:** Depository notification C.N.251.2000.TREATIES-1 of 27 April 2000; C.N. 1471.2003.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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania . . . . .		8 Feb 2005 a	Dominica . . . . .		13 Jul 2004 a
Algeria . . . . .	25 May 2000	5 Aug 2004	Dominican Republic . . . . .		20 Jun 2006 a
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .	24 May 2000	10 Sep 2003	Ecuador . . . . .	24 May 2000	30 Jan 2003
Argentina . . . . .	24 May 2000		Egypt . . . . .	20 Dec 2000	23 Dec 2003
Armenia . . . . .		30 Apr 2004 a	El Salvador . . . . .	24 May 2000	26 Sep 2003
Austria . . . . .	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Eritrea . . . . .		10 Mar 2005 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .		1 Apr 2005 a	Estonia . . . . .	6 Sep 2000	24 Mar 2004
Bahamas . . . . .	24 May 2000	15 Jan 2004	Ethiopia . . . . .	24 May 2000	9 Oct 2003
Bangladesh . . . . .	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004	European Community . . . . .	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002 AA
Barbados . . . . .		6 Sep 2002 a	Fiji . . . . .	2 May 2001	5 Jun 2001
Belarus . . . . .		26 Aug 2002 a	Finland . . . . .	24 May 2000	9 Jul 2004
Belgium . . . . .	24 May 2000	15 Apr 2004	France . . . . .	24 May 2000	7 Apr 2003 AA
Belize . . . . .		12 Feb 2004 a	Gabon . . . . .		2 May 2007 a
Benin . . . . .	24 May 2000	2 Mar 2005	Gambia . . . . .	24 May 2000	9 Jun 2004
Bhutan . . . . .		26 Aug 2002 a	Germany . . . . .	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2003
Bolivia . . . . .	24 May 2000	22 Apr 2002	Ghana . . . . .		30 May 2003 a
Botswana . . . . .	1 Jun 2001	11 Jun 2002	Greece . . . . .	24 May 2000	21 May 2004
Brazil . . . . .		24 Nov 2003 a	Grenada . . . . .	24 May 2000	5 Feb 2004
Bulgaria . . . . .	24 May 2000	13 Oct 2000	Guatemala . . . . .		28 Oct 2004 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .	24 May 2000	4 Aug 2003	Guinea . . . . .	24 May 2000	
Cambodia . . . . .		17 Sep 2003 a	Haiti . . . . .	24 May 2000	
Cameroon . . . . .	9 Feb 2001	20 Feb 2003	Honduras . . . . .	24 May 2000	
Canada . . . . .	19 Apr 2001		Hungary . . . . .	24 May 2000	13 Jan 2004
Cape Verde . . . . .		1 Nov 2005 a	Iceland . . . . .	1 Jun 2001	
Central African Republic . . . . .	24 May 2000		India . . . . .	23 Jan 2001	17 Jan 2003
Chad . . . . .	24 May 2000	1 Nov 2006	Indonesia . . . . .	24 May 2000	3 Dec 2004
Chile . . . . .	24 May 2000		Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	23 Apr 2001	20 Nov 2003
China . . . . .	8 Aug 2000	8 Jun 2005 AA	Ireland . . . . .	24 May 2000	14 Nov 2003
Colombia . . . . .	24 May 2000	20 May 2003	Italy . . . . .	24 May 2000	24 Mar 2004
Congo . . . . .	21 Nov 2000	13 Jul 2006	Jamaica . . . . .	4 Jun 2001	
Cook Islands . . . . .	21 May 2001		Japan . . . . .		21 Nov 2003 a
Costa Rica . . . . .	24 May 2000	6 Feb 2007	Jordan . . . . .	11 Oct 2000	11 Nov 2003
Croatia . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	29 Aug 2002	Kenya . . . . .	15 May 2000	24 Jan 2002
Cuba . . . . .	24 May 2000	17 Sep 2002	Kiribati . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	20 Apr 2004
Cyprus . . . . .		5 Dec 2003 a	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		5 Oct 2005 a
Czech Republic . . . . .	24 May 2000	8 Oct 2001	Lao People's Democratic Republic . . . . .		3 Aug 2004 a
Democratic People's Republic of Korea . . . . .	20 Apr 2001	29 Jul 2003	Latvia . . . . .		13 Feb 2004 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		23 Mar 2005 a	Lesotho . . . . .		20 Sep 2001 a
Denmark . . . . .	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Liberia . . . . .		15 Feb 2002 a
Djibouti . . . . .		8 Apr 2002 a	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya . . . . .		14 Jun 2005 a

<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>
Lithuania . . . . .	24 May 2000	7 Nov 2003	Saint Lucia . . . . .		16 Jun 2005 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	11 Jul 2000	28 Aug 2002	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		27 Aug 2003 a
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 . . . . .		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
Malta . . . . .		5 Jan 2007 a	Slovenia . . . . .	24 May 2000	20 Nov 2002
Marshall Islands . . . . .		27 Jan 2003 a	Solomon Islands . . . . .		28 Jul 2004 a
Mauritania . . . . .		22 Jul 2005 a	South Africa . . . . .		14 Aug 2003 a
Mauritius . . . . .		11 Apr 2002 a	Spain . . . . .	24 May 2000	16 Jan 2002
Mexico . . . . .	24 May 2000	27 Aug 2002	Sri Lanka . . . . .	24 May 2000	28 Apr 2004
Moldova . . . . .	14 Feb 2001	4 Mar 2003	Sudan . . . . .		13 Jun 2005 a
Monaco . . . . .	24 May 2000		Swaziland . . . . .		13 Jan 2006 a
Mongolia . . . . .		22 Jul 2003 a	Sweden . . . . .	24 May 2000	8 Aug 2002
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Switzerland . . . . .	24 May 2000	26 Mar 2002
Morocco . . . . .	25 May 2000		Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .		1 Apr 2004 a
Mozambique . . . . .	24 May 2000	21 Oct 2002	Tajikistan . . . . .		12 Feb 2004 a
Myanmar . . . . .	11 May 2001		Thailand . . . . .		10 Nov 2005 a
Namibia . . . . .	24 May 2000	10 Feb 2005	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	26 Jul 2000	14 Jun 2005
Nauru . . . . .		12 Nov 2001 a	Togo . . . . .	24 May 2000	2 Jul 2004
Nepal . . . . .	2 Mar 2001		Tonga . . . . .		18 Sep 2003 a
Netherlands . . . . .	24 May 2000	8 Jan 2002 A	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .		5 Oct 2000 a
New Zealand . . . . .	24 May 2000	24 Feb 2005	Tunisia . . . . .	19 Apr 2001	22 Jan 2003
Nicaragua . . . . .	26 May 2000	28 Aug 2002	Turkey . . . . .	24 May 2000	24 Oct 2003
Niger . . . . .	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004	Uganda . . . . .	24 May 2000	30 Nov 2001
Nigeria . . . . .	24 May 2000	15 Jul 2003	Ukraine . . . . .		6 Dec 2002 a
Niue . . . . .		8 Jul 2002 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	24 May 2000	19 Nov 2003
Norway . . . . .	24 May 2000	10 May 2001	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		24 Apr 2003 a
Oman . . . . .		11 Apr 2003 a	Uruguay . . . . .	1 Jun 2001	
Pakistan . . . . .	4 Jun 2001		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	24 May 2000	13 May 2002
Palau . . . . .	29 May 2001	13 Jun 2003	Viet Nam . . . . .		21 Jan 2004 a
Panama . . . . .	11 May 2001	1 May 2002	Yemen . . . . .		1 Dec 2005 a
Papua New Guinea . . . . .		14 Oct 2005 a	Zambia . . . . .		27 Apr 2004 a
Paraguay . . . . .	3 May 2001	10 Mar 2004	Zimbabwe . . . . .	4 Jun 2001	25 Feb 2005
Peru . . . . .	24 May 2000	14 Apr 2004			
Philippines . . . . .	24 May 2000	5 Oct 2006			
Poland . . . . .	24 May 2000	10 Dec 2003			
Portugal . . . . .	24 May 2000	30 Sep 2004 A			
Qatar . . . . .		14 Mar 2007 a			
Republic of Korea . . . . .	6 Sep 2000				
Romania . . . . .	11 Oct 2000	30 Jun 2003			
Rwanda . . . . .	24 May 2000	22 Jul 2004			
Saint Kitts and Nevis . . . . .		23 May 2001 a			

## **Lusaka Agreement on Co-operation Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (Lusaka, 8 September 1994)**

### ***OBJECTIVES***

Africa is home to about 25 per cent of global biodiversity, some of which comprises unique plants and animal species of great economic and ecological value. In order to protect Africa's biodiversity, and in response to the intense poaching that has resulted in severe depletion of certain wildlife populations in Africa, which has been caused by illegal trade, the Lusaka Agreement on Co-operation Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (the Agreement) was adopted to reduce and ultimately eliminate illegal trade in wild fauna and flora and to establish a permanent Task Force for this purpose.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

Parties to the Agreement shall, individually and/or jointly, take appropriate measures in accordance with the Agreement to investigate and prosecute cases of illegal trade. Parties shall adopt and enforce legislative and administrative measures necessary for the implementation of the Agreement, and protect confidential information which becomes available. Parties shall also encourage public awareness campaigns relating to illegal trade. The Agreement mandates that Parties shall return to the country of original export or country of re-export any specimen of species of wild fauna and flora confiscated in the course of illegal trade. Parties are also required to report on the implementation of their obligations under the Agreement.

The Agreement establishes a Task Force, which possesses international legal personality, and which, among other functions, is charged with facilitating cooperation among national competent authorities (National Bureaus); investigating violations of national laws pertaining to illegal trade; and collecting, processing and disseminating information on activities relating to illegal trade. The Agreement also establishes a Governing Council, consisting of the Parties to the Agreement.

Parties are obliged to cooperate with each other and the Task Force to ensure the effective implementation of the Agreement. Parties are also obliged to provide the Task Force with technical assistance relating to its operations, and information and scientific data relating to illegal trade. Parties are also required to accord privileges and immunities to the Task Force as specified in the Agreement.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Agreement entered into force on 10 December 1996 (article 13).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Agreement is closed for signature. The Agreement is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States, and is open for accession by any African State (article 12).

***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Parties shall inform the Secretary-General, within two months of the date of the entry into force of the Agreement for that Party, the entity it has designated or established as its National Bureau. A change in such designation must also be communicated to the Secretary-General within one month of any decision regarding such change (article 6).

***RESERVATIONS***

The Agreement is silent with regard to reservations.

***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A Party may withdraw from the Agreement by giving written notification to the Secretary-General, at any time after five years from the date on which the Agreement entered into force for that Party. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon the expiry of one year after the date of its receipt by the Secretary-General, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of the withdrawal provided, however, that any obligation incurred by the Party prior to its withdrawal shall remain valid for that Party (article 14).

**LUSAKA AGREEMENT ON CO-OPERATIVE ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS DIRECTED AT  
ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILD FAUNA AND FLORA**

*Lusaka, 8 September 1994*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 10 December 1996, in accordance with article 13 (1).  
**REGISTRATION:** 10 December 1996, No. 33409.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 7. Parties: 7.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1950, p. 35.

*Note:* The Agreement was adopted at the Ministerial Meeting for the Adoption of the Agreed Text of the Lusaka Agreement on Co-operative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora held at Lusaka on 8-9 September 1994. In accordance with its article 12 (1), the Agreement was open for signature on 9 September 1994 by all African States at Lusaka and thereafter from 12 September 1994 at the Headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, and from 13 December 1994 to 13 March 1995 at the 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>
Congo .....		14 May 1997 a	Swaziland .....	9 Sep 1994	
Ethiopia .....	1 Feb 1995		Uganda .....	9 Sep 1994	12 Apr 1996
Kenya .....	9 Sep 1994	17 Jan 1997	United Republic of Tanzania .....	9 Sep 1994	11 Oct 1996
Lesotho .....		20 Jun 1995 a	Zambia .....	9 Sep 1994	9 Nov 1995
Liberia .....		16 Sep 2005 a			
South Africa .....	9 Sep 1994				

## **Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses** *(New York, 21 May 1997)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

Population growth and economic development have intensified demands over water resources worldwide, while pollution has caused additional problems in degrading water quality, leading to predictions of increasing future conflicts over shared water supplies. To address the essential need of the present and future generations to use and manage shared water resources in a sustainable manner, the international community has devised principles for international watercourse management. Over the past century, these principles have been refined and finally codified in the Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (the Convention).

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The scope of the Convention applies to the uses of international watercourses and of their waters for purposes other than navigation, and to the protection, preservation and management of those watercourses. The Convention defines the term “watercourse” as a system of surface waters and ground waters constituting by virtue of their physical relationship a unitary whole and normally flowing into a common terminus.

The Convention sets out general principles for watercourse States. Watercourse States are obliged in their respective territories to utilize international watercourses in an equitable and reasonable manner, to take all appropriate measures to prevent the causing of significant harm to other watercourse States, and to exchange data and information on the condition of the watercourse.

The Convention provides for Parties to exchange information and consult each other, and, if necessary, negotiate on the possible effects of planned measures on the condition of an international watercourse. The Convention mandates that Parties, individually and jointly, undertake to protect and preserve the ecosystems of international watercourses and to protect and preserve the marine environment.

Parties are obliged to take all appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate conditions relating to an international watercourse that may be harmful to other watercourse States, whether resulting from natural causes or human conduct. Parties are also obliged to notify without delay other potentially affected States and competent international organizations of any emergency situations originating within its territory, and shall also take all practical measures necessitated by the circumstances to prevent, mitigate and eliminate the harmful effects of such situations.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. For each State or regional economic integration organisation that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention, or

accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of calculating the entry into force, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States (article 36).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

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

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Regional economic integration organizations shall declare, in their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention. Subsequently, such regional economic integration organizations shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 35).

