

# **Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea**

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Document:-

**A/CONF.62/C.1/SR.40**

## **40<sup>th</sup> meeting of the First 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)*

## 39th meeting

Tuesday, 14 June 1977, at 12.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. P. B. ENGO (United Republic of Cameroon).

### Statement by the Chairman

1. The CHAIRMAN made a statement.
2. Mr. LUPINACCI (Uruguay), supported by Mr. ALOUANE (Algeria) and Mrs. de BARISH (Costa Rica), proposed that the Chairman's statement should be issued in full.

*It was so decided.*<sup>1</sup>

*The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.*

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<sup>1</sup>The text of the statement was subsequently circulated as document A/CONF.62/C.1/L.21.

## 40th meeting

Thursday, 30 June 1977, at 3.55 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. P. B. ENGO (United Republic of Cameroon).

*In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Thompson-Flores (Brazil), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.*

### Settlement of disputes

1. The CHAIRMAN said that conditions seemed suitable for holding informal discussions on the subject of settlement of disputes in the Chairman's negotiating group. He urged that during the informal discussions delegations should give attention to substantive issues. In that connexion, he drew attention to the observations on settlement of disputes made by the Chairman, Mr. Engo, in his statements of 25 May and 14 June 1977, which had been reproduced in documents A/CONF.62/C.1/L.20 and 21. Mr. Engo had suggested that delegations should begin their consideration of the subject by focusing on concrete examples of the types of dispute that would be likely to arise in the sea-bed area; in his view, that would be one way of determining the scope and competence of the Tribunal envisaged and also the mode of settlement. In other words, it was necessary to form an idea as to which types of dispute would be subject to judicial settle-

ment and which types would not. Delegations might then turn their attention to the structure and placing of the provisions concerning the sea-bed dispute settlement system within the future convention. In dealing with those issues, reference would be made to articles 33 to 40 and annex III of part I of the revised single negotiating text.<sup>1</sup>

2. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed that delegations should conduct informal discussions on the settlement of disputes in the Chairman's negotiating group.

*It was so decided.*

3. The CHAIRMAN said that every effort would be made to ensure that no First Committee meeting devoted to settlement of disputes coincided with a plenary meeting of the Conference on the same subject.

*The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.*

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<sup>1</sup>See *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. V (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.V.8), document A/CONF.62/WP.8/Rev.1.