United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

Geneva, Switzerland 24 February to 27 April 1958

Document:

A/CONF.13/L.19

Second report of the Drafting Committee of the Conference: articles and draft resolutions adopted by the Second Committee

Extract from the Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of The Sea, Volume II (Plenary Meetings)

DOCUMENT A/CONF.13/L.19

Second report of the Drafting Committee of the Conference: articles and draft resolutions adopted by the Second Committee

[Original text: English, French and Spanish] [22 April 1958]

- 1. The Drafting Committee of the Conference met on 22 April and considered texts of articles 26 to 48 and 61 to 65 adopted by that committee, together with two draft resolutions also adopted by that committee (A/CONF.13/L.17).
- 2. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics proposed that the text of the draft resolution relating to nuclear tests which, he stated, was very closely connected with article 27, should appear immediately following that article. This proposal was rejected by 5 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions. The representative of the USSR requested that it be mentioned in the report of the Drafting Committee that he had raised this matter as one of substance.
- 3. The Drafting Committee decided to postpone consideration of the changes proposed by the Fifth Committee to articles 27 and 28 (A/CONF.13/L.11, para. 26) until the Conference had decided upon the recommendations of that committee.
- 4. The representative of the USSR drew attention to paragraph 9 of the report of the Second Committee, in which the Committee stated in principle that the articles in general adopted by it did not override specific conventions in force.
- 5. The Drafting Committee recommends the changes of a drafting nature set out below to the texts adopted by the Second Committee. These are given as follows:

- (a) Those changes affecting the English, French and Spanish texts;
- (b) Those changes affecting the English text only;
- (c) Those changes affecting the French text only; 1
- (d) Those changes affecting the Spanish text only.1

Changes affecting the English, French and Spanish texts

Article 42

Replace the second sentence by the following text: "the retention or loss of nationality is determined by the law of the State from which such nationality was derived".

CHANGES AFFECTING THE ENGLISH TEXT ONLY

Article 27

Delete the asterisk at the end of sub-paragraph (4).

Article 65

Add a comma after the word "pipeline".

Draft resolution relating to article 48

Operative paragraph: Add a comma after the word "protection".

¹ Changes affecting the French and Spanish texts only have not been reproduced in the present document.

DOCUMENT A/CONF.13/L.21

Report of the Third Committee

[Original text: English] [23 April 1958]

I. Officers of the Committee

1. At the first meeting of the Committee on 26 February 1958, Mr. Carlos Sucre (Panama) was elected as Chairman; at the 2nd meeting on 28 February, the Committee elected Mr. Elias Krispis (Greece) as Vice-Chairman and Mr. N. K. Panikkar (India) as Rapporteur.

II. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE

2. The rules of procedure (A/CONF.13/35) established in rule 47 that the Third Committee should be a main committee of the Conference and that to it should be allocated those articles concerning the Law of the Sea, contained in the report of the International Law Commission, covering the work of its eighth session, which dealt with fishing and conservation of living resources in the high seas. These were articles 49 to 60 inclusive.

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 9 (A/3159).

III. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

- 3. The Third Committee, having considered the recommendations of the General Committee on the organization of the work of the Conference (A/CONF.13/L.2), as adopted by the Conference, decided at its 3rd meeting to begin its work by a general debate on the articles referred to it. The Committee held forty-two meetings from 26 February to 22 April. Of these, ten (3rd to 12th) were confined to the general debate.
- 4. At the 13th meeting, the Chairman suggested that, after discussion, the articles should be voted on provisionally. They would then be referred to a drafting committee composed of the officers of the Committee assisted by the secretariat. The articles would subsequently be submitted to the Committee for a second and definitive vote. This working plan was accepted by the Committee. The drafting committee held one meeting on 16 April, and made a few drafting changes in the text of the articles adopted by the Committee on first reading.
- 5. The following is an account of the work of the Com-