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 not resolved in accordance with the provisions of article 33 (2), it recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation (a) submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice, and/or (b) arbitration by an arbitral tribunal established and operating, unless the Parties to the dispute otherwise agree, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. A Party which is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration (article 33).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

*New York, 21 May 1997*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** see article 36 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State or regional economic integration organization that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 3. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 2, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by States."

**STATUS:** Signatories: 16. Parties: 15.  
**TEXT:** Doc. A/51/869.

*Note:* By resolution A/RES/51/229 of 21 May 1997, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted at its 51<sup>st</sup> session, the said Convention. In accordance with its article 34, the Convention shall be open for signature at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York, on 21 May 1997 and will remain open to all States and regional economic integration organizations for signature until 21 May 2000.

<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>
Côte d'Ivoire	25 Sep 1998		Norway	30 Sep 1998	30 Sep 1998
Finland	31 Oct 1997	23 Jan 1998 A	Paraguay	25 Aug 1998	
Germany	13 Aug 1998	15 Jan 2007	Portugal	11 Nov 1997	22 Jun 2005
Hungary	20 Jul 1999	26 Jan 2000 AA	Qatar		28 Feb 2002 a
Iraq		9 Jul 2001 a	South Africa	13 Aug 1997	26 Oct 1998
Jordan	17 Apr 1998	22 Jun 1999	Sweden		15 Jun 2000 a
Lebanon		25 May 1999 a	Syrian Arab Republic	11 Aug 1997	2 Apr 1998
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		14 Jun 2005 a	Tunisia	19 May 2000	
Luxembourg	14 Oct 1997		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	22 Sep 1997	
Namibia	19 May 2000	29 Aug 2001	Yemen	17 May 2000	
Netherlands	9 Mar 2000	9 Jan 2001 A			

**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).

**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: 66.  
**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		Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a
Australia . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	23 Dec 1999	Lithuania . . . . .		1 Mar 2007 a
Austria . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Luxembourg . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Bahamas . . . . .		16 Jan 1997 a	Maldives . . . . .	8 Oct 1996	30 Dec 1998
Bangladesh . . . . .	4 Dec 1995		Malta . . . . .		11 Nov 2001 a
Barbados . . . . .		22 Sep 2000 a	Marshall Islands . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	19 Mar 2003
Belgium . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	19 Dec 2003	Mauritania . . . . .	21 Dec 1995	
Belize . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	14 Jul 2005	Mauritius . . . . .		25 Mar 1997 a
Brazil . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	8 Mar 2000	Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	23 May 1997
Bulgaria . . . . .		13 Dec 2006 a	Monaco . . . . .		9 Jun 1999 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .	15 Oct 1996		Morocco . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	
Canada . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	3 Aug 1999	Namibia . . . . .	19 Apr 1996	8 Apr 1998
China . . . . .	6 Nov 1996		Nauru . . . . .		10 Jan 1997 a
Cook Islands . . . . .		1 Apr 1999 a	Netherlands . . . . .	28 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Costa Rica . . . . .		18 Jun 2001 a	New Zealand . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	18 Apr 2001
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	24 Jan 1996		Niue . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	11 Oct 2006
Cyprus . . . . .		25 Sep 2002 a	Norway . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	30 Dec 1996
Czech Republic . . . . .		19 Mar 2007 a	Pakistan . . . . .	15 Feb 1996	
Denmark . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Papua New Guinea . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	4 Jun 1999
Egypt . . . . .	5 Dec 1995		Philippines . . . . .	30 Aug 1996	
Estonia . . . . .		7 Aug 2006 a	Poland . . . . .		14 Mar 2006 a
European Community	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Portugal . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Fiji . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	12 Dec 1996	Republic of Korea . . . . .	26 Nov 1996	
Finland . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Russian Federation . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	4 Aug 1997
France . . . . .	4 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003	Saint Lucia . . . . .	12 Dec 1995	9 Aug 1996
Gabon . . . . .	7 Oct 1996		Samoa . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	25 Oct 1996
Germany . . . . .	28 Aug 1996	19 Dec 2003	Senegal . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	30 Jan 1997
Greece . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Seychelles . . . . .	4 Dec 1996	20 Mar 1998
Guinea . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a	Slovenia . . . . .		15 Jun 2006 a
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	4 Dec 1995		Solomon Islands . . . . .		13 Feb 1997 a
Iceland . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	14 Feb 1997	South Africa . . . . .		14 Aug 2003 a
India . . . . .		19 Aug 2003 a	Spain . . . . .	3 Dec 1996	19 Dec 2003
Indonesia . . . . .	4 Dec 1995		Sri Lanka . . . . .	9 Oct 1996	24 Oct 1996
Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .		17 Apr 1998 a	Sweden . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003
Ireland . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Tonga . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	31 Jul 1996
Israel . . . . .	4 Dec 1995		Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .		13 Sep 2006 a
Italy . . . . .	27 Jun 1996	19 Dec 2003	Uganda . . . . .	10 Oct 1996	
Jamaica . . . . .	4 Dec 1995		Ukraine . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	27 Feb 2003
Japan . . . . .	19 Nov 1996	7 Aug 2006	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	10 Dec 2001
Kenya . . . . .		13 Jul 2004 a			
Kiribati . . . . .		15 Sep 2005 a			
Latvia . . . . .		5 Feb 2007 a			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a)</i>
United States of America . . . . .	4 Dec 1995	21 Aug 1996
Uruguay . . . . .	16 Jan 1996	10 Sep 1999
Vanuatu. . . . .	23 Jul 1996	

**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: 102.  
**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		Greece . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	28 Jan 1992
Albania . . . . .		28 Aug 2002 a	Guatemala . . . . .		21 Jul 1983 a
Argentina . . . . .	2 Dec 1981	2 Oct 1995	Holy See . . . . .		22 Jul 1997 a
Australia . . . . .	8 Apr 1982	29 Sep 1983	Honduras . . . . .		30 Oct 2003 a
Austria . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	14 Mar 1983	Hungary . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	14 Jun 1982
Bangladesh . . . . .		6 Sep 2000 a	Iceland . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	
Belarus . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	23 Jun 1982	India . . . . .	15 May 1981	1 Mar 1984
Belgium . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	7 Feb 1995	Ireland . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	13 Mar 1995
Benin . . . . .		27 Mar 1989 a	Israel . . . . .		22 Mar 1995 a
Bolivia . . . . .		21 Sep 2001 a	Italy . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	20 Jan 1995
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		1 Sep 1993 d	Japan . . . . .	22 Sep 1981	9 Jun 1982 A
Brazil . . . . .		3 Oct 1995 a	Jordan . . . . .		19 Oct 1995 a
Bulgaria . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	15 Oct 1982	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .		3 Jan 1983 a
Burkina Faso . . . . .		26 Nov 2003 a	Latvia . . . . .		4 Jan 1993 a
Cambodia . . . . .		25 Mar 1997 a	Lesotho . . . . .		6 Sep 2000 a
Cameroon . . . . .		7 Dec 2006 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	Moldova . . . . .		8 Sep 2000 a
Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d	Monaco . . . . .		12 Aug 1997 a
Denmark . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	7 Jul 1982	Mongolia . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	8 Jun 1982
Djibouti . . . . .		29 Jul 1996 a	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Ecuador . . . . .	9 Sep 1981	4 May 1982	Morocco . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	19 Mar 2002
Egypt . . . . .	10 Apr 1981		Nauru . . . . .		12 Nov 2001 a
El Salvador . . . . .		26 Jan 2000 a	Netherlands . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	18 Jun 1987 A
Estonia . . . . .		20 Apr 2000 a	New Zealand . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	18 Oct 1993
Finland . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	8 Apr 1982	Nicaragua . . . . .	20 May 1981	5 Dec 2000
France . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	4 Mar 1988	Niger . . . . .		10 Nov 1992 a
Georgia . . . . .		29 Apr 1996 a	Nigeria . . . . .	26 Jan 1982	7 Jun 1983
Germany . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	25 Nov 1992	Norway . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	1 Apr 1985
			Pakistan . . . . .	26 Jan 1982	

<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>
Panama . . . . .		26 Mar 1997 a	Tajikistan . . . . .		12 Oct 1999 a
Paraguay . . . . .		22 Sep 2004 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		30 Dec 1996 d
Peru . . . . .		3 Jul 1997 a	Togo . . . . .	15 Sep 1981	4 Dec 1995 A
Philippines . . . . .	15 May 1981	15 Jul 1996	Tunisia . . . . .		15 May 1987 a
Poland . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	2 Jun 1983	Turkey . . . . .	26 Mar 1982	2 Mar 2005
Portugal . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	4 Apr 1997	Turkmenistan . . . . .		19 Mar 2004 a
Republic of Korea . . . . .		9 May 2001 a	Uganda . . . . .		14 Nov 1995 a
Romania . . . . .	8 Apr 1982	26 Jul 1995	Ukraine . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	23 Jun 1982
Russian Federation . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	10 Jun 1982	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	13 Feb 1995
Senegal . . . . .		29 Nov 1999 a	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	8 Apr 1982	24 Mar 1995
Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d	Uruguay . . . . .		6 Oct 1994 a
Seychelles . . . . .		8 Jun 2000 a	Uzbekistan . . . . .		29 Sep 1997 a
Sierra Leone . . . . .	1 May 1981	30 Sep 2004	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .		19 Apr 2005 a
Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d	Viet Nam . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	
Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d			
South Africa . . . . .		13 Sep 1995 a			
Spain . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	29 Dec 1993			
Sri Lanka . . . . .		24 Sep 2004 a			
Sudan . . . . .	10 Apr 1981				
Sweden . . . . .	10 Apr 1981	7 Jul 1982			
Switzerland . . . . .	18 Jun 1981	20 Aug 1982			

*Consent to be bound by Protocols I, II, and III, adopted on 10 October 1980, pursuant to article 4 (3) and (4) of the Convention*

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Protocol I</i>	<i>Protocol II</i>	<i>Protocol III</i>
Albania	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Argentina	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Australia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Austria	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Bangladesh	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Belarus	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Belgium	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Benin	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Bolivia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Brazil	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Bulgaria	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Burkina Faso	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Cambodia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Cameroon	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Canada	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Cape Verde	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Chile	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
China	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Colombia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Costa Rica	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Croatia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Cuba	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Cyprus	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Czech Republic	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Protocol I</i>	<i>Protocol II</i>	<i>Protocol III</i>
Denmark	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Djibouti	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Ecuador	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
El Salvador	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Estonia	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Finland	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
France	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x (18 Jul 2002)</i>
Georgia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Germany	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Greece	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Guatemala	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Holy See	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Honduras	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Hungary	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
India	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Ireland	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Israel	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	
Italy	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Japan	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Jordan	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Lao People's Democratic Republic	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Latvia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Lesotho	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Liberia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Liechtenstein	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Lithuania	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Luxembourg	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Maldives	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Mali	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Malta	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Mauritius	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Mexico	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Monaco	<i>x</i>		
Mongolia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Montenegro	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Morocco		<i>x</i>	
Nauru	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Netherlands	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
New Zealand	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Nicaragua	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Niger	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Norway	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Pakistan	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Panama	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Paraguay	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Peru	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Philippines	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Protocol I</i>	<i>Protocol II</i>	<i>Protocol III</i>
Poland	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Portugal	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Republic of Korea	<i>x</i>		
Moldova	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Romania	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Russian Federation	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Senegal			<i>x</i>
Serbia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Seychelles	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Sierra Leone	<i>x</i>		<i>x</i>
Slovakia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Slovenia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
South Africa	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Spain	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Sri Lanka	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Sweden	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Switzerland	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Tajikistan	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Togo	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Tunisia	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Turkey	<i>x</i>		
Turkmenistan	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	
Uganda	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Ukraine	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
United States of America	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	
Uruguay	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Uzbekistan	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>

