



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/8071 and corr.1
22 September 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 59

STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

1. On 16 December 1966, at its 1496th plenary meeting, the General Assembly, by resolution 2200 A (XXI), adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and expressed the hope that the Covenants and the Optional Protocol would be signed, ratified or acceded to without delay and would come into force at an early date. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to submit to its future sessions reports concerning the state of ratifications of the Covenants and the Optional Protocol.
 2. In response to that request, reports on the status of the International Covenants and Optional Protocol have been presented annually to the General Assembly as from its twenty-second session in 1967. At its 1835th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1969, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, took note of the report of the Secretary-General to the twenty-fourth session (A/7682 and Add.1) and requested him to submit at the twenty-fifth session another report, which would be considered as a separate agenda item.
 3. Accordingly, the Secretary-General has the honour to submit the following information relating to the status of the International Covenants and Optional Protocol. As of 15 September 1970, both Covenants had been ratified or acceded to by eight States: Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Libya, Syria, Tunisia and
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Uruguay. The Optional Protocol had been ratified by four States: Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Uruguay. Forty-six States had signed the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; forty-four States had signed the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; sixteen States had signed the Optional Protocol. The States which have signed, ratified or acceded to the Covenants, and the dates of their signature, ratification or accession are listed in the annex hereto.

4. Each of the two International Covenants will come into force three months after the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or accession has been deposited.^{1/} The Covenants are open for signature and ratification or accession by any State Member of the United Nations or State member of the specialized agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and by any other State which has been invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party to the Covenants. The Optional Protocol is open for signature and ratification or accession by any State which has ratified or acceded to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Subject to the entry into force of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Optional Protocol will come into force three months after the tenth instrument of ratification or accession to it has been deposited.

^{1/} Article 27 of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and article 49 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

ANNEX

A. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of ratification or accession (a)</u>
Algeria	10 December 1968	
Argentina	19 February 1968	
Belgium	10 December 1968	
Bulgaria	8 October 1968	
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	19 March 1968	
Chile	16 September 1969	
China	5 October 1967	
Colombia	21 December 1966	29 October 1969
Costa Rica	19 December 1966	29 November 1968
Cyprus	9 January 1967	2 April 1969
Czechoslovakia	7 October 1968	
Denmark	20 March 1968	
Ecuador	29 September 1967	6 March 1969
El Salvador	21 September 1967	
Federal Republic of Germany	9 October 1968	
Finland	11 October 1967	
Guinea	28 February 1967	
Guyana	22 August 1968	
Honduras	19 December 1966	
Hungary	25 March 1969	
Iceland	30 December 1968	
Iran	4 April 1968	
Iraq	18 February 1969	
Israel	19 December 1966	
Italy	18 January 1967	
Jamaica	19 December 1966	
Liberia	18 April 1967	

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<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of ratification or accession (a)</u>
Libya		15 May 1970 (a)
Madagascar	14 April 1970	
Malta	22 October 1968	
Mongolia	5 June 1968	
Netherlands	25 June 1969	
New Zealand	12 November 1968	
Norway	20 March 1968	
Philippines	19 December 1966	
Poland	2 March 1967	
Romania	27 June 1968	
Sweden	29 September 1967	
Syria		21 April 1969 (a)
Tunisia	30 April 1968	18 March 1969
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	20 March 1968	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	18 March 1968	
United Arab Republic	4 August 1967	
United Kingdom	16 September 1968	
Uruguay	21 February 1967	1 April 1970
Venezuela	24 June 1969	
Yugoslavia	8 August 1967	

B. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of ratification or accession (a)</u>
Algeria	10 December 1968	
Argentina	19 February 1968	
Belgium	10 December 1968	
Bulgaria	8 October 1968	
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	19 March 1968	
Chile	16 September 1969	
China	5 October 1967	
Colombia	21 December 1966	29 October 1969
Costa Rica	19 December 1966	29 November 1968
Cyprus	9 January 1967	2 April 1969
Czechoslovakia	7 October 1968	
Denmark	20 March 1968	
Ecuador	4 April 1968	6 March 1969
El Salvador	21 September 1967	
Federal Republic of Germany	9 October 1968	
Finland	11 October 1967	
Guinea	28 February 1967	
Guyana	22 August 1968	
Honduras	19 December 1966	
Hungary	25 March 1969	
Iceland	30 December 1968	
Iran	4 April 1968	
Iraq	18 February 1969	
Israel	19 December 1966	
Italy	18 January 1967	
Jamaica	19 December 1966	
Liberia	18 April 1967	
Libya		15 May 1970 (a)

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<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of ratification or accession (a)</u>
Madagascar	17 September 1969	
Mongolia	5 June 1968	
Netherlands	25 June 1969	
New Zealand	12 November 1968	
Norway	20 March 1968	
Philippines	19 December 1966	
Poland	2 March 1967	
Romania	27 June 1968	
Sweden	29 September 1967	
Syria		21 April 1969 (a)
Tunisia	30 April 1968	18 March 1969
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	20 March 1968	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	18 March 1968	
United Arab Republic	4 August 1967	
United Kingdom	16 September 1968	
Uruguay	21 February 1967	1 April 1970
Venezuela	24 June 1969	
Yugoslavia	8 August 1967	

C. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Date of ratification or accession (a)</u>
China	5 October 1967	
Colombia	21 December 1966	29 October 1969
Costa Rica	19 December 1966	29 November 1968
Cyprus	19 December 1966	
Denmark	20 March 1968	
Ecuador	4 April 1968	6 March 1969
El Salvador	21 September 1967	
Finland	11 December 1967	
Honduras	19 December 1966	
Jamaica	19 December 1966	
Madagascar	17 September 1969	
Netherlands	25 June 1969	
Norway	20 March 1968	
Philippines	19 December 1966	
Sweden	29 September 1967	
Uruguay	21 February 1967	1 April 1970
