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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development

1. In its resolution 40/187 of 17 December 1985, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to make all the necessary arrangements for holding the fourth part of the session of the United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships, and to report on the outcome of the Conference to the Assembly at its forty-first session.
2. The fourth part of the session of the Conference took place at Geneva from 20 January to 7 February 1986, under the presidency of His Excellency Mr. Lamine Fadika, Minister of Marine of Côte d'Ivoire, and adopted the United Nations Convention on Conditions for Registration of Ships on 7 February 1986.
3. It should be specifically noted that all issues were resolved by consensus, taking into account the mandate for the Conference contained in General Assembly resolution 37/209 of 20 December 1982, which required that the views of all interested parties should be taken into account. On the whole, the Convention may be expected to initiate a process of greater harmonization among States of provisions concerning registration of ships and to promote a more orderly development of world shipping as a whole.
4. Ninety-eight States participated in the fourth and last session of the Conference, of which 85 signed the Final Act of the Conference.

* A/41/50/Rev.1.

5. The Convention was opened for signature from 1 May 1986 up to and including 30 April 1987, at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York, and shall thereafter remain open for accession. It contains 21 articles (including the final clauses), two resolutions and one statistical annex. It contains both mandatory and recommendatory articles or provisions and relates to all seagoing merchant ships of 500 grt. and above, with some exceptions (such as dredgers, tugs, etc.). Fishing vessels are also excluded.

6. The Convention will enter into force 12 months after the date on which not less than 40 States, the combined tonnage of which amounts to at least 25 per cent of world tonnage, have become Contracting parties to it.
