

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

Geneva, Switzerland  
24 February to 27 April 1958

## **Introductory Note**

Extract from the *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume VI (Fourth Committee (Continental Shelf))*

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The *Official Records* of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea comprise seven volumes, as follows :

- Volume I: Preparatory Documents
- Volume II: Plenary Meetings
- Volume III: First Committee (Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone)
- Volume IV: Second Committee (High Seas; General Régime)
- Volume V: Third Committee (High Seas: Fishing: the Conservation of Living Resources)
- Volume VI: Fourth Committee (Continental Shelf)
- Volume VII: Fifth Committee (The Question of Free Access to the Sea of Land-locked Countries)

Volumes III to VII contain the summary records of the meetings and the relevant documents, which appear as annexes. These include the draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission and the final texts adopted by the Committee of the Conference. In addition, volume II contains :

- (a) The list of delegations ;
- (b) The agenda of the Conference and the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference at its first and second plenary meetings ;
- (c) Certain documents of the General Committee of the Conference ;
- (d) The reports of the five committees and the Drafting Committee of the Conference ;
- (e) The Final Act together with the text of conventions, protocol of signature and resolutions adopted by the Conference.

Each volume includes a table of contents which indicates the matters dealt with at each meeting and an index listing the documents relating to that part of the Conference's work

which forms the subject of the volume in question ; the index shows where these documents may be found.

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The Conference documents all bear the symbol A/CONF.13/... followed by capital letters and figures which indicate the nature of the document concerned :

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Nature of document</i>
A/CONF.13/1 to 36	Preparatory Documents
A/CONF.13/L.1 to L.58	} Plenary Meetings
A/CONF.13/SR.1 to SR.21	
A/CONF.13/BUR/L.1 to L.7	} General Committee of the Conference
A/CONF.13/BUR/SR.1 to SR.7	
A/CONF.13/C.1/L.1 to L.168	} First Committee
A/CONF.13/C.1/SR.1 to SR.66	
A/CONF.13/C.2/L.1 to L.153	} Second Committee
A/CONF.13/C.2/SR.1 to SR.37	
A/CONF.13/C.3/L.1 to L.93	} Third Committee
A/CONF.13/C.3/SR.1 to SR.43	
A/CONF.13/C.4/L.1 to L.67	} Fourth Committee
A/CONF.13/C.4/SR.1 to SR.42	
A/CONF.13/C.5/L.1 to L.27	} Fifth Committee
A/CONF.13/C.5/SR.1 to SR.25	

The summary records contained in this volume were originally distributed in mimeographed form as documents A/CONF.13/C.4/SR.1 to SR.42.

They include the corrections to the provisional summary records that were requested by the delegations and such drafting and editorial modifications as were considered necessary.