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Treaty Event - Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation

Final Report

New York, 2 October 2007: 48 States participated in the above Treaty Event - Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation held at United Nations Headquarters from 25 to 27 September, and 1 to 2 October 2007. 9 States participated at the level of Head of State or Government and 26 States participated at the level of Minister for Foreign Affairs. A total of **81 treaty actions** relating to 33 treaties (40 signatures, and 41 ratifications, acceptances, approvals, accessions and consents to be bound were undertaken).

In total, **15 States** signed the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, which was adopted on 13 December 2006, and 2 States ratified it. In addition, 7 States signed the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, which was also adopted on 13 December 2006. 10 States signed the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**, which was adopted on 20 December 2006.

It is noted that Gabon undertook a total of 7 treaty actions at this year's event (2 signatures, 4 ratifications and 1 accession).

During the treaty event, the following core group of treaties attracted actions:

Human Rights

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966) (1 accession by Bahrain).
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 (1 signature by Kazakhstan).
- Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, 1989 (2 accessions by France and Mexico).
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984 (1 accession by Thailand).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or

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Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2002 (2 signatures by Ireland and Kazakhstan).

- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, 2000 (1 ratification by Vanuatu).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000 (1 ratification by Gabon and 1 accession by Iran (Islamic Republic of)).

Terrorism, Organized Crime and Corruption

- International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, 1979 (1 accession by Thailand).
- 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, 2001 (1 accession by Paraguay).
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003 (5 ratifications by Canada, Gabon, Moldova, Portugal and Sweden).
- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, 2005 (4 ratifications by Gabon, Kyrgyzstan, Sri Lanka and Ukraine).

Environment

- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, 2001 (1 ratification by Ukraine).

Disarmament

- 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), 1980 (1 accession with consent to be bound by Protocol I and III by Gabon).
- 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, 2001 (1 acceptance by Chile).
- 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), 2003 (2 instruments of consent to be bound by Austria and New Zealand).

International Trade

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- United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts, 2005 (5 signatures by Colombia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Montenegro, Panama and the Philippines).

Recently Adopted Treaties

- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, 2005 (2 ratifications by Austria and Spain).
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (15 signatures by Bulgaria, Cambodia, the Comoros, Estonia, Japan, Malawi, Maldives, Madagascar, Mauritius, Montenegro, the Philippines, Romania, Slovakia, Swaziland and Trinidad and Tobago, 2 ratifications by Gabon and India).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (7 signatures by Cambodia, Gabon, Madagascar, Mauritius, Montenegro, Slovakia and Swaziland).
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006 (10 signatures by Colombia, Denmark, Gabon, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Swaziland).

Other Treaties

- Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961 (1 accession by Maldives).
- Slavery Convention, 1926 (1 accession by Paraguay).
- Protocol amending the Slavery Convention, 1953 (1 accession by Paraguay).
- Slavery Convention as amended by the Protocol, 1953 (1 participation by Paraguay).
- Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, 1956 (1 accession by Paraguay).
- Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, 2002 (1 accession by Mexico).
- United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (1 accession by the Dominican Republic).
- Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) of 1991, 1997 (1 approval by Hungary).
- International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 (1 ratification by Malaysia).

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- Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, 1997 (2 accessions by Chile and Poland).
- Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Seabed Authority, 1998 (1 accession by Poland).
- Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, 1997 (1 acceptance by Namibia).
- Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, 1999 (1 acceptance by Namibia).

Finally, States undertook the following number of actions during past treaty events:

- *Millennium Summit 2000* - **273** actions by 84 States;
- *Focus 2001: Rights of Women and Children* - **135** actions by 61 States;
- *2001 Special Treaty Event: Multilateral Treaties on Terrorism* - **180** actions by 79 States;
- *Focus 2002: Sustainable Development* - **83** actions by 41 States;
- *Focus 2003: Treaties Against Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism* - **155** actions by 56 States;
- *Focus 2004: Treaties on the Protection of Civilians* - **102** actions by 35 States;
- *Focus 2005: Responding to Global Challenges* - **265** actions by 99 States and the European Community; and
- *Focus 2006: Crossing Borders* - **86** actions by 46 States.

5 October 2007



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