

Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

1973-1982

Concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica on 10 December 1982

Document:-

A/CONF.62/96

Modification of the rules of procedure of the Conference

Extract from the *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume XIII (Summary Records, Plenary, General Committee, First and Third Committees, as well as Documents of the Conference, Ninth Session)*

DOCUMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/95

Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Conference

[Original: English]
[19 February 1980]

1. Opening of the session by the President of the Conference
2. Minute of silence for prayer or meditation
3. Adoption of the agenda for the session
4. Consideration of the subject-matter referred to in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3067 (XXVIII) of 16 November 1973
5. Adoption of a convention dealing with all matters related to the law of the sea, pursuant to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3067 (XXVIII) of 16 November 1973, and of the final act of the Conference
6. Signature of the convention and the final act (at Caracas)

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/96

Modification of the rules of procedure of the Conference

[Original: English]
[5 March 1980]

The General Committee met at 10.30 a.m. on 5 March 1980 (51st meeting) to consider a request made by the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia in a letter of 27 February 1980 addressed to the President of the Conference. The President read out the relevant portions of the text of the letter which were as follows:

“As you are aware the General Assembly at its 34th session approved resolution 34/92 by which it, *inter alia*, decided to grant full membership to Namibia represented by the Council for Namibia as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

“I would very much appreciate your kind assistance in giving the appropriate instructions to have the sign NAMIBIA placed amongst the signs of Member States in alphabetical order at the Ninth Session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea scheduled to take place at the United Nations Headquarters from 27 February to 4 April 1980.

“In light of the special responsibility of the United Nations for Namibia I thank you in advance for your co-operation in authorizing the necessary arrangements for the United Nations Council for Namibia to represent Namibia in this Conference as a full member.”

The President noted that the request was in pursuance of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/92 C, paragraph 5, whereby the Assembly:

“*Decides*, in accordance with paragraph 8 (b) of General Assembly resolution 3067 (XXVIII) of 16 November 1973 convening the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, to grant full membership in the Conference to

Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia as the legal Administering Authority for Namibia.”

The President stated that in order to comply with the request of the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia it would be necessary to amend the Rules of Procedure by deleting rule 62, including the subheading attached to it, and re-numbering the subsequent rules accordingly, and to have the following decision included in the record of the relevant meeting of the Conference:

“Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory, shall participate in the Conference in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly.”

In the absence of any objection the President's proposal was adopted by the General Committee and is accordingly submitted to the Plenary of the Conference.

The representative of the United States of America made a statement to the effect that the views of the Governments of Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were well known and that they maintained the reservations expressed on their behalf on 12 December 1979 in explanation of their votes on General Assembly resolution 34/92.¹ If the question before the Committee had been brought to a vote they would have abstained. He requested that this statement be fully recorded in the summary record of the meeting of the General Committee.

¹See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings, 100th meeting.