**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: 50.

**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 Convention 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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Albania	12 May 2006 a	Lithuania	12 May 2003 A
Argentina	25 Feb 2004 a	Luxembourg	13 Jun 2005
Australia	3 Dec 2002 A	Malta	24 Sep 2004 a
Austria	25 Sep 2003 A	Mexico	22 May 2003 A
Belgium	12 Feb 2004	Moldova	5 Jan 2005 a
Bulgaria	28 Feb 2003	Montenegro	23 Oct 2006 d
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
Czech Republic	6 Jun 2006	Poland	15 Sep 2006
Denmark	15 Sep 2004 A	Republic of Korea	13 Feb 2003 A
Estonia	12 May 2003	Romania	25 Aug 2003 a
Finland	22 Jun 2004 A	Russian Federation	24 Jan 2007 A
France	10 Dec 2002 AA	Serbia	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
Ireland	8 Nov 2006 A	Switzerland	19 Jan 2004 A
Italy	1 Sep 2004	Turkey	2 Mar 2005
Japan	10 Jul 2003 A	Ukraine	29 Jun 2005 A
Latvia	23 Apr 2003 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25 Jul 2002 A
Liberia	16 Sep 2005 a		
Liechtenstein	18 Jun 2004 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: 87.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P), Succession (d)</i>
Albania . . . . .	28 Aug 2002 P	Liechtenstein . . . . .	19 Nov 1997 P
Argentina . . . . .	21 Oct 1998 P	Lithuania . . . . .	3 Jun 1998 P
Australia . . . . .	22 Aug 1997 P	Luxembourg . . . . .	5 Aug 1999 P
Austria . . . . .	27 Jul 1998 P	Maldives . . . . .	7 Sep 2000 P
Bangladesh . . . . .	6 Sep 2000 P	Mali . . . . .	24 Oct 2001 P
Belarus . . . . .	2 Mar 2004 P	Malta . . . . .	24 Sep 2004 P
Belgium . . . . .	10 Mar 1999 P	Moldova . . . . .	16 Jul 2001 P
Bolivia . . . . .	21 Sep 2001 P	Monaco . . . . .	12 Aug 1997 P
Bosnia and Herzegovina . . . . .	7 Sep 2000 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
Cameroon . . . . .	7 Dec 2006 P	Norway . . . . .	20 Apr 1998 P
Canada . . . . .	5 Jan 1998 P	Pakistan . . . . .	9 Mar 1999 P
Cape Verde . . . . .	16 Sep 1997 P	Panama . . . . .	3 Nov 1999 P
Chile . . . . .	15 Oct 2003 P	Paraguay . . . . .	22 Sep 2004 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 . . . . .	14 Oct 2003 P
Croatia . . . . .	25 Apr 2002 P	Portugal . . . . .	31 Mar 1999 P
Cyprus . . . . .	22 Jul 2003 P	Republic of Korea . . . . .	9 May 2001 P
Czech Republic . . . . .	10 Aug 1998 P	Romania . . . . .	25 Aug 2003 P
Denmark . . . . .	30 Apr 1997 P	Russian Federation . . . . .	2 Mar 2005 P
Ecuador . . . . .	14 Aug 2000 P	Senegal . . . . .	29 Nov 1999 P
El Salvador . . . . .	26 Jan 2000 P	Seychelles . . . . .	8 Jun 2000 P
Estonia . . . . .	20 Apr 2000 P	Sierra Leone . . . . .	30 Sep 2004 P
Finland . . . . .	3 Apr 1998 P	Slovakia . . . . .	30 Nov 1999 P
France . . . . .	23 Jul 1998 P	Slovenia . . . . .	3 Dec 2002 P
Germany . . . . .	2 May 1997 P	South Africa . . . . .	26 Jun 1998 P
Greece . . . . .	20 Jan 1999 P	Spain . . . . .	27 Jan 1998 P
Guatemala . . . . .	29 Oct 2001 P	Sri Lanka . . . . .	24 Sep 2004 P
Holy See . . . . .	22 Jul 1997 P	Sweden . . . . .	16 Jul 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	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia . . . . .	31 May 2005 P
Ireland . . . . .	27 Mar 1997 P	Tunisia . . . . .	23 Mar 2006 P
Israel . . . . .	30 Oct 2000 P	Turkey . . . . .	2 Mar 2005 P
Italy . . . . .	13 Jan 1999 P	Turkmenistan . . . . .	19 Mar 2004 P
Japan . . . . .	10 Jun 1997 P	Ukraine . . . . .	15 Dec 1999 P
Jordan . . . . .	6 Sep 2000 P	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	11 Feb 1999 P
Latvia . . . . .	22 Aug 2002 P		
Liberia . . . . .	16 Sep 2005 P		

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P), Succession (d)</i>
United States of America . . . . .	24 May 1999 P
Uruguay . . . . .	18 Aug 1998 P
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . .	19 Apr 2005 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: 85.  
**TEXT:** Doc. CCW/CONF.I/16 Part I).

*Note:* At its 8<sup>th</sup> 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>Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>	<i>Succession (d)</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		Moldova . . . . .	8 Sep 2000 P	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	11 Oct 2001 P		Mongolia . . . . .	6 Apr 1999 P	
Brazil . . . . .	4 Oct 1999 P		Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Bulgaria . . . . .	3 Dec 1998 P		Morocco . . . . .	19 Mar 2002 P	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	26 Nov 2003 P		Nauru . . . . .	12 Nov 2001 P	
Cambodia . . . . .	25 Mar 1997 P		Netherlands . . . . .	25 Mar 1999 P	
Cameroon . . . . .	7 Dec 2006 P		New Zealand . . . . .	8 Jan 1998 P	
Canada . . . . .	5 Jan 1998 P		Nicaragua . . . . .	5 Dec 2000 P	
Cape Verde . . . . .	16 Sep 1997 P		Norway . . . . .	20 Apr 1998 P	
Chile . . . . .	15 Oct 2003 P		Pakistan . . . . .	5 Dec 2000 P	
China . . . . .	4 Nov 1998 P		Panama . . . . .	26 Mar 1997 P	
Colombia . . . . .	6 Mar 2000 P		Peru . . . . .	3 Jul 1997 P	
Costa Rica . . . . .	17 Dec 1998 P		Philippines . . . . .	12 Jun 1997 P	
Croatia . . . . .	25 Apr 2002 P		Poland . . . . .	23 Sep 2004 P	
Cyprus . . . . .	22 Jul 2003 P		Portugal . . . . .	12 Nov 2001 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 . . . . .	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	
Georgia . . . . .	14 Jul 2006 P		South Africa . . . . .	26 Jun 1998 P	
Germany . . . . .	27 Jun 1997 P		Spain . . . . .	19 Jan 1998 P	
Greece . . . . .	5 Aug 1997 P		Sri Lanka . . . . .	24 Sep 2004 P	
Guatemala . . . . .	30 Aug 2002 P		Sweden . . . . .	15 Jan 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 Mace- donia . . . . .	19 Mar 2007 P	
India . . . . .	2 Sep 1999 P		Tunisia . . . . .	23 Mar 2006 P	
Ireland . . . . .	27 Mar 1997 P		Turkey . . . . .	2 Mar 2005 P	
Israel . . . . .	30 Oct 2000 P		Ukraine . . . . .	28 May 2003 P	
Italy . . . . .	13 Jan 1999 P		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	11 Feb 1999 P	
Japan . . . . .	10 Jun 1997 P				
Latvia . . . . .	11 Mar 1998 P				
Liberia . . . . .	16 Sep 2005 P				
Liechtenstein . . . . .	19 Nov 1997 P				

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P)</i>	<i>Succession (d)</i>
Uruguay.....	18 Sep 1998	P
Uzbekistan.....	29 Sep 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 entered into force on 12 November 2006 (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*

<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE:</b>	12 November 2006, in accordance with article 5 (3) and (4) of the Convention.
<b>REGISTRATION:</b>	12 November 2006, No. 22495.
<b>STATUS:</b>	Parties: 32.
<b>TEXT:</b>	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.375.2006.TREATIES-4 of 15 May 2006 [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) and C.N.385.2006.TREATIES-7 of 16 May 2006 [Corrections to the original text of the Protocol (Russian version)]; C.N.437.2006.TREATIES-9 of 1 June 2006, C.N.241.2006.TREATIES-1 of 22 March 2006, C.N.440.2006.TREATIES-9 of 1 June 2006 and C.N.379.2006.TREATIES-4 of 16 May 2006, (Corrected versions of the Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish authentic texts of the Protocol, respectively).

*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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Consent to be bound (P), Succession (d)</i>
Albania . . . . .	12 May 2006 P	Luxembourg . . . . .	13 Jun 2005 P
Australia . . . . .	4 Jan 2007 P	Malta . . . . .	22 Sep 2006 P
Bulgaria . . . . .	7 Nov 2005 P	Netherlands . . . . .	18 Jul 2005 P
Croatia . . . . .	7 Feb 2005 P	Nicaragua . . . . .	15 Sep 2005 P
Czech Republic . . . . .	6 Jun 2006 P	Norway . . . . .	8 Dec 2005 P
Denmark . . . . .	28 Jun 2005 P	Sierra Leone . . . . .	30 Sep 2004 P
El Salvador . . . . .	23 Mar 2006 P	Slovakia . . . . .	23 Mar 2006 P
Estonia . . . . .	18 Dec 2006 P	Slovenia . . . . .	22 Feb 2007 P
Finland . . . . .	23 Mar 2005 P	Spain . . . . .	9 Feb 2007 P
France . . . . .	31 Oct 2006 P	Sweden . . . . .	2 Jun 2004 P
Germany . . . . .	3 Mar 2005 P	Switzerland . . . . .	12 May 2006 P
Holy See . . . . .	13 Dec 2005 P	Tajikistan . . . . .	18 May 2006 P
Hungary . . . . .	13 Nov 2006 P	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia . . . . .	19 Mar 2007 P
India . . . . .	18 May 2005 P	Ukraine . . . . .	17 May 2005 P
Ireland . . . . .	8 Nov 2006 P		
Liberia . . . . .	16 Sep 2005 P		
Liechtenstein . . . . .	12 May 2006 P		
Lithuania . . . . .	29 Sep 2004 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: 153.  
**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), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .		11 Sep 2002 a	Cyprus . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	17 Jan 2003
Albania . . . . .	8 Sep 1998	29 Feb 2000	Czech Republic . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	26 Oct 1999
Algeria . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	9 Oct 2001	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .		2 May 2002 a
Andorra . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	Denmark . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	8 Jun 1998
Angola . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	5 Jul 2002	Djibouti . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	18 May 1998
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	3 May 1999	Dominica . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	26 Mar 1999
Argentina . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	14 Sep 1999	Dominican Republic . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Australia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	14 Jan 1999	Ecuador . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	29 Apr 1999
Austria . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	29 Jun 1998	El Salvador . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	27 Jan 1999
Bahamas . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .		16 Sep 1998 a
Bangladesh . . . . .	7 May 1998	6 Sep 2000	Eritrea . . . . .		27 Aug 2001 a
Barbados . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	26 Jan 1999	Estonia . . . . .		12 May 2004 a
Belarus . . . . .		3 Sep 2003 a	Ethiopia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	17 Dec 2004
Belgium . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	Fiji . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	10 Jun 1998
Belize . . . . .	27 Feb 1998	23 Apr 1998	France . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	23 Jul 1998
Benin . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	25 Sep 1998	Gabon . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 2000
Bhutan . . . . .		18 Aug 2005 a	Gambia . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	23 Sep 2002
Bolivia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	9 Jun 1998	Germany . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	23 Jul 1998
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 1998	Ghana . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000
Botswana . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	1 Mar 2000	Greece . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	25 Sep 2003
Brazil . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	30 Apr 1999	Grenada . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	19 Aug 1998
Brunei Darussalam . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	24 Apr 2006	Guatemala . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	26 Mar 1999
Bulgaria . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	4 Sep 1998	Guinea . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	8 Oct 1998
Burkina Faso . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	16 Sep 1998	Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	22 May 2001
Burundi . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	22 Oct 2003	Guyana . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	5 Aug 2003
Cambodia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	28 Jul 1999	Haiti . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	15 Feb 2006
Cameroon . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	19 Sep 2002	Holy See . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	17 Feb 1998
Canada . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997	Honduras . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	24 Sep 1998
Cape Verde . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	14 May 2001	Hungary . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	6 Apr 1998
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .		8 Nov 2002 a	Iceland . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	5 May 1999
Chad . . . . .	6 Jul 1998	6 May 1999	Indonesia . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	16 Feb 2007
Chile . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	10 Sep 2001	Ireland . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997
Colombia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	6 Sep 2000	Italy . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	23 Apr 1999
Comoros . . . . .		19 Sep 2002 a	Jamaica . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	17 Jul 1998
Congo . . . . .		4 May 2001 a	Japan . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	30 Sep 1998 A
Cook Islands . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	15 Mar 2006	Jordan . . . . .	11 Aug 1998	13 Nov 1998
Costa Rica . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	17 Mar 1999	Kenya . . . . .	5 Dec 1997	23 Jan 2001
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	30 Jun 2000	Kiribati . . . . .		7 Sep 2000 a
Croatia . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	20 May 1998	Latvia . . . . .		1 Jul 2005 a
			Lesotho . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	2 Dec 1998

<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>
Liberia . . . . .		23 Dec 1999 a	Sao Tome and Principe	30 Apr 1998	31 Mar 2003
Liechtenstein . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	5 Oct 1999	Senegal . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	24 Sep 1998
Lithuania . . . . .	26 Feb 1999	12 May 2003	Serbia . . . . .		18 Sep 2003 a
Luxembourg . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	14 Jun 1999	Seychelles . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	2 Jun 2000
Madagascar . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	16 Sep 1999	Sierra Leone . . . . .	29 Jul 1998	25 Apr 2001
Malawi . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	13 Aug 1998	Slovakia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	25 Feb 1999 AA
Malaysia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	22 Apr 1999	Slovenia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	27 Oct 1998
Maldives . . . . .	1 Oct 1998	7 Sep 2000	Solomon Islands . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	26 Jan 1999
Mali . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	2 Jun 1998	South Africa . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	26 Jun 1998
Malta . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	7 May 2001	Spain . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	19 Jan 1999
Marshall Islands . . . . .	4 Dec 1997		Sudan . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	13 Oct 2003
Mauritania . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	21 Jul 2000	Suriname . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	23 May 2002
Mauritius . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	3 Dec 1997	Swaziland . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	22 Dec 1998
Mexico . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	9 Jun 1998	Sweden . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	30 Nov 1998
Moldova . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	8 Sep 2000	Switzerland . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	24 Mar 1998
Monaco . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	17 Nov 1998	Tajikistan . . . . .		12 Oct 1999 a
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Thailand . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	27 Nov 1998
Mozambique . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	25 Aug 1998	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		9 Sep 1998 a
Namibia . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	21 Sep 1998	Timor-Leste . . . . .		7 May 2003 a
Nauru . . . . .		7 Aug 2000 a	Togo . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	9 Mar 2000
Netherlands . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	12 Apr 1999 A	Trinidad and Tobago . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	27 Apr 1998
New Zealand . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	27 Jan 1999	Tunisia . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	9 Jul 1999
Nicaragua . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	30 Nov 1998	Turkey . . . . .		25 Sep 2003 a
Niger . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	23 Mar 1999	Turkmenistan . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	19 Jan 1998
Nigeria . . . . .		27 Sep 2001 a	Uganda . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	25 Feb 1999
Niue . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	15 Apr 1998	Ukraine . . . . .	24 Feb 1999	27 Dec 2005
Norway . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	9 Jul 1998	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	31 Jul 1998
Panama . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	7 Oct 1998	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	13 Nov 2000
Papua New Guinea . . . . .		28 Jun 2004 a	Uruguay . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	7 Jun 2001
Paraguay . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	13 Nov 1998	Vanuatu . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	16 Sep 2005
Peru . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	17 Jun 1998	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	14 Apr 1999
Philippines . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	15 Feb 2000	Yemen . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	1 Sep 1998
Poland . . . . .	4 Dec 1997		Zambia . . . . .	12 Dec 1997	23 Feb 2001
Portugal . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	19 Feb 1999	Zimbabwe . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	18 Jun 1998
Qatar . . . . .	4 Dec 1997	13 Oct 1998			
Romania . . . . .	3 Dec 1997	30 Nov 2000			
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			

## **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty** *(New York, 10 September 1996)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The objective of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (the Treaty) is to secure an end to all nuclear weapons testing and other forms of nuclear explosions. The Treaty, by prohibiting all nuclear explosions, constitutes an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and therefore contributes to the enhancement of international peace and security.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Treaty prohibits nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosion, and obligates Parties to prohibit and prevent any such nuclear explosion at any place under their jurisdiction or control. In addition, Parties are obligated to refrain from causing, encouraging, or in any way participating in the carrying out of any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion.

