

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

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**A/CONF.13/L.32**

**Sixth report of the Drafting Committee of the Conference**

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## DOCUMENT A/CONF.13/L.32

## Sixth report of the Drafting Committee of the Conference

[Original text : English]  
[25 April 1958]

1. The Drafting Committee of the Conference met on 23 and 24 April to consider the examples of final clauses given in the note by the Secretariat (A/CONF.13/L.7). The Committee also had before it its own recommendations with regard to the final clauses adopted by the Fourth Committee.

2. The Drafting Committee recommends to the Conference the following final clauses for inclusion, where appropriate, in the conventions or other similar instruments to be adopted by the Conference.

*Signature*

This Convention shall, until 31 October 1958, be open for signature by all States Members of the United Nations or of any of the specialized agencies, and by any other State invited by the General Assembly to become a party to the Convention.

*Ratification*

This Convention is subject to ratification. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Accession*

This Convention shall be open for accession by the States mentioned in article . . . . . The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Note.*—The representatives of France and Czechoslovakia were opposed to the inclusion of this clause on the basis that accession to a treaty can only take place when the treaty has entered into force. Similarly, in connexion with the Entry into Force clause below, both these representatives objected to the inclusion of the words "or accession" in the first and second paragraphs of that clause.

*Entry into Force*

1. This Convention shall come into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. For each State ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instruments of ratification or accession.

*Reservations*

I

No reservations may be made to this Convention.

II

At the time of signature, ratification or accession, any State may make reservations to articles of the Convention other than to articles . . . . . inclusive.

Any contracting State making a reservation in accordance with the preceding paragraph may at any time withdraw the reservation by a communication to that effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Note.*—The Drafting Committee considers that the decision on whether or not reservations should be allowed to a convention or other instrument, and if so to which articles, is essentially a question of principle which should be decided by the Conference. The Drafting Committee therefore recommends the two above alternatives to provide for both the case in which no reservations should, in the view of the Conference, be permitted and the case where reservations to certain articles should be permitted.

*Revision*

After the expiration of a period of five years from the date on which this Convention shall enter into force a request for the revision of this Convention may be made at any time by any contracting party by means of a notification in writing addressed to the Secretary-General.

The General Assembly of the United Nations shall decide upon the steps, if any, to be taken in respect of such request.

*Note.*—The Committee considered that the inclusion of this revision clause made unnecessary any clause on denunciation.

*Notifications*

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States Members of the United Nations and the other States referred to in article . . . . . :

(a) Of signatures to this Convention and of the deposit of instruments of ratification or accession, in accordance with articles . . . . .

(b) Of the date on which this Convention will come into force, in accordance with article . . . . .

(c) Of requests for revision in accordance with article . . . . .

(d) Of reservations to this Convention, in accordance with article . . . . .

*Deposit of the Convention, and languages*

The original of this Convention of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall send certified copies thereof to all States referred to in article . . . . .