



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/7925/Add.1
27 August 1970

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH/
RUSSIAN/SPANISH

Twenty-fifth session
Item 26 (c) of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE RESERVATION EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES OF THE
SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR, AND THE SUBSOIL THEREOF, UNDERLYING THE
HIGH SEAS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF PRESENT NATIONAL JURISDICTION, AND
THE USE OF THEIR RESOURCES IN THE INTERESTS OF MANKIND

VIEWS OF MEMBER STATES ON THE DESIRABILITY OF CONVENING
AT AN EARLY DATE A CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

AFGHANISTAN

[Original: English]
13 August 1970

The Government of Afghanistan is in favour of convening a conference on the law of the sea at an early date.

In the opinion of the Government of Afghanistan, the General Assembly at its coming session should thoroughly discuss the scope of the conference and the most effective preparation for convening such a conference.

The Government of Afghanistan would express further views on the matter in the General Assembly.

BARBADOS

[Original: English]
28 July 1970

The Government of Barbados is in favour of the proposal to convene, at an early date, a conference on the law of the sea to review the régimes of the sea, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and the conservation of the living resources of the high seas in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of the United Nations resolution 2574 A (XXIV).

BULGARIA

[Original: French]
16 July 1970

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria wishes to take this opportunity to express its deep appreciation of the work which the United Nations has been doing for many years on the codification and progressive development of international maritime law. Its efforts were rewarded with the adoption of

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conventions on the law of the sea at the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea held at Geneva in 1958. This achievement was the result of an enormous volume of preparatory work done by the International Law Commission and other United Nations bodies over a period of ten years. The Geneva Conventions bring together the essential elements of generally recognized principles and norms of international maritime law and provide a sound basis for the furtherance of international co-operation in the area of the sea law. It is gratifying to note that the United Nations is continuing to make progress in its work on the codification and development of the law of the sea, as strikingly illustrated by the activities of the General Assembly's Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction.

It follows from the above comments that the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria regards as inappropriate the idea advanced in the aforesaid note concerning a review of the régimes laid down in the 1958 Geneva Conventions. These régimes are based on generally recognized and accepted principles and norms of international maritime law and any attempt to revise them would lead to pointless contention among States. The application of the 1958 Geneva Conventions thus far has shown that the norms of international law on which the Conventions are based provide a promising foundation for relations between States in matters regarding the law of the sea. The Bulgarian Government feels that States should concentrate, not on weakening the international legal foundations of the 1958 Geneva Conventions, but rather on strengthening and enlarging them. It is true that the 1958 Geneva Conventions have not provided satisfactory solutions to certain problems of international maritime law, such as the determination of the maximum breadth of the territorial sea and the more precise definition of the outer limit of the continental shelf. However, it is not necessary to carry out a full-scale review of the régimes established by the 1958 Geneva Conventions in order to solve these problems; it would suffice to settle each problem separately on the basis of international co-operation, taking the interests of all States into account.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria sees General Assembly resolution 2574 A (XXIV) as an appeal to assist the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor in solving the problem of defining the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national

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jurisdiction, as that problem is closely linked to the questions of determining the maximum breadth of the territorial sea and the more precise definition of the outer limit of the continental shelf.

In view of the foregoing, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria does not believe that it would be desirable to convene a conference to review the régimes laid down in the 1958 Geneva Conventions. At the same time, it feels it important that very early solutions should be found for such outstanding problems of the law of the sea as the determination of the maximum breadth of the territorial sea, the more precise definition of the outer limit of the continental shelf and the formulation of basic principles to govern national activities on the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. The Bulgarian Government takes the view that each of these problems should be studied individually and that, when significant progress has been made in the preparatory work, further steps could be taken towards their final solution on the basis of international law.

BURMA

Original: English
9 July 1970

The Government of the Union of Burma has no objection in principle to the convening at an early date of a conference on the law of the sea.

CEYLON

Original: English
28 July 1970

The Government of Ceylon supports the convening, at an early date, of a conference on the law of the sea which would deal with outstanding issues relating to the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, and fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, particularly in order to arrive at a clear, precise and internationally acceptable definition

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of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. The Government of Ceylon also considers such issues as precise definition of jurisdiction of a coastal State over the continental shelf, maximum width of the territorial sea, and preferential fishery rights for coastal States to be matters of high priority and to be so interrelated as to warrant their consideration at the same international conference rather than at a separate conference.

GUYANA

[Original: English]
24 July 1970

The Government of Guyana is in favour of the convening at an early date of a conference on the law of the sea to review the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, particularly in order to arrived at a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in the light of the international régime to be established for that area.

HONDURAS

[Original: Spanish]
13 August 1970

The Government of Honduras agrees in principle on the desirability of convening a conference on the law of the sea at a date deemed appropriate.

The Government of Honduras considers that the agenda of that conference should contain all the items referred to in operative paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 2574 A (XXIV), namely the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas and the sea-bed and ocean

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floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. With regard to the latter, the Government of Honduras feels that, in accordance with the terms of the resolution referred to, one of the objectives of the conference should be to arrive at a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the area in the light of the international régime to be established for it.

Finally, the Government of Honduras feels that the conference should be preceded by full preparation of all the legal and technical aspects which will facilitate better initial agreement and, consequently, a satisfactory result of the conference.

HUNGARY

Original: English
17 July 1970

Starting from the fact that the conventions adopted by the 1958 Geneva Conference on the Law of the Sea are based on generally recognized principles and norms of international law, and that they have been proved useful in practice by the years that have passed since their entry into force, considering furthermore that the Conference and the conventions in question were preceded by more than ten years of preparatory work, the Hungarian People's Republic is of the opinion that the conventions have turned out to be a good basis for international co-operation in these domains. Consequently, the Hungarian People's Republic holds the view that there is no need to convene an international conference for the purpose of reviewing these conventions. A review of these conventions would only provide an opportunity for frictions between States, since