The Treaty sets up a verification regime which consists of the international monitoring system comprising 337 monitoring facilities, consultation and clarification, on-site inspections and confidence-building measures. The purpose of the international monitoring system is to detect and identify any activity prohibited under the Treaty. The consultation and clarification process encourages Parties to resolve possible violations before requesting an on-site inspection. If this mechanism fails, each Party has a right to request an on-site inspection. The Treaty specifies various guidelines concerning the request and approval for such an inspection, as well as how such an inspection shall be conducted. The Treaty also establishes the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (the CTBTO), which will implement the Treaty and provide a forum for consultation and cooperation.

The Protocol to the Treaty is an integral part of the Treaty and it contains detailed provisions. The provisions addressing an international monitoring system and international data centre functions set forth an obligation on the Parties to cooperate in an international exchange of seismological data, hydroacoustic data, infrasound data, and data on radionuclides in the atmosphere. The Protocol also provides for technical assistance to the Parties to the Treaty.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

This Treaty has not yet entered into force. According to article XIV, the Treaty will enter into force 180 days after the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by all of the 44 States listed in annex 2 to the Treaty (article XIV).

Currently, the Preparatory Commission of the CTBTO, which was established by resolution of the States Signatories to the Treaty on 19 November 1996, is carrying out the necessary preparation for the effective implementation of the Treaty pending its entry into force.

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Treaty is currently open for signature and will remain open to all States for signature before its entry into force. The Treaty is subject to ratification by signatory States. Any State which does not sign this Treaty before its entry into force may accede to it at any time thereafter. Upon signature of the Treaty, States become members of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which was established in 1996 to prepare for the entry into force of the Treaty (articles XI, XII and XIII).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Each Party shall designate a National Authority and shall so inform the CTBTO upon entry into force of the Treaty for it. The National Authority shall serve as the national focal point for liaison with the CTBTO and with the other Parties (article III).

Each Party, no later than 30 days after the entry into force of the Treaty for it, shall notify the Director-General of the names, dates of birth, sex, ranks, qualifications and professional experience of the persons proposed by the Party for designation as inspectors and inspector assistants (Part II, Section B of the Protocol to the Treaty).

Each Party must also immediately acknowledge receipt of the initial list of inspectors and inspection assistants proposed for designation. Any inspector or inspection assistant included in this list shall be regarded as accepted unless the Party declares its non-acceptance in writing within 30 days after acknowledgement of receipt of the list (Part II, Section B of the Protocol to the Treaty).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

Reservations to the articles and annexes to the Treaty are prohibited. The provisions of the Protocol to the Treaty and the Annexes to the Protocol shall not be subject to reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Treaty (article XV).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A Party may withdraw from the Treaty by giving notice six months in advance to all other Parties, the Executive Council, the depositary, and the United Nations Security Council. The notice of withdrawal shall also include a statement of the extraordinary event or events which the Party regards as jeopardizing its supreme interests (article IX).

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

New York, 10 September 1996

**NOT YET IN FORCE:**

[see article XIV]. This Treaty will enter into force 180 days after the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by all States listed in Annex 2 to this Treaty (that is to say: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Zaire), but in no case earlier than two years after its opening for signature. 2. If this Treaty has not entered into force three years after the date of the anniversary of its opening for signature, the Depositary shall convene a Conference of the States that have already deposited their instruments of ratification upon the request of a majority of those States. That Conference shall examine the extent to which the requirement set out in paragraph 1 has been met and shall consider and decide by consensus what measure consistent with international law may facilitate the early entry into force of this Treaty. 3. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference referred to in paragraph 2 or other such conferences, this process shall be repeated at subsequent anniversaries of the opening for signature of this Treaty, until its entry into force. 4. All States Signatories shall be invited to attend the Conference referred to in paragraph 2 and any subsequent conferences as referred to in paragraph 3, as observers. 5. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, it shall enter into force on the 30th day following the date of deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession."

**STATUS:**

Signatories: 176. Parties: 138.

**TEXT:**

Doc. A/50/1027; and C.N.429.2002.TREATIES-3 of 6 May 2002 [proposed corrections to the original text of the treaty (Arabic text)] and C.N.629.2002.TREATIES-4 of 11 June 2002 [procès-verbal of rectification (Arabic text)].

*Note:* At its 50th session, the General Assembly adopted, on 10 September 1996 by resolution A/RES/50/245 the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as contained in document A/50/1027. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Treaty, to open it for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York at the earliest possible date. The Treaty was opened for signature on 24 September 1996 and it will remain open for signature until its entry into force, in accordance with article XI.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>
Afghanistan . . . . .	24 Sep 2003	24 Sep 2003	Cambodia . . . . .	26 Sep 1996	10 Nov 2000
Albania . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	23 Apr 2003	Cameroon . . . . .	16 Nov 2001	6 Feb 2006
Algeria . . . . .	15 Oct 1996	11 Jul 2003	Canada . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	18 Dec 1998
Andorra . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	12 Jul 2006	Cape Verde . . . . .	1 Oct 1996	1 Mar 2006
Angola . . . . .	27 Sep 1996		Central African Republic . . . . .	19 Dec 2001	
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .	16 Apr 1997	11 Jan 2006	Chad . . . . .	8 Oct 1996	
Argentina . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	4 Dec 1998	Chile . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	12 Jul 2000
Armenia . . . . .	1 Oct 1996	12 Jul 2006	China . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	
Australia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	9 Jul 1998	Colombia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	
Austria . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	13 Mar 1998	Comoros . . . . .	12 Dec 1996	
Azerbaijan . . . . .	28 Jul 1997	2 Feb 1999	Congo . . . . .	11 Feb 1997	
Bahamas . . . . .	4 Feb 2005		Cook Islands . . . . .	5 Dec 1997	6 Sep 2005
Bahrain . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	12 Apr 2004	Costa Rica . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	25 Sep 2001
Bangladesh . . . . .	24 Oct 1996	8 Mar 2000	Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	11 Mar 2003
Belarus . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	13 Sep 2000	Croatia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	2 Mar 2001
Belgium . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	29 Jun 1999	Cyprus . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	18 Jul 2003
Belize . . . . .	14 Nov 2001	26 Mar 2004	Czech Republic . . . . .	12 Nov 1996	11 Sep 1997
Benin . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	6 Mar 2001	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	4 Oct 1996	28 Sep 2004
Bolivia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	4 Oct 1999	Denmark . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	21 Dec 1998
Bosnia and Herzegovina . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	26 Oct 2006	Djibouti . . . . .	21 Oct 1996	15 Jul 2005
Botswana . . . . .	16 Sep 2002	28 Oct 2002	Dominican Republic . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	
Brazil . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	24 Jul 1998	Ecuador . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	12 Nov 2001
Brunei Darussalam . . . . .	22 Jan 1997		Egypt . . . . .	14 Oct 1996	
Bulgaria . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	29 Sep 1999	El Salvador . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	11 Sep 1998
Burkina Faso . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	17 Apr 2002	Equatorial Guinea . . . . .	9 Oct 1996	
Burundi . . . . .	24 Sep 1996				

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>
Eritrea . . . . .	11 Nov 2003	11 Nov 2003	Nauru . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	12 Nov 2001
Estonia . . . . .	20 Nov 1996	13 Aug 1999	Nepal . . . . .	8 Oct 1996	
Ethiopia . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	8 Aug 2006	Netherlands . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	23 Mar 1999
Fiji . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	10 Oct 1996	New Zealand . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	19 Mar 1999
Finland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	15 Jan 1999	Nicaragua . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	5 Dec 2000
France . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	6 Apr 1998	Niger . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	9 Sep 2002
Gabon . . . . .	7 Oct 1996	20 Sep 2000	Nigeria . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	27 Sep 2001
Gambia . . . . .	9 Apr 2003		Norway . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	15 Jul 1999
Georgia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	27 Sep 2002	Oman . . . . .	23 Sep 1999	13 Jun 2003
Germany . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	20 Aug 1998	Palau . . . . .	12 Aug 2003	
Ghana . . . . .	3 Oct 1996		Panama . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	23 Mar 1999
Greece . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	21 Apr 1999	Papua New Guinea . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	
Grenada . . . . .	10 Oct 1996	19 Aug 1998	Paraguay . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	4 Oct 2001
Guatemala . . . . .	20 Sep 1999		Peru . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	12 Nov 1997
Guinea . . . . .	3 Oct 1996		Philippines . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	23 Feb 2001
Guinea-Bissau . . . . .	11 Apr 1997		Poland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	25 May 1999
Guyana . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Mar 2001	Portugal . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	26 Jun 2000
Haiti . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	1 Dec 2005	Qatar . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	3 Mar 1997
Holy See . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	18 Jul 2001	Republic of Korea . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	24 Sep 1999
Honduras . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	30 Oct 2003	Romania . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	5 Oct 1999
Hungary . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	13 Jul 1999	Russian Federation . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	30 Jun 2000
Iceland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	26 Jun 2000	Rwanda . . . . .	30 Nov 2004	30 Nov 2004
Indonesia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996		Saint Kitts and Nevis . . . . .	23 Mar 2004	27 Apr 2005
Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .	24 Sep 1996		Saint Lucia . . . . .	4 Oct 1996	5 Apr 2001
Ireland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	15 Jul 1999	Samoa . . . . .	9 Oct 1996	27 Sep 2002
Israel . . . . .	25 Sep 1996		San Marino . . . . .	7 Oct 1996	12 Mar 2002
Italy . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	1 Feb 1999	Sao Tome and Principe . . . . .	26 Sep 1996	
Jamaica . . . . .	11 Nov 1996	13 Nov 2001	Senegal . . . . .	26 Sep 1996	9 Jun 1999
Japan . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	8 Jul 1997	Serbia . . . . .	8 Jun 2001	19 May 2004
Jordan . . . . .	26 Sep 1996	25 Aug 1998	Seychelles . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	13 Apr 2004
Kazakhstan . . . . .	30 Sep 1996	14 May 2002	Sierra Leone . . . . .	8 Sep 2000	17 Sep 2001
Kenya . . . . .	14 Nov 1996	30 Nov 2000	Singapore . . . . .	14 Jan 1999	10 Nov 2001
Kiribati . . . . .	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	Slovakia . . . . .	30 Sep 1996	3 Mar 1998
Kuwait . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	6 May 2003	Slovenia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	31 Aug 1999
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .	8 Oct 1996	2 Oct 2003	Solomon Islands . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	
Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . . .	30 Jul 1997	5 Oct 2000	South Africa . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	30 Mar 1999
Latvia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	20 Nov 2001	Spain . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	31 Jul 1998
Lebanon . . . . .	16 Sep 2005		Sri Lanka . . . . .	24 Oct 1996	
Lesotho . . . . .	30 Sep 1996	14 Sep 1999	Sudan . . . . .	10 Jun 2004	10 Jun 2004
Liberia . . . . .	1 Oct 1996		Suriname . . . . .	14 Jan 1997	7 Feb 2006
Libyan Arab Jamahir- iya . . . . .	13 Nov 2001	6 Jan 2004	Swaziland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	
Liechtenstein . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	21 Sep 2004	Sweden . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	2 Dec 1998
Lithuania . . . . .	7 Oct 1996	7 Feb 2000	Switzerland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	1 Oct 1999
Luxembourg . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	26 May 1999	Tajikistan . . . . .	7 Oct 1996	10 Jun 1998
Madagascar . . . . .	9 Oct 1996	15 Sep 2005	Thailand . . . . .	12 Nov 1996	
Malawi . . . . .	9 Oct 1996		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	29 Oct 1998	14 Mar 2000
Malaysia . . . . .	23 Jul 1998		Togo . . . . .	2 Oct 1996	2 Jul 2004
Maldives . . . . .	1 Oct 1997	7 Sep 2000	Tunisia . . . . .	16 Oct 1996	23 Sep 2004
Mali . . . . .	18 Feb 1997	4 Aug 1999	Turkey . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	16 Feb 2000
Malta . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	23 Jul 2001	Turkmenistan . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	20 Feb 1998
Marshall Islands . . . . .	24 Sep 1996		Uganda . . . . .	7 Nov 1996	14 Mar 2001
Mauritania . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	30 Apr 2003	Ukraine . . . . .	27 Sep 1996	23 Feb 2001
Mexico . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	5 Oct 1999	United Arab Emirates . . . . .	25 Sep 1996	18 Sep 2000
Micronesia (Federated States of) . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	25 Jul 1997	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	6 Apr 1998
Moldova . . . . .	24 Sep 1997	16 Jan 2007	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	30 Sep 2004	30 Sep 2004
Monaco . . . . .	1 Oct 1996	18 Dec 1998	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	
Mongolia . . . . .	1 Oct 1996	8 Aug 1997	Uruguay . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	21 Sep 2001
Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d	Uzbekistan . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	29 May 1997
Morocco . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	17 Apr 2000	Vanuatu . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	16 Sep 2005
Mozambique . . . . .	26 Sep 1996				
Myanmar . . . . .	25 Nov 1996				
Namibia . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	29 Jun 2001			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Succession (d)</i>
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	3 Oct 1996	13 May 2002	Zambia . . . . .	3 Dec 1996	23 Feb 2006
Viet Nam . . . . .	24 Sep 1996	10 Mar 2006	Zimbabwe . . . . .	13 Oct 1999	
Yemen . . . . .	30 Sep 1996				

## **United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Vienna, 11 April 1980)**

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (the Convention), establishes a uniform framework for contracts relating to the international sale of goods. Prepared by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and adopted at a diplomatic conference, the text represents the outcome of a long process of elaboration and is complemented by the Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods, 1974, as amended in 1980, and by the Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts, 2005.

