

**2009 Treaty Event:  
Towards Universal Participation and Implementation**

**Daily Report**

**Thursday, 24 September 2009**

This morning the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights was opened for signature by the Legal Counsel of the United Nations with statements by His Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and on behalf of civic society, the Director of the Kenya Human Rights Commission Ms. Muthoni Wanyeki.

In all, the Treaty Section registered 44 treaty actions by 26 States today. Of that number, 2 States participated at the level of **Head of State**, 1 participated at the level of **Head of Government** and 14 States participated at the level of **Minister for Foreign Affairs**.

There were a total of 24 signatures, 13 ratifications, 5 accessions, one acceptance and one withdrawal of reservation. A breakdown of the actions by treaty appears below.

**Human rights and statelessness**

- **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2008** (Signature by Portugal, Belgium, Finland, Gabon, Montenegro, Ukraine, Uruguay, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Senegal, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Mali, Ghana, Slovakia, Spain, Chile, the Netherlands, Guatemala and Argentina (with declaration));
- **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006** (Signature by Solomon Islands, );
- **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006** (Ratification by Spain and Germany);
- **Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1948** (Withdrawal of Reservation to the whole Article IX by Spain).
- **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2002** (Ratification by Switzerland);
- **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, 2000** (Ratification by South Africa and the Netherlands, Signature by Solomon Islands);
- **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000** (Signature by Solomon Islands);

**The environment, sustainable development and climate change**

- **Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 2003** (Ratification by Spain);
- **Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 1999** (Ratification by Spain);
- **Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, 2003** (Ratification by Spain);
- **Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, 1997** (Accession by Spain);
- **Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 2003** (Acceptance by Spain);
- **International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006** (Signature by Mali).

#### **Terrorism, organized crimes, and penal matters**

- **International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, 1999** (Accession by Solomon Islands);
- **Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, 2002** (Ratification by Spain (with declaration));
- **International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, 1997** (Accession by Solomon Islands);
- **International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, 2005** (Accession by Solomon Islands, Ratification by the United Kingdom);
- **United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003** (Ratification by Switzerland).

#### **Disarmament**

- **Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2008** (Ratification by Uruguay and Malta).

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