New York, 1 October 2008: 44 States participated in the 2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and Justice for All of Us held at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 26 September, on 29 September and on 1 October 2008. Six States participated at the level of Head of State or Government and 21 States participated at the level of Minister for Foreign Affairs. A total of 84 treaty actions relating to 37 treaties (32 signatures; 47 ratifications, accessions and consents to be bound; and five other formalities) were undertaken.

In total, six States signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006, and four States ratified it. Seven States signed the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 and three States ratified it. The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006 received five signatures and one ratification. In addition, the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 attracted four signatures and one ratification.

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

**Human Rights**

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 (Signature by Comoros).
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 (Signature by Comoros and Notification by Peru).
- Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, 1989 (Ratification by Chile).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1999 (Signatures by Congo and Zambia; Ratification by Switzerland; and Accession by Tunisia).
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2002 (Objection by Sweden to an interpretative declaration).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2002 (Signature by Congo).
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 1990 (Signature by Congo; Signature and Ratification by Jamaica; and Ratification by Paraguay).
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (Signatures by Cameroon, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, Togo and Ukraine; Ratifications by Austria, Costa Rica, New Zealand and Uganda; and Objection to a reservation by Austria).
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (Signatures by Cameroon, France, Romania, Togo, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia; Ratifications by Austria, Costa Rica and Uganda; and Objection to a reservation by Austria).
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006 (Signatures by Bulgaria, Greece, Iceland, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and the United Republic of Tanzania; and Ratification by France).
Protecting Planet Earth: the Environment, Sustainable Development, Water, Sanitation and the Polar Regions

- International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 (Signatures by the Czech Republic, the Philippines, Romania and Spain; and Ratification by Australia).

Transit, Customs and Trade Agreements of Concern to Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries

- Convention on Road Sign and Signals, 1968 (Accession by Guyana).

Disarmament and Penal Matters

- 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 (Accession and Consent to be Bound by Protocols I and III by Jamaica).
- 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, 2001 (Accession by Jamaica).
- 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 (Consent to be Bound by Belarus and Jamaica).
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, 1996 (Signature by Timor-Leste and Ratification by Burundi).
- United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003 (Ratifications by Belgium, Malaysia and Tunisia).
Privileges and Immunities and the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel


Other Treaties

- Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character, 1975 (Accession by Paraguay).

Finally, States undertook the following number of actions during past treaty events, which total 1444 actions undertaken during these events to date:

- *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;

• *Focus 2006: Crossing Borders* – 86 actions by 46 States; and

• *Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation* – 81 actions by 48 States.