The Convention has been adopted by most major trading countries, as well as by a number of other countries representing all legal traditions and levels of economic development. It is estimated that the Convention regulates the majority of world trade. Since the contract of sale is widely recognized as the backbone of international trade, the Convention is considered one of the core treaties in international trade whose swift universal adoption is particularly desirable.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention governs international sales of goods between private business, excluding sales to consumers and sale of services, as well as sales of certain specified types of goods. It applies to contracts of sale of goods between parties whose places of business are in different Contracting States, or when the rules of private international law lead to the application of the law of a Contracting State. It may also apply by virtue of the parties' choice. Certain matters relating to the international sales of goods, for instance the validity of the contract and the effect of the contract on the property in the goods sold, fall outside the Convention's scope.

The Convention contains provisions on the formation of contract. It also deals with the seller's obligation to deliver goods conforming in quantity and quality to the contractual stipulations and at the time and place stated therein (or, alternatively, as determined by the Convention), as well as to hand over the relevant documents.

The Convention also regulates the obligations of the buyer, which include payment of price and taking delivery of the goods. Furthermore, the Convention provides rules on the passing of risk, as well as a number of provisions common to the obligations of the seller and of the buyer such as anticipatory breach of contract, damages, and exemption from the obligation to perform the contract.

The Convention contains rules on its uniform interpretation, which is facilitated by various tools, including CLOUT, a collection of case law prepared by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and available also in the form of a digest.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

This Convention entered into force on 1 January 1988. For the purpose of article 99, ratifications, acceptances, approvals and accessions in respect of the Convention by Parties to the 1964 Convention relating to a Uniform Law on the Formation of Contracts for the International Sale of Goods and the 1964 Convention relating to a Uniform Law on the International Sale of Goods shall not be effective until such denunciation as may be required on the part of those Parties becomes effective (article 99).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. The Convention is open for accession by all States which are not signatory States as from the date it was opened for signature (article 91).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

A Party may declare at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession that it will not be bound by Part II or Part III of this Convention (article 99).

Two or more Parties which have the same or closely related legal rules on matters governed by the Convention may at any time declare that the Convention is not to apply to contracts of sale or to their formation where the parties have their places of business in those States. A Party which has the same or closely related legal rules on matters governed by the Convention as one or more non-Parties may at any time declare that the Convention is not to apply to contracts of sale or to their formation where the Parties have their places of business in those States (article 94).

Any Party may declare at the time of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession that it will not be bound by subparagraph (1) (b) of article 1 of the Convention relating to its scope of application (article 95).

A Party whose legislation requires contracts of sale to be concluded in or evidenced by writing may at any time make a declaration in accordance with article 12 that any provision of article 11, article 29 or Part II of this Convention that allows a contract of sale or its modification or termination by agreement or any offer, acceptance, or other indication of intention to be made in any form other than in writing, does not apply where any party has his place of business in that State (article 96).

Declarations made under this Convention at the time of signature are subject to confirmation upon ratification, acceptance or approval (article 97).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

No reservations are permitted except those expressly authorized in this Convention (article 98).

***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A Party may denounce this Convention, or Part II or Part III of the Convention, by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such denunciation takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of twelve months after the notification is received by the depositary (article 101).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON CONTRACTS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SALE OF  
GOODS

Vienna, 11 April 1980

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 1 January 1988, in accordance with article 99 (1).  
**REGISTRATION:** 1 January 1988, No. 25567.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 18. Parties: 70.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1489, p. 3; depositary notification C.N.862.1998.TREATIES-5 of 19 February 1999 (procès-verbal of rectification of the authentic Arabic text); C.N.233.2000.TREATIES-2 of 27 April 2000 (rectification of the Russian authentic text); and C.N.1075.2000.TREATIES-5 of 1 December 2000 [rectification of the original of the Convention (Arabic authentic text)].

*Note:* The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, held at Vienna from 10 March to 11 April 1980. The Conference was convened by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in accordance with its resolution 33/93 of 16 December 1978, adopted on the basis of chapter II of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its eleventh session (1978).

The Convention was opened for signature at the concluding meeting of the Conference on 11 April 1980 and remained open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York until 30 September 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>
Argentina . . . . .		19 Jul 1983 a	Lesotho . . . . .	18 Jun 1981	18 Jun 1981
Australia . . . . .		17 Mar 1988 a	Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a
Austria . . . . .	11 Apr 1980	29 Dec 1987	Lithuania . . . . .		18 Jan 1995 a
Belarus . . . . .		9 Oct 1989 a	Luxembourg . . . . .		30 Jan 1997 a
Belgium . . . . .		31 Oct 1996 a	Mauritania . . . . .		20 Aug 1999 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		12 Jan 1994 d	Mexico . . . . .		29 Dec 1987 a
Bulgaria . . . . .		9 Jul 1990 a	Moldova . . . . .		13 Oct 1994 a
Burundi . . . . .		4 Sep 1998 a	Mongolia . . . . .		31 Dec 1997 a
Canada . . . . .		23 Apr 1991 a	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d
Chile . . . . .	11 Apr 1980	7 Feb 1990	Netherlands . . . . .	29 May 1981	13 Dec 1990 A
China . . . . .	30 Sep 1981	11 Dec 1986 AA	New Zealand . . . . .		22 Sep 1994 a
Colombia . . . . .		10 Jul 2001 a	Norway . . . . .	26 May 1981	20 Jul 1988
Croatia . . . . .		8 Jun 1998 d	Paraguay . . . . .		13 Jan 2006 a
Cuba . . . . .		2 Nov 1994 a	Peru . . . . .		25 Mar 1999 a
Cyprus . . . . .		7 Mar 2005 a	Poland . . . . .	28 Sep 1981	19 May 1995
Czech Republic . . . . .		30 Sep 1993 d	Republic of Korea . . . . .		17 Feb 2004 a
Denmark . . . . .	26 May 1981	14 Feb 1989	Romania . . . . .		22 May 1991 a
Ecuador . . . . .		27 Jan 1992 a	Russian Federation . . . . .		16 Aug 1990 a
Egypt . . . . .		6 Dec 1982 a	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		12 Sep 2000 a
El Salvador . . . . .		27 Nov 2006 a	Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d
Estonia . . . . .		20 Sep 1993 a	Singapore . . . . .	11 Apr 1980	16 Feb 1995
Finland . . . . .	26 May 1981	15 Dec 1987	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
France . . . . .	27 Aug 1981	6 Aug 1982 AA	Slovenia . . . . .		7 Jan 1994 d
Gabon . . . . .		15 Dec 2004 a	Spain . . . . .		24 Jul 1990 a
Georgia . . . . .		16 Aug 1994 a	Sweden . . . . .	26 May 1981	15 Dec 1987
Germany . . . . .	26 May 1981	21 Dec 1989	Switzerland . . . . .		21 Feb 1990 a
Ghana . . . . .	11 Apr 1980		Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .		19 Oct 1982 a
Greece . . . . .		12 Jan 1998 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		22 Nov 2006 d
Guinea . . . . .		23 Jan 1991 a	Uganda . . . . .		12 Feb 1992 a
Honduras . . . . .		10 Oct 2002 a	Ukraine . . . . .		3 Jan 1990 a
Hungary . . . . .	11 Apr 1980	16 Jun 1983	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .	31 Aug 1981	11 Dec 1986
Iceland . . . . .		10 May 2001 a	Uruguay . . . . .		25 Jan 1999 a
Iraq . . . . .		5 Mar 1990 a	Uzbekistan . . . . .		27 Nov 1996 a
Israel . . . . .		22 Jan 2002 a			
Italy . . . . .	30 Sep 1981	11 Dec 1986			
Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		11 May 1999 a			
Latvia . . . . .		31 Jul 1997 a			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Acceptance (A), Approval (AA), Accession (a), Succession (d)</i>
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .	28 Sep 1981	
Zambia . . . . .		6 Jun 1986 a

## **United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts** *(New York, 23 November 2005)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (the Convention) aims at removing obstacles to the use of electronic communications in international contracting, including obstacles that might arise under existing international trade law treaties, most of which were negotiated long before the development of new technology, such as e-mail, electronic data interchange (EDI) and the Internet. Thus, the Convention will assure companies and traders around the world that contracts negotiated electronically are as valid and enforceable as traditional paper-based transactions.

While the Convention may complement any treaty relating to international trade, the benefits arising from its application are particularly evident with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958, and the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, 1980.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

Prepared by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the Convention builds upon earlier instruments prepared by the same Commission, and, in particular, on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce, 1996, and on the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures, 2001. Fundamental principles shared with those model laws include the principle of non-discrimination, preventing disparity of treatment of electronic communications based exclusively on their nature; the principle of technological neutrality, ensuring that all existing and future technologies would be equally acceptable under the Convention provided they meet certain minimal standards; and the principle of functional equivalence between electronic communications and paper documents (including “original” paper documents), as well as between electronic authentication methods and hand-written signatures.

The Convention deals also with determining a party’s location in an electronic environment and the time and place of dispatch and receipt of electronic communications. Other provisions address needs typical of the electronic world and include: de-linking the place of business of a party from its use of a domain name or an electronic mail address connected to a specific country; ensuring the enforceability of contracts concluded with the interaction of automated message systems; and providing for the consequences of input errors in electronic communications.

The Convention does not apply to consumer contracts and other contracts and communications concluded for personal, family or household purposes, such as those relating to family law and the law of succession. It also excludes from its scope of application certain financial transactions, as well as negotiable instruments and documents of title.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It will enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to the Convention after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention enters into force in respect of that State on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (article 23).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is open for signature by all States until 16 January 2008. It is subject to ratification, acceptance, or approval by signatory States. It is open for accession by all States that are not signatory States as from the date it is open for signature (article 16).

A regional economic integration organization that is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by the Convention may similarly sign, ratify, accept or accede to the Convention. Where the number of States is relevant, the regional economic integration organization shall not count as a Party in addition to its member States that are Parties (article 17).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

The regional economic integration organization shall, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, make a declaration specifying the matters governed by this Convention in respect of which competence has been transferred to that organization by its member States. The regional economic integration organization shall promptly notify the depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration (article 17).

Any Party may declare, in accordance with article 21, that it will apply this Convention only when the States referred to in article 1, paragraph 1, are Parties to this Convention or when the Parties have agreed that it applies. Any Party may exclude from the scope of application of this Convention the matters it specifies in a declaration made in accordance with article 21 (article 19).

A Party may declare that it is not bound by paragraph 2 of article 20, which provides that the provisions of the Convention apply to electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of a contract to which another international convention not specifically referred to in paragraph 1 of article 20 applies, and to which a Party to this Convention may become a Party. A Party that makes the above declaration may also declare that it will nevertheless apply the provisions of the Convention to the use of electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of any contract to which a specified international convention applies to which the Party is or may become a Party. Any State may declare that it will not apply the provisions of the Convention to the use of electronic communications in connection with the formation or performance of a contract to which any international convention specified in that Party's declaration, to which the Party is or may become a Party,

applies, including any of the conventions referred to in paragraph 1 of article 20, even if such a Party has not excluded the application of paragraph 2 of article 20 (article 20).

***RESERVATIONS***

No reservations may be made under this Convention (article 22).

***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A Party may denounce this Convention by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such denunciation takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of twelve months after the notification is received by the depositary. Where a longer period for the denunciation to take effect is specified in the notification, the denunciation takes effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the notification is received by the depositary (article 25).

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS IN  
INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS

*New York, 23 November 2005*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** in accordance with article 23 which reads as follows: "1. This Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. 2. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Convention after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention enters into force in respect of that State on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."

**STATUS:** Signatories: 10.  
**TEXT:** Doc. A/60/515.

*Note:* The above Convention was adopted on 23 November 2005 during the 53rd plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/60/21. In accordance with its article 16, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 16 January 2006 to 16 January 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<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>
Central African Republic . . . . .	27 Feb 2006		Russian Federation . . . . .	25 Apr 2007	
China . . . . .	6 Jul 2006		Senegal . . . . .	7 Apr 2006	
Lebanon . . . . .	22 May 2006		Sierra Leone . . . . .	21 Sep 2006	
Madagascar . . . . .	19 Sep 2006		Singapore . . . . .	6 Jul 2006	
Paraguay . . . . .	26 Mar 2007		Sri Lanka . . . . .	6 Jul 2006	

## **United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards** *(New York, 10 June 1958)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

Recognizing the growing importance of international arbitration as a means of settling international commercial disputes, the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (the Convention) seeks to provide common legislative standards for the recognition of arbitration agreements and court recognition and enforcement of foreign and non-domestic arbitral awards. The term “non-domestic” appears to embrace awards which, although made in the state of enforcement, are treated as “foreign” under its law because of some foreign element in the proceedings, e.g. another State’s procedural laws are applied.

The Convention’s principal aim is that foreign and non-domestic arbitral awards will not be discriminated against and it obliges Parties to ensure such awards are recognized and generally capable of enforcement in their jurisdiction in the same way as domestic awards. An ancillary aim of the Convention is to require courts of Parties to give full effect to arbitration agreements by requiring courts to deny the parties access to court in contravention of their agreement to refer the matter to an arbitral tribunal.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention applies to awards made in any State other than the State in which recognition and enforcement is sought. It also applies to awards “not considered as domestic awards”. When consenting to be bound by the Convention, a State may declare that it will apply the Convention (a) in respect to awards made only in the territory of another Party and (b) only to legal relationships that are considered “commercial” under its domestic law.

