

Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

1973-1982

Concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica on 10 December 1982

Document:-
A/CONF.62/57

Report of the Credentials Committee

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

sequent developments associated with the implementation of the new ocean régime.

This is done within the framework of the Portuguese Government policy aimed at contributing to and enhancing the dialogue among countries having different social and economic régimes and levels of development, within the principles of a new international economic order in a world of interdependence.

The location in Lisbon, at this particular moment, of an institution which is part of the United Nations system would also be seen by the Portuguese people as an en-

couragement by the world community for the values which inspire the new Portugal.

Bearing in mind Portugal's geographical position, as well as the diverse facilities it could place at the disposal of the institutions concerned, the Portuguese Government expresses the hope that the choice of Lisbon as the site for the Law of the Sea Tribunal will be welcomed and meets with general support.

The Portuguese Government would like to reiterate that this initiative is not intended to prejudice the proposals already submitted by other countries regarding the headquarters of the International Sea-Bed Authority.

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/56

Letter dated 11 July 1977 from the representative of Fiji to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]
[12 July 1977]

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Fiji has decided to offer Fiji as the site of the International Sea-Bed Authority to be established under part I of the proposed convention on the Law of the Sea.

Fiji has participated actively in the current Conference on the Law of the Sea and has taken an interest in the proposed International Sea-Bed Authority. As is well known, many of the known manganese nodule deposits occur in the Pacific Ocean; it is only logical, therefore, that the headquarters of the Authority, together with its other appendages, should be sited within a reasonable

proximity of operating areas. In this regard, Fiji's location in mid-Pacific is ideal.

I shall be grateful if this offer of the Government of Fiji could be considered together with other offers when the Conference as a whole comes to decide upon the site for the International Sea-Bed Authority.

(Signed) Satya N. NANDAN
Head of the delegation of Fiji
to the Third United Nations Conference
on the Law of the Sea

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Report of the Credentials Committee

[Original: English]
[13 July 1977]

1. The Credentials Committee held its 6th meeting on 13 July 1977. Representatives of all the members of the Committee except Costa Rica, the Ivory Coast and Uruguay were present.

2. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Executive Secretary of the Conference, dated 11 July 1977, indicating that as of that date communications had been received concerning 148 States participating in the session.

3. Credentials in the form provided for by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference had been submitted to the Executive Secretary by the following 115 States: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of,

Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

4. The appointment of the representatives of five States: Chad, Cuba, Nauru, Peru and Turkey, had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by telegram from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerned.

5. The appointment of the representatives of the following 27 States had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by letter or note verbale: Angola, Bangladesh, Burundi, Central African Empire, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Sierra Leone, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay and Zaire.

6. The Chairman proposed that, in the light of the past practice of the Committee, the Committee should accept the credentials referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4

above and that, as an exceptional measure and subject to later validation, it accept the communications referred to in paragraph 5 above in lieu of formal credentials.

7. The Committee unanimously adopted the Chairman's proposal and recommended to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the sixth session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

"The Conference

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/58

Note verbale dated 29 August 1977 from the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]
[9 September 1977]

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that the enclosed note of the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia be circulated as an official document of the United Nations.

"The future Convention on the Law of the Sea, which is to be the product of long and arduous negotiations at the current United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, envisages the establishment of a Law of the Sea Tribunal for the settlement of disputes arising out of the application and interpretation of the Convention. The location of the seat of the Tribunal is to be decided in the future course of the Conference.

"The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations presents formally, on behalf of the Yugoslav Government, the candidature of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the seat of the Law of the Sea Tribunal.

"Yugoslavia is situated along the Adriatic Sea and has a long maritime tradition, especially in areas of shipping and fishing. Its convenient geographic location, between Eastern and Western Europe, and its adjacency to the Mediterranean Sea that lies between three continents ensure excellent communications and make it an ideal host country for the seat of an international forum such as the Law of the Sea Tribunal.

"The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia participated actively in the elaboration of the Geneva Conventions of 1958 and has ratified them. The Yugoslav delegation also participated very actively in the preparatory work of the Sea-Bed Committee for the third United Nations Law of the Sea Conference and was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Conference. During all the sessions of the Conference, it has contributed to the efforts to achieve genuine and generally acceptable solutions.

"It will be recalled that the Yugoslav Government has always, in deliberations at this Conference, supported the establishment of a special Law of the Sea Tribunal.

"The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a non-aligned developing country, is actively engaged in all international fora, in efforts to protect the rights and interests of developing countries. The submission of Yugoslavia's candidature as the seat of one of the organs foreseen by the future Convention is in accordance with that end. In this connexion, it should be noted that, so far, no international body from the United Nations system has its seat in Yugoslavia.

"The Yugoslav Government will, in due time, supply information about precise location offered for the seat of the Tribunal. Such a location will be provided together with all the facilities necessary for the efficient functioning of the Tribunal."

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/59

Letter dated 15 July 1977 from the representative of Malta to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]
[28 September 1977]

I have the honour to advise you that I have officially informed the Secretary-General that the Government of Malta has decided to offer to host the seventh session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The Government of Malta has agreed to abide by General Assembly resolution 31/140 in connexion with the defraying of additional costs involved in holding the Conference away from established United Nations Headquarters.

I would be grateful if you bring the above information to the notice of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.