

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

1973-1982

Concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica on 10 December 1982

Document:-

**A/CONF.62/119**

## **Report of the Credentials Committee**

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

## DOCUMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE

### DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/117

Resolution of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea  
adopted at Montevideo on 5 November 1981\*

[Original: English/French/Spanish]  
[30 November 1981]

*The ad hoc meeting of senior government officials expert in environmental law,  
Having accorded high priority to the prevention of marine pollution from land-based  
sources in the conclusions and recommendations of their meeting in Montevideo,  
Recalling the provisions of the draft convention on the law of the sea on the protection  
and preservation of the marine environment,  
Expresses its conviction that the work of the Third United Nations Conference on the  
Law of the Sea on the protection and preservation of the marine environment constitutes an  
essential contribution to the development of environmental law at the national and interna-  
tional levels and accordingly urges an early and successful conclusion of the Conference.*

\*Circulated at the request of the representative of Mexico.

### DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/118

Provisional agenda of the eleventh session of the Conference

[Original: English]  
[9 February 1982]

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 relating 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.62/119

#### Report of the Credentials Committee

[Original: English]  
[27 April 1982]

1. The Credentials Committee held its 16th meeting on 22 April 1982. Representatives of all members of the Committee except Chad were present.

2. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Executive Secretary of the Conference, dated 21 April 1982, indicating that, as of that date, communications had been received concerning 152 States participating in the session as well as the United Nations Council for Namibia.

3. Credentials in the form provided for by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference have been submitted to the Executive Secretary by the following States: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark,

El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, 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 Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. The appointment of the representatives of Albania, Barbados, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Chad, Maldives, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Seychelles has been communicated to the Executive Secretary by cables from the Ministries for Foreign Affairs concerned.

5. The appointment of the representatives of the following countries had been communicated to the Executive Secretary by letter, cable or note verbale from permanent missions: Afghanistan, Angola, Belgium, Benin, Burundi, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Poland, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Upper Volta, Yemen and Zaire. The appointment of the representatives of the United Nations Council for Namibia was communicated to the Executive Secretary by a letter from the Chairman of the Council.

6. The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that, subsequent to the preparation of his memorandum, credentials in due form had been received from Egypt.

7. The Executive Secretary further informed the Committee that letters had also been received from Antigua and Barbuda, Botswana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau and Swaziland.

8. The Chairman proposed that, in the light of past practice, the Committee should accept the credentials referred to in paragraphs 3 and 6 above and that, as an exceptional measure and subject to later validation, it should accept the communications referred to in paragraphs 4, 5 and 7 above in lieu of formal credentials.

9. The representative of Hungary recorded his delegation's objection to the acceptance of the credentials of the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea, stating that, in the view of the Hungarian delegation, these credentials were null and void.

10. The representative of China objected to the statement by the representative of Hungary, stating that, in the view of their delegation, the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea were valid. The representative of Japan said that the decision of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on this issue should be followed.

11. The Chairman noted that the views and reservations expressed would be reflected in the report of the Committee. Subject to these views and reservations, summarized in paragraphs 9 and 10 above, the Committee decided to approve the following draft resolution:

*"The Credentials Committee,*

*"Taking into account the views expressed during the debate,*

*"Accepts the formal credentials of the representatives that have been received;*

*"Accepts as an exceptional measure and subject to later validation, the communications referred to in paragraphs 4, 5 and 7 above in lieu of formal credentials."*

#### DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/120\*

Resolution on the development of national marine science, technology and ocean service infrastructures adopted by the Conference at the 182nd meeting on 30 April 1982

[Original: English]  
[7 May 1982]

*The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,*

*Recognizing that the Convention on the Law of the Sea is intended to establish a new régime for the seas and oceans which will contribute to the realization of a just and equitable international economic order through making provision for the peaceful use of ocean space, the equitable and efficient management and utilization of its resources, and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment,*

*Bearing in mind that the new régime must take into account, in particular, the special needs and interests of the developing countries, whether coastal, land-locked, or geographically disadvantaged,*

*Aware of the rapid advances being made in the field of marine science and technology, and the need for the developing countries, whether coastal, land-locked or geographically disadvantaged, to share in these achievements if the aforementioned goals are to be met,*

*Convinced that, unless urgent measures are taken, the marine scientific and technological gap between the developed*

*and the developing countries will widen further and thus endanger the very foundations of the new régime,*

*Believing that optimum utilization of the new opportunities for social and economic development offered by the new régime will be facilitated through action at the national and international level aimed at strengthening national capabilities in marine science, technology and ocean services, particularly in the developing countries, with a view to ensuring the rapid absorption and efficient application of technology and scientific knowledge available to them,*

*Considering that national and regional marine scientific and technological centres would be the principal institutions through which States and, in particular, the developing countries, foster and conduct marine scientific research, and receive and disseminate marine technology,*

*Recognizing the special role of the competent international organizations envisaged by the Convention on the Law of the Sea, especially in relation to the establishment and development of national and regional marine scientific and technological centres,*

\*Incorporating document A/CONF.62/120/Corr.1, of 18 May 1982.