

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.129

Letter dated 13 April 1982 from the representative of Israel to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]
[15 April 1982]

I have the honour, on instructions, to communicate to you the following:

The delegation of Israel wishes to restate its position on certain matters now being faced by the Conference.

The general position of the delegation of Israel on the major problems under discussion at various stages of the deliberations of the Conference has been made clear on a number of occasions, the last one being in my statement at the 163rd plenary meeting on 31 March 1982.

While fully maintaining its position on all of the matters set forth in that statement of 31 March 1982, as well as in all previous formal statements, the delegation of Israel desires to emphasize again its strong opposition to the provisions now included in article 140 and related articles, regarding the interpretation of the expression "common heritage of mankind" as applied to the resources of the international Area and their distribution to certain non-State entities.

Likewise the delegation of Israel wishes to reiterate its preoccupation with articles 156 and 319 as contained in document A/CONF.62/L.93 and with article 2 of draft resolution I establishing the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal for

the Law of the Sea (A/CONF.62/L.94). These provisions are unacceptable.

Draft resolution III (*ibid.*) deals with a purely political question not related to the law of the sea, and therefore has no place in any document emanating from this Conference. For this reason it is likewise unacceptable.

The delegation of Israel repeats its opposition to the draft decision of the Conference appearing at the end of the document. It restates its consistently held view that only States and the entities mentioned in article 305 of the draft convention as put forward in document A/CONF.62/L.93 should be entitled to sign the final act.

In the light of the foregoing, the delegation of Israel reserves its full freedom of action, to give in due course, in accordance with the rules of procedure, appropriate expression to its position and its objections.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Conference.

(Signed) S. ROSENNE
Representative of Israel
to the Third United Nations Conference
on the Law of the Sea

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.130

Letter dated 19 April 1982 from the representative of the United States of America to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]
[20 April 1982]

During the recent plenary sessions called by you for the discussion of formal amendments, my delegation, in view of the time available, limited itself to explanatory comments concerning the amendments proposed by seven countries contained in document A/CONF.62/L.121, and by five countries contained in document A/CONF.62/L.122.

I should like to avail myself of the opportunity to submit the following additional comments for the record.

Concerning the Second and Third Committees, the United States firmly opposes any substantive changes to the delicate balance that has been so painstakingly achieved. Particularly as regards the navigation and overflight provisions, any destabilizing change would make it impossible for the United States to participate in the convention.

Special emphasis of our opposition is made to those formal amendments which address articles 21, 39 and 310, or any

amendment that would permit reservations to the navigation and overflight provisions. Such amendments would compromise the very foundation upon which the negotiating package rests, and would in turn compromise the character of the resultant provisions, both within the context of the Conference and without.

My delegation reserves its right to comment further on other amendments proposed, should the opportunity be presented.

I would appreciate it if these comments could be made available to other delegations in the form of a conference document.

(Signed) J. L. MALONE
Representative of the United States of America
to the Third United Nations Conference
on the Law of the Sea

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.131

Letter dated 22 April 1982 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahariya to the President of the Conference

[Original: Arabic]
[22 April 1982]

I wish to make it clear, at this important stage in the history of the Conference, that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahariya strongly opposes any substantive changes in the

provisions of Part XI of the draft convention on the law of the sea contained in document A/CONF.62/L.78,²¹ for the following reasons.