The Convention contains provisions on arbitration agreements. This aspect was covered in recognition of the fact that an award could be refused enforcement on the grounds that the agreement upon which it was based might not be recognized. Article II (1) provides that Parties shall recognize written arbitration agreements. In that respect, UNCITRAL adopted, at its thirty-ninth session in 2006, a recommendation that seeks to provide guidance to Parties on the interpretation of the requirement in article II (1) that an arbitration agreement be in writing and to encourage application of article VII (1) to allow any interested party to avail itself of rights it may have, under the law or treaties of the country where an arbitration agreement is sought to be relied upon, to seek recognition of the validity of such an arbitration agreement.

The central obligation imposed upon Parties is to recognize all arbitral awards within the scheme as binding and enforce them, if requested to do so, under the *lex fori*. Each Party may determine the procedural mechanisms that may be followed where the Convention does not prescribe any requirement.

The Convention defines five grounds upon which recognition and enforcement may be refused at the request of the party against whom it is invoked. The grounds include incapacity of the parties, invalidity of the arbitration agreement, due process, scope of the arbitration agreement, jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal, setting aside or suspension of an award in the country in which, or under the law of which, that award was made. The Convention defines two

additional grounds upon which the court may, on its own motion, refuse recognition and enforcement of an award. Those grounds relate to arbitrability and public policy.

The Convention seeks to encourage recognition and enforcement of awards in the greatest number of cases as possible. That purpose is achieved through article VII (1) of the Convention by removing conditions for recognition and enforcement in national laws that are more stringent than the conditions in the Convention, while allowing the continued application of any national provisions that give special or more favourable rights to a party seeking to enforce an award. That article recognizes the right of any interested party to avail itself of law or treaties of the country where the award is sought to be relied upon, including where such law or treaties offer a regime more favourable than the Convention.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 7 June 1959 (article XII).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, and is open to accession by any Member State of the United Nations, any other State which is a member of any specialized agency of the United Nations, or is a Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice (articles VIII and IX).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

When signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention, or notifying a territorial extension under article X, any State may on the basis of reciprocity declare that it will apply the Convention to the recognition and enforcement of awards made only in the territory of another Party to the Convention. It may also declare that it will apply the Convention only to differences arising out of legal relationships, whether contractual or not, which are considered as commercial under the national law of the State making such declaration (article I).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

Any Party may denounce this Convention by a written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article XIII).

CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN ARBITRAL  
AWARDS

*New York, 10 June 1958*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 7 June 1959, in accordance with article XII.  
**REGISTRATION:** 7 June 1959, No. 4739.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 24. Parties: 142.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 330, p. 3.

*Note:* The Convention was prepared and opened for signature on 10 June 1958 by the United Nations Conference on International Commercial Arbitration, convened in accordance with resolution 604 (XXI) of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations adopted on 3 May 1956. The Conference met at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York from 20 May to 10 June 1958. For the text of the Final Act of this Conference, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, p. 3.

<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 Nov 2004 a	France . . . . .	25 Nov 1958	26 Jun 1959
Albania . . . . .		27 Jun 2001 a	Gabon . . . . .		15 Dec 2006 a
Algeria . . . . .		7 Feb 1989 a	Georgia . . . . .		2 Jun 1994 a
Antigua and Barbuda .		2 Feb 1989 a	Germany . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	30 Jun 1961
Argentina . . . . .	26 Aug 1958	14 Mar 1989	Ghana . . . . .		9 Apr 1968 a
Armenia . . . . .		29 Dec 1997 a	Greece . . . . .		16 Jul 1962 a
Australia . . . . .		26 Mar 1975 a	Guatemala . . . . .		21 Mar 1984 a
Austria . . . . .		2 May 1961 a	Guinea . . . . .		23 Jan 1991 a
Azerbaijan . . . . .		29 Feb 2000 a	Haiti . . . . .		5 Dec 1983 a
Bahamas . . . . .		20 Dec 2006 a	Holy See . . . . .		14 May 1975 a
Bahrain . . . . .		6 Apr 1988 a	Honduras . . . . .		3 Oct 2000 a
Bangladesh . . . . .		6 May 1992 a	Hungary . . . . .		5 Mar 1962 a
Barbados . . . . .		16 Mar 1993 a	Iceland . . . . .		24 Jan 2002 a
Belarus . . . . .	29 Dec 1958	15 Nov 1960	India . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	13 Jul 1960
Belgium . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	18 Aug 1975	Indonesia . . . . .		7 Oct 1981 a
Benin . . . . .		16 May 1974 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of) . . . . .		15 Oct 2001 a
Bolivia . . . . .		28 Apr 1995 a	Ireland . . . . .		12 May 1981 a
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .		1 Sep 1993 d	Israel . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	5 Jan 1959
Botswana . . . . .		20 Dec 1971 a	Italy . . . . .		31 Jan 1969 a
Brazil . . . . .		7 Jun 2002 a	Jamaica . . . . .		10 Jul 2002 a
Brunei Darussalam . .		25 Jul 1996 a	Japan . . . . .		20 Jun 1961 a
Bulgaria . . . . .	17 Dec 1958	10 Oct 1961	Jordan . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	15 Nov 1979
Burkina Faso . . . . .		23 Mar 1987 a	Kazakhstan . . . . .		20 Nov 1995 a
Cambodia . . . . .		5 Jan 1960 a	Kenya . . . . .		10 Feb 1989 a
Cameroon . . . . .		19 Feb 1988 a	Kuwait . . . . .		28 Apr 1978 a
Canada . . . . .		12 May 1986 a	Kyrgyzstan . . . . .		18 Dec 1996 a
Central African Repub- lic . . . . .		15 Oct 1962 a	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic . . . .		17 Jun 1998 a
Chile . . . . .		4 Sep 1975 a	Latvia . . . . .		14 Apr 1992 a
China . . . . .		22 Jan 1987 a	Lebanon . . . . .		11 Aug 1998 a
Colombia . . . . .		25 Sep 1979 a	Lesotho . . . . .		13 Jun 1989 a
Costa Rica . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	26 Oct 1987	Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .		1 Feb 1991 a	Lithuania . . . . .		14 Mar 1995 a
Croatia . . . . .		26 Jul 1993 d	Luxembourg . . . . .	11 Nov 1958	9 Sep 1983
Cuba . . . . .		30 Dec 1974 a	Madagascar . . . . .		16 Jul 1962 a
Cyprus . . . . .		29 Dec 1980 a	Malaysia . . . . .		5 Nov 1985 a
Czech Republic . . . .		30 Sep 1993 d	Mali . . . . .		8 Sep 1994 a
Denmark . . . . .		22 Dec 1972 a	Malta . . . . .		22 Jun 2000 a
Djibouti . . . . .		14 Jun 1983 d	Marshall Islands . . .		21 Dec 2006 a
Dominica . . . . .		28 Oct 1988 a	Mauritania . . . . .		30 Jan 1997 a
Dominican Republic .		11 Apr 2002 a	Mauritius . . . . .		19 Jun 1996 a
Ecuador . . . . .	17 Dec 1958	3 Jan 1962	Mexico . . . . .		14 Apr 1971 a
Egypt . . . . .		9 Mar 1959 a	Moldova . . . . .		18 Sep 1998 a
El Salvador . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	26 Feb 1998	Monaco . . . . .	31 Dec 1958	2 Jun 1982
Estonia . . . . .		30 Aug 1993 a	Mongolia . . . . .		24 Oct 1994 a
Finland . . . . .	29 Dec 1958	19 Jan 1962	Montenegro . . . . .		23 Oct 2006 d

<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>
Morocco . . . . .		12 Feb 1959 a	Spain . . . . .		12 May 1977 a
Mozambique . . . . .		11 Jun 1998 a	Sri Lanka . . . . .	30 Dec 1958	9 Apr 1962
Nepal . . . . .		4 Mar 1998 a	Sweden . . . . .	23 Dec 1958	28 Jan 1972
Netherlands . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	24 Apr 1964	Switzerland . . . . .	29 Dec 1958	1 Jun 1965
New Zealand . . . . .		6 Jan 1983 a	Syrian Arab Republic .		9 Mar 1959 a
Nicaragua . . . . .		24 Sep 2003 a	Thailand . . . . .		21 Dec 1959 a
Niger . . . . .		14 Oct 1964 a	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .		10 Mar 1994 d
Nigeria . . . . .		17 Mar 1970 a	Trinidad and Tobago .		14 Feb 1966 a
Norway . . . . .		14 Mar 1961 a	Tunisia . . . . .		17 Jul 1967 a
Oman . . . . .		25 Feb 1999 a	Turkey . . . . .		2 Jul 1992 a
Pakistan . . . . .	30 Dec 1958	14 Jul 2005	Uganda . . . . .		12 Feb 1992 a
Panama . . . . .		10 Oct 1984 a	Ukraine . . . . .	29 Dec 1958	10 Oct 1960
Paraguay . . . . .		8 Oct 1997 a	United Arab Emirates .		21 Aug 2006 a
Peru . . . . .		7 Jul 1988 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .		24 Sep 1975 a
Philippines . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	6 Jul 1967	United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .		13 Oct 1964 a
Poland . . . . .	10 Jun 1958	3 Oct 1961	United States of Amer- ica . . . . .		30 Sep 1970 a
Portugal . . . . .		18 Oct 1994 a	Uruguay . . . . .		30 Mar 1983 a
Qatar . . . . .		30 Dec 2002 a	Uzbekistan . . . . .		7 Feb 1996 a
Republic of Korea . . .		8 Feb 1973 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) . . . . .		8 Feb 1995 a
Romania . . . . .		13 Sep 1961 a	Viet Nam . . . . .		12 Sep 1995 a
Russian Federation . . .	29 Dec 1958	24 Aug 1960	Zambia . . . . .		14 Mar 2002 a
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . . . . .		12 Sep 2000 a	Zimbabwe . . . . .		29 Sep 1994 a
San Marino . . . . .		17 May 1979 a			
Saudi Arabia . . . . .		19 Apr 1994 a			
Senegal . . . . .		17 Oct 1994 a			
Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d			
Singapore . . . . .		21 Aug 1986 a			
Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d			
Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d			
South Africa . . . . .		3 May 1976 a			

## **Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties** *(Vienna, 23 May 1969)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (the Convention), adopted in 1969 following a draft prepared by the International Law Commission, is the authoritative treaty on the international law of treaties, establishing the rules for the adoption, interpretation and invalidation of treaties. The Convention largely codifies customary law on treaties. The Convention applies only to international agreements concluded between and among States.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention is divided into eight parts. These parts include: (I) Introduction, (II) Conclusion and Entry into Force of Treaties, (III) Observance, Application and Interpretation of Treaties, (IV) Amendment and Modification of Treaties, (V) Invalidity, Termination and Suspension of the Operation of Treaties, (VI) Miscellaneous Provisions, (VII) Depositaries, Notifications, Corrections and Registration, and (VIII) Final Provisions. The Convention addresses the full array of issues relating to this subject, including, *inter alia*, adoption and authentication of treaties, full powers, consent to be bound, reservations, entry into force, the relation between internal law and treaty obligations, territorial scope of treaties, general rules of interpretation, amendment, termination, denunciation, withdrawal, depositary functions, notifications, communications and corrections.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention entered into force on 27 January 1980 (article 84).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

This Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification and remains open for accession by States Members of the United Nations or of any of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice (articles 82 and 83).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

This Convention is silent with regard to declarations and notifications.

### ***RESERVATIONS***

This Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

This Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

## VIENNA CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF TREATIES

Vienna, 23 May 1969

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 27 January 1980, in accordance with article 84 (1).  
**REGISTRATION:** 27 January 1980, No. 18232.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 45. Parties: 108.  
**TEXT:** United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1155, p. 331.

*Note:* The Convention was adopted on 22 May 1969 and opened for signature on 23 May 1969 by the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties. The Conference was convened pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 2166 (XXI) of 5 December 1966 and 2287 (XXII) of 6 December 1967. The Conference held two sessions, both at the Neue Hofburg in Vienna, the first session from 26 March to 24 May 1968 and the second session from 9 April to 22 May 1969. In addition to the Convention, the Conference adopted the Final Act and certain declarations and resolutions, which are annexed to that Act. By unanimous decision of the Conference, the original of the Final Act was deposited in the archives of the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Austria. The text of the Final Act is included in document A/CONF.39/11/Add.2.

<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	23 May 1969		Greece		30 Oct 1974 a
Albania		27 Jun 2001 a	Guatemala	23 May 1969	21 Jul 1997
Algeria		8 Nov 1988 a	Guinea		16 Sep 2005 a
Andorra		5 Apr 2004 a	Guyana	23 May 1969	15 Sep 2005
Argentina	23 May 1969	5 Dec 1972	Haiti		25 Aug 1980 a
Armenia		17 May 2005 a	Holy See	30 Sep 1969	25 Feb 1977
Australia		13 Jun 1974 a	Honduras	23 May 1969	20 Sep 1979
Austria		30 Apr 1979 a	Hungary		19 Jun 1987 a
Barbados	23 May 1969	24 Jun 1971	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	23 May 1969	
Belarus		1 May 1986 a	Ireland		7 Aug 2006 a
Belgium		1 Sep 1992 a	Italy	22 Apr 1970	25 Jul 1974
Bolivia	23 May 1969		Jamaica	23 May 1969	28 Jul 1970
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na		1 Sep 1993 d	Japan		2 Jul 1981 a
Brazil	23 May 1969		Kazakhstan		5 Jan 1994 a
Bulgaria		21 Apr 1987 a	Kenya	23 May 1969	
Burkina Faso		25 May 2006 a	Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a
Cambodia	23 May 1969		Kuwait		11 Nov 1975 a
Cameroon		23 Oct 1991 a	Kyrgyzstan		11 May 1999 a
Canada		14 Oct 1970 a	Lao People's Demo- cratic Republic		31 Mar 1998 a
Central African Repub- lic		10 Dec 1971 a	Latvia		4 May 1993 a
Chile	23 May 1969	9 Apr 1981	Lesotho		3 Mar 1972 a
China		3 Sep 1997 a	Liberia	23 May 1969	29 Aug 1985
Colombia	23 May 1969	10 Apr 1985	Liechtenstein		8 Feb 1990 a
Congo	23 May 1969	12 Apr 1982	Lithuania		15 Jan 1992 a
Costa Rica	23 May 1969	22 Nov 1996	Luxembourg	4 Sep 1969	23 May 2003
Côte d'Ivoire	23 Jul 1969		Madagascar	23 May 1969	
Croatia		12 Oct 1992 d	Malawi		23 Aug 1983 a
Cuba		9 Sep 1998 a	Malaysia		27 Jul 1994 a
Cyprus		28 Dec 1976 a	Maldives		14 Sep 2005 a
Czech Republic		22 Feb 1993 d	Mali		31 Aug 1998 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo		25 Jul 1977 a	Mauritius		18 Jan 1973 a
Denmark	18 Apr 1970	1 Jun 1976	Mexico	23 May 1969	25 Sep 1974
Ecuador	23 May 1969	11 Feb 2005	Moldova		26 Jan 1993 a
Egypt		11 Feb 1982 a	Mongolia		16 May 1988 a
El Salvador	16 Feb 1970		Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Estonia		21 Oct 1991 a	Montenegro		23 Oct 2006 d
Ethiopia	30 Apr 1970		Morocco	23 May 1969	26 Sep 1972
Finland	23 May 1969	19 Aug 1977	Mozambique		8 May 2001 a
Gabon		5 Nov 2004 a	Myanmar		16 Sep 1998 a
Georgia		8 Jun 1995 a	Nauru		5 May 1978 a
Germany	30 Apr 1970	21 Jul 1987	Nepal	23 May 1969	
Ghana	23 May 1969		Netherlands		9 Apr 1985 a
			New Zealand	29 Apr 1970	4 Aug 1971
			Niger		27 Oct 1971 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>
Nigeria . . . . .	23 May 1969	31 Jul 1969	Switzerland . . . . .		7 May 1990 a
Oman . . . . .		18 Oct 1990 a	Syrian Arab Republic .		2 Oct 1970 a
Pakistan . . . . .	29 Apr 1970		Tajikistan . . . . .		6 May 1996 a
Panama . . . . .		28 Jul 1980 a	The Former Yugoslav		
Paraguay . . . . .		3 Feb 1972 a	Republic of Mace-		
Peru . . . . .	23 May 1969	14 Sep 2000	donia . . . . .		8 Jul 1999 d
Philippines . . . . .	23 May 1969	15 Nov 1972	Togo . . . . .		28 Dec 1979 a
Poland . . . . .		2 Jul 1990 a	Trinidad and Tobago .	23 May 1969	
Portugal . . . . .		6 Feb 2004 a	Tunisia . . . . .		23 Jun 1971 a
Republic of Korea . . .	27 Nov 1969	27 Apr 1977	Turkmenistan . . . . .		4 Jan 1996 a
Russian Federation . .		29 Apr 1986 a	Ukraine . . . . .		14 May 1986 a
Rwanda . . . . .		3 Jan 1980 a	United Kingdom of		
Saint Vincent and the			Great Britain and		
Grenadines . . . . .		27 Apr 1999 a	Northern Ireland . .	20 Apr 1970	25 Jun 1971
Saudi Arabia . . . . .		14 Apr 2003 a	United Republic of		
Senegal . . . . .		11 Apr 1986 a	Tanzania . . . . .		12 Apr 1976 a
Serbia . . . . .		12 Mar 2001 d	United States of Amer-		
Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d	ica . . . . .	24 Apr 1970	
Slovenia . . . . .		6 Jul 1992 d	Uruguay . . . . .	23 May 1969	5 Mar 1982
Solomon Islands . . . .		9 Aug 1989 a	Uzbekistan . . . . .		12 Jul 1995 a
Spain . . . . .		16 May 1972 a	Viet Nam . . . . .		10 Oct 2001 a
Sudan . . . . .	23 May 1969	18 Apr 1990	Zambia . . . . .	23 May 1969	
Suriname . . . . .		31 Jan 1991 a			
Sweden . . . . .	23 Apr 1970	4 Feb 1975			

**Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties  
between States and International Organizations  
or between International Organizations  
(Vienna, 21 March 1986)**

***OBJECTIVES***

Recognizing the importance of treaties between States and international organizations or between international organizations, the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations (the Convention) was adopted on 21 March 1986. It is the primary international legal instrument that sets out the law and procedures for the making, operation and termination of treaties between States and international organizations, or between international organizations.

***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention is divided into eight parts. These parts include: (I) Introduction, (II) Conclusion and Entry into Force of Treaties, (III) Observance, Application and Interpretation of Treaties, (IV) Amendment and Modification of Treaties (V) Invalidity, Termination and Suspension of the Operation of Treaties (VI) Miscellaneous Provisions (VII) Depositaries, Notifications, Corrections and Registration, and (VIII) Final Provisions. The Convention addresses the full array of issues relating to the subject, including, *inter alia*, capacity of international organizations to conclude treaties, full powers, adoption and authentication of treaties, consent to be bound, reservations, entry into force, the relation between internal rules and treaty obligations, territorial scope of treaties, general rules of interpretation, amendment, invalidity of treaties, termination, denunciation, withdrawal, depositary functions, notifications, communications and corrections.

***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or accession by States. For each State ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the above condition has been fulfilled, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification or accession. For each international organization depositing an instrument relating to an act of formal confirmation or an instrument of accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after such deposit, or at the date the Convention initially enters into force, whichever is later (article 85).

***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is closed for signature. The Convention is subject to ratification by signatory States, and to acts of formal confirmation by international organizations that have signed the Convention. It is open for accession by any State, and by any international organization which has the capacity to conclude treaties (article 84).

***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

An instrument of accession of an international organization shall contain a declaration that it has the capacity to conclude treaties (article 84).

***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

**VIENNA CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF TREATIES BETWEEN STATES AND  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

*Vienna, 21 March 1986*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:**

see article 85 which reads as follows : "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or accession by States or by Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia. 2. For each State or for Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the condition specified in paragraph 1 has been fulfilled, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State or by Namibia of its instrument of ratification or accession. 3. For each international organization depositing an instrument relating to an act of formal confirmation or an instrument of accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after such deposit, or at the date the Convention enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1, whichever is later."

**STATUS:**

Signatories: 39. Parties: 40.

**TEXT:**

Doc. A/CONF.129/15.

*Note:* The Convention was open for signature by all States, Namibia and international organizations invited to the Conference, until 31 December 1986 at the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria, and subsequently, until 30 June 1987, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Formal confirmation (c), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Formal confirmation (c), Succession (d)</i>
Argentina . . . . .	30 Jan 1987	17 Aug 1990	International Telecom- munication Union	29 Jun 1987	
Australia . . . . .		16 Jun 1993 a	Italy . . . . .	17 Dec 1986	20 Jun 1991
Austria . . . . .	21 Mar 1986	26 Aug 1987	Japan . . . . .	24 Apr 1987	
Belarus . . . . .		30 Dec 1999 a	Liberia . . . . .		16 Sep 2005 a
Belgium . . . . .	9 Jun 1987	1 Sep 1992	Liechtenstein . . . . .		8 Feb 1990 a
Benin . . . . .	24 Jun 1987		Malawi . . . . .	30 Jun 1987	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	12 Jan 1994 d		Mexico . . . . .	21 Mar 1986	10 Mar 1988
Brazil . . . . .	21 Mar 1986		Moldova . . . . .		26 Jan 1993 a
Bulgaria . . . . .		10 Mar 1988 a	Montenegro . . . . .	23 Oct 2006 d	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	21 Mar 1986		Morocco . . . . .	21 Mar 1986	
Côte d'Ivoire . . . . .	21 Mar 1986		Netherlands . . . . .	12 Jun 1987	18 Sep 1997
Council of Europe . . .	11 May 1987		Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons		2 Jun 2000 a
Croatia . . . . .		11 Apr 1994 a	Preparatory Commis- sion for the Com- prehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization . . . . .		11 Jun 2002 a
Cyprus . . . . .	29 Jun 1987	5 Nov 1991	Republic of Korea . . .	29 Jun 1987	
Czech Republic . . . . .		22 Feb 1993 d	Senegal . . . . .	9 Jul 1986	6 Aug 1987
Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	21 Mar 1986		Serbia . . . . .	12 Mar 2001 d	
Denmark . . . . .	8 Jun 1987	26 Jul 1994	Slovakia . . . . .		28 May 1993 d
Egypt . . . . .	21 Mar 1986		Spain . . . . .		24 Jul 1990 a
Estonia . . . . .		21 Oct 1991 a	Sudan . . . . .	21 Mar 1986	
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations . . . . .	29 Jun 1987		Sweden . . . . .	18 Jun 1987	10 Feb 1988
Gabon . . . . .		5 Nov 2004 a	Switzerland . . . . .		7 May 1990 a
Germany . . . . .	27 Apr 1987	20 Jun 1991	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . . .	24 Feb 1987	20 Jun 1991
Greece . . . . .	15 Jul 1986	28 Jan 1992	United Nations . . . . .	12 Feb 1987	21 Dec 1998 c
Hungary . . . . .		17 Aug 1988 a	United Nations Educa- tional, Scientific and Cultural Orga- nization . . . . .	23 Jun 1987	
International Atomic Energy Agency . . . . .		26 Apr 2001 a			
International Civil Avi- ation Organization . . .	29 Jun 1987	24 Dec 2001 c			
International Criminal Police Organization . . .		3 Jan 2001 a			
International Labour Organisation . . . . .	31 Mar 1987	31 Jul 2000 c			
International Maritime Organization . . . . .	30 Jun 1987	14 Feb 2000 c			

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Formal confirmation (c), Succession (d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature (d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession (a), Formal confirmation (c), Succession (d)</i>
United Nations Industrial Development Organization . . . . .		4 Mar 2002 a	World Intellectual Property Organization . . . . .		24 Oct 2000 a
United States of America . . . . .	26 Jun 1987		World Meteorological Organization . . . . .	30 Jun 1987	
Universal Postal Union		19 Oct 2004 a	Zambia . . . . .	21 Mar 1986	
Uruguay . . . . .		10 Mar 1999 a			
World Health Organization . . . . .	30 Apr 1987	22 Jun 2000 c			

## **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 (the Convention), 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 is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States, and is 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: 34. Parties: 6.  
**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>
Australia . . . . .	19 Sep 2006		Monaco . . . . .		19 Apr 2007 a
Austria . . . . .	14 Mar 2006		Netherlands . . . . .	19 Sep 2006	
Azerbaijan . . . . .	26 Sep 2006		New Zealand . . . . .	20 Sep 2006	
Belgium . . . . .	15 Sep 2006		Norway . . . . .	20 Jan 2006	24 Feb 2006 AA
Bolivia . . . . .	3 Aug 2006		Poland . . . . .	15 Sep 2006	
Bulgaria . . . . .	20 Sep 2006		Republic of Korea . . . . .	20 Sep 2006	
Central African Republic . . . . .	27 Feb 2006		Romania . . . . .	20 Sep 2006	
Chile . . . . .	15 Sep 2006		Senegal . . . . .	17 Jan 2006	
Cyprus . . . . .	13 Sep 2006		Sierra Leone . . . . .	21 Sep 2006	
Czech Republic . . . . .	20 Sep 2006		Slovakia . . . . .	22 Sep 2006	7 May 2007
Finland . . . . .	15 Jan 2007		Slovenia . . . . .	13 Oct 2006	
Germany . . . . .	13 Sep 2006		Spain . . . . .	19 Sep 2006	
Kenya . . . . .	12 Jan 2007	12 Jan 2007	Sweden . . . . .	7 Jul 2006	30 Aug 2006
Lebanon . . . . .	14 Mar 2006		Switzerland . . . . .	19 Sep 2006	
Liberia . . . . .	21 Sep 2006		Tunisia . . . . .	19 Sep 2006	
Liechtenstein . . . . .	16 Jan 2006	4 May 2007	Ukraine . . . . .	19 Sep 2006	
Luxembourg . . . . .	16 Jan 2006		Uruguay . . . . .	15 Sep 2006	
Mali . . . . .	5 Jan 2007				

## **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** *(New York, 13 December 2006)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The purpose of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, already enjoyed by the general population, by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention sets forth a number of general obligations with respect to persons with disabilities. In this regard, Parties must undertake, *inter alia*, to adopt all appropriate legislation for the implementation of rights recognized in the Convention; to take all appropriate measures to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that are discriminatory; to take into account the protection and promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities in all policies and programmes; to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination by any person, organization or private enterprise; and to undertake to promote research and development of, and to promote the availability and use of new technologies, including information and communication technologies, mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies.

In addition to general obligations, the Convention provides for a number of specific obligations. For example, Parties must ensure equal protection and recognition before the law of persons with disabilities and prohibit all discrimination on the basis of disability. Specific provisions address the special circumstances of women and children in this regard.

The Convention reaffirms that persons with disabilities have the inherent right to life, liberty and security of person. The Convention contains provisions to protect persons with disabilities from being subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and from all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse, including their gender-based aspects.

The Convention recognizes the rights of persons with disabilities to liberty of movement, to freedom to choose their residence and to a nationality. It also recognizes the right of all persons with disabilities to live independently in the community with access to support services. In addition, Parties are obliged to undertake appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access, on an equal basis with others, to transportation, information and communications to enable them to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life.

Parties must also take effective and appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities in all matters relating to marriage, family, parenthood and relationships. Provisions relating to education, health and employment are also contained in the Convention.

To ensure implementation and monitoring of the Convention, Parties must designate one or more focal points within the government.

The Convention also establishes the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee), which considers reports on progress made in implementing the Convention by Parties.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention has not yet entered into force. It shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. For each State or regional integration organisation ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twentieth such instrument, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument (article 45).

For the purpose of calculating the entry into force of the Convention, any instrument of formal confirmation or accession deposited by a regional integration organization shall not be counted (article 44).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all States and by regional integration organisations at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007. The Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States and to formal confirmation by signatory regional integration organisations. It shall also be open for accession by any State or regional integration organisation which has not signed the Convention (articles 42 and 43).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Regional integration organizations shall declare, in their instrument of formal confirmation or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by the Convention. Subsequently, such regional integration organizations shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 44).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention states that reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted and that reservations may be withdrawn at any time (article 46).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A State Party may denounce the present Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General (article 48).

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

*New York, 13 December 2006*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** see article 45 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State or regional integration organization ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twentieth such instrument, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument."

**STATUS:** Signatories: 92. Parties: 1.

**TEXT:** Doc.A/61/611.

*Note:* The above Convention was adopted on 13 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/106. In accordance with its article 42, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States and by regional integration organizations at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>
Algeria . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Ireland . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Andorra . . . . .	27 Apr 2007		Israel . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Antigua and Barbuda . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Italy . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Argentina . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Jamaica . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	30 Mar 2007
Armenia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Jordan . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Australia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Kenya . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Austria . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Liberia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Bangladesh . . . . .	9 May 2007		Lithuania . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Belgium . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Luxembourg . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Brazil . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Malta . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Burundi . . . . .	26 Apr 2007		Mexico . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Canada . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Moldova . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Cape Verde . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Morocco . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Central African Republic . . . . .	9 May 2007		Mozambique . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Chile . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Namibia . . . . .	25 Apr 2007	
China . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Netherlands . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Colombia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		New Zealand . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Congo . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Nicaragua . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Costa Rica . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Niger . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Croatia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Nigeria . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Cuba . . . . .	26 Apr 2007		Norway . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Cyprus . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Panama . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Czech Republic . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Paraguay . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Denmark . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Peru . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Dominica . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Poland . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Dominican Republic . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Portugal . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Ecuador . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Republic of Korea . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Egypt . . . . .	4 Apr 2007		San Marino . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
El Salvador . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Senegal . . . . .	25 Apr 2007	
Ethiopia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Seychelles . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
European Community . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Sierra Leone . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Finland . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Slovenia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
France . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		South Africa . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Gabon . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Spain . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Germany . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Sri Lanka . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Ghana . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Sudan . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Greece . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Suriname . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Guatemala . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Sweden . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Guyana . . . . .	11 Apr 2007		Syrian Arab Republic . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Honduras . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Thailand . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Hungary . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Iceland . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Tunisia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
India . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Turkey . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
Indonesia . . . . .	30 Mar 2007				

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>
Uganda . . . . .	30 Mar 2007		Uruguay . . . . .	3 Apr 2007	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .	30 Mar 2007		Yemen . . . . .	30 Mar 2007	
United Republic of Tanzania . . . . .	30 Mar 2007				

## **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** *(New York, 13 December 2006)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Optional Protocol) grants authority to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) to receive communications from or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals concerning alleged breaches of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) by a Party to the Optional Protocol.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

Pursuant to the Optional Protocol, the Committee is obliged to submit admissible communications from or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals concerning alleged breaches of the Convention to the Party concerned in a confidential manner. Within six months, the Party concerned is obliged to provide the Committee with written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been taken by it. The Optional Protocol delineates those cases in which the Committee shall consider a communication inadmissible. Such cases include, for example, where the communication is anonymous, the same matter has already been examined by the Committee, all available domestic remedies have not been exhausted, and the communication is ill-founded or not sufficiently substantiated.

Following the receipt of a communication, but before a determination has been reached, the Committee may request that a Party take interim measures as may be necessary to avoid possible irreparable damage to the victim or victims of an alleged violation. Moreover, in cases where the Committee receives reliable information indicating that grave or systematic violations by a Party of rights set forth in the Convention are taking place, the Committee shall invite the Party concerned to cooperate in the examination of the information and submit observations. Taking into account the above, the Committee may also conduct an inquiry, and where warranted and with the consent of the Party concerned, may also visit its territory. Such inquiries are conducted in a confidential manner. Moreover, the Committee is obliged to seek the cooperation of the Party concerned at all stages of the proceedings.

The Committee is obliged to transmit the findings of an inquiry to the Party concerned with any comments and recommendations. The Party shall, within six months of receiving the findings, submit its observations to the Committee. The Committee may invite the Party concerned to include in its report under article 35 of the Convention details of any measures taken in response to an inquiry. The Committee may also, at the end of the six month period, invite the Party to inform it of the measures taken in response to the inquiry.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Optional Protocol has not yet entered into force. Subject to the entry into force of the Convention, it shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the tenth instrument of ratification or accession. For each State or regional integration organisation ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the

Optional Protocol after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification, formal confirmation or accession, the Optional Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument (article 13).

For the purpose of calculating the entry into force of the Optional Protocol, any instrument of formal confirmation or accession deposited by a regional integration organization shall not be counted (article 12).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Optional Protocol is open for signature (indefinitely) by signatory States and regional integration organisations of the Convention at United Nations Headquarters in New York as from 30 March 2007 (article 10).

The Optional Protocol shall be subject to ratification by signatory States of the Optional Protocol which have ratified or acceded to the Convention. The Optional Protocol shall be subject to formal confirmation by signatory regional integration organisations of the Optional Protocol which have formally confirmed or acceded to the Convention. It shall be open for accession by any State or regional integration organization which has ratified, formally confirmed or acceded to the Convention and which has not signed the Optional Protocol (article 11).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

Each Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Optional Protocol or accession thereto, declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee provided for in articles 6 and 7 to conduct inquiries of grave or systematic violations of the Convention (article 8).

Regional integration organizations shall declare, in their instrument of formal confirmation or accession, the extent of their competence with respect to matters governed by Convention and the Optional Protocol. Subsequently, such regional integration organization shall notify the depositary of any substantial modification in the extent of their competence (article 12).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Optional Protocol states that reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Optional Protocol shall not be permitted. Reservations may be withdrawn at any time (article 14).

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

A Party may denounce the Optional Protocol 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 16).

**Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

*New York, 13 December 2006*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** see article 13 which reads as follows: "1. Subject the entry into force of the Convention (see chapter IV.15), the present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification or accession. 2. For each State or regional integration organization ratifying, formally confirming or acceding to the Protocol after the deposit of the tenth such instrument, the Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of its own such instrument."

**STATUS:** Signatories: 50.

**TEXT:** Doc.A/61/611.

*Note:* The above Optional Protocol was adopted on 13 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/106. In accordance with its article 10, the Optional Protocol shall be open for signature by all signatory States and regional integration organizations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at United Nations Headquarters in New York as of 30 March 2007.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Formal confirmation (c), Accession (a)</i>
Algeria .....	30 Mar 2007		Italy .....	30 Mar 2007	
Andorra .....	27 Apr 2007		Jamaica .....	30 Mar 2007	
Antigua and Barbuda .	30 Mar 2007		Jordan .....	30 Mar 2007	
Argentina .....	30 Mar 2007		Liberia .....	30 Mar 2007	
Armenia .....	30 Mar 2007		Lithuania .....	30 Mar 2007	
Austria .....	30 Mar 2007		Luxembourg .....	30 Mar 2007	
Belgium .....	30 Mar 2007		Malta .....	30 Mar 2007	
Brazil .....	30 Mar 2007		Mexico .....	30 Mar 2007	
Burundi .....	26 Apr 2007		Namibia .....	25 Apr 2007	
Central African Repub- lic .....	9 May 2007		Nigeria .....	30 Mar 2007	
Chile .....	30 Mar 2007		Panama .....	30 Mar 2007	
Congo .....	30 Mar 2007		Paraguay .....	30 Mar 2007	
Costa Rica .....	30 Mar 2007		Peru .....	30 Mar 2007	
Croatia .....	30 Mar 2007		Portugal .....	30 Mar 2007	
Cyprus .....	30 Mar 2007		San Marino .....	30 Mar 2007	
Czech Republic .....	30 Mar 2007		Senegal .....	25 Apr 2007	
Dominican Republic ..	30 Mar 2007		Seychelles .....	30 Mar 2007	
Ecuador .....	30 Mar 2007		Sierra Leone .....	30 Mar 2007	
El Salvador .....	30 Mar 2007		Slovenia .....	30 Mar 2007	
Finland .....	30 Mar 2007		South Africa .....	30 Mar 2007	
Germany .....	30 Mar 2007		Spain .....	30 Mar 2007	
Ghana .....	30 Mar 2007		Sweden .....	30 Mar 2007	
Guatemala .....	30 Mar 2007		Tunisia .....	30 Mar 2007	
Hungary .....	30 Mar 2007		Uganda .....	30 Mar 2007	
Iceland .....	30 Mar 2007		Yemen .....	11 Apr 2007	

## **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance** *(New York, 20 December 2006)*

### ***OBJECTIVES***

The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (the Convention) represents an important development in the fight against the enforced disappearance of people. The Convention fills a number of important gaps in the international framework relating to enforced disappearances, including the definition of “enforced disappearance”. The Convention establishes all critical measures for preventing enforced disappearance and for minimizing the risk of torture and death. It specifically seeks to bring criminal proceedings against perpetrators of such a crime and outlaws secret detention. It requires that Parties hold all detainees in officially recognized places, maintain up-to-date official registers and detailed records of all detainees, allow them to communicate with their families and counsel, and give access to competent and authorized authorities.

### ***KEY PROVISIONS***

The Convention states that no one shall be subject to enforced disappearance and requires Parties to take necessary measures to ensure that enforced disappearance constitutes an offence under its criminal law. The offence of enforced disappearance is defined by the Convention as “...the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law. ...”

Pursuant to the Convention, Parties are obliged to take the necessary measures to hold criminally responsible at least “(a)ny person who commits, orders, solicits or induces the commission of, attempt to commit, is an accomplice to or participates in an enforced disappearance.” Superiors may also be held criminally responsible in certain circumstances as defined in the Convention. Parties are obliged to make the offence punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account the extreme seriousness of the crime.

The Party in the territory under whose jurisdiction a person alleged to have committed an offence of enforced disappearance is found has a duty to prosecute or extradite that person, surrender him or her to another State in accordance with its international obligations, or surrender him or her to an international criminal tribunal whose jurisdiction it has recognized. The Convention provides for fair treatment for alleged perpetrators of the crime, and for a fair trial before a competent, independent and impartial court. In addition, the Convention provides for the protection of the complainant, witnesses, relatives of the disappeared person, counsel, and other persons participating in the investigation. The Convention includes provisions on extradition and mutual legal assistance, and international cooperation relating to assisting victims, and searching for disappeared persons.

Victims’ rights are also included in the Convention. Victims and their families are entitled to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the fate of

the disappeared person and the progress of the results concerning the investigation. Victims are also entitled to obtain reparation and compensation. The Convention guarantees the right to form associations and organizations to fight against enforced disappearances. The Convention also deals with the wrongful removal of children whose parents are victims of enforced disappearance, the falsification of these children's identities and their subsequent adoption.

An international treaty-monitoring body, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, is established by the Convention to monitor how Parties implement their obligations under the Convention.

### ***ENTRY INTO FORCE***

The Convention 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 39).

### ***HOW TO BECOME A PARTY***

The Convention is open for signature (indefinitely) by all Member States of the United Nations and is subject to ratification. It is open to accession by all Member States of the United Nations (article 38).

### ***OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS***

A Party may at the time of ratification or at any time thereafter declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (the Committee) to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by the Party concerned of provisions of the Convention (article 31).

A Party may at any time declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in which a Party claims that another Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 32).

A State may, at the time of signature or ratification of the Convention, or accession thereto, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of article 42, according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which cannot be settled by negotiation or by procedures expressly provided for in the Convention, shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration, and, failing an agreement on the organization of the arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 42).

### ***RESERVATIONS***

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations.

### ***DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL***

The Convention is silent with regard to denunciation and withdrawal.

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM  
ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE**

*New York, 20 December 2006*

**NOT YET IN FORCE:** in accordance with article 39 which reads as follows: "This Convention 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 or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit of that State's instrument of ratification or accession."

**STATUS:** Signatories: 59.

**TEXT:** Doc.A/61/488.

*Note:* The above Convention was adopted on 20 December 2006 during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly by resolution A/RES/61/177. In accordance with its article 38, the Convention shall be open for signature by all Member States of the United Nations. The Convention shall be open for signature on 6 February 2007 in Paris, France, and thereafter 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 . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Japan . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Algeria . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Kenya . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Argentina . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Lebanon . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Armenia . . . . .	10 Apr 2007		Lithuania . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Austria . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Luxembourg . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Azerbaijan . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Madagascar . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Belgium . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Maldives . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Bolivia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Mali . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Bosnia and Herzegovi- na . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Malta . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Brazil . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Mexico . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Burkina Faso . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Moldova . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Burundi . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Monaco . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Cameroon . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Mongolia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Cape Verde . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Montenegro . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Chad . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Morocco . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Chile . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Niger . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Comoros . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Paraguay . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Congo . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Portugal . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Costa Rica . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Samoa . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Croatia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Senegal . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Cuba . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Serbia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Cyprus . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Sierra Leone . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Finland . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Sweden . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
France . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mace- donia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Ghana . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Tunisia . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Grenada . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Uganda . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Guatemala . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Uruguay . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Haiti . . . . .	6 Feb 2007		Vanuatu . . . . .	6 Feb 2007	
Honduras . . . . .	6 Feb 2007				
India . . . . .	6 Feb 2007				
Ireland . . . . .	29 Mar 2007				



## List of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General

### 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
15. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006
15. a). Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. New York, 13 December 2006
16. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. New York, 20 December 2006

#### **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, 11 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, 8 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
5. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network. Jakarta, 12 April 2006
6. Convention on the International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail under Cover of SMGS Consignment Notes. Geneva, 9 February 2006

**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). Extension of the 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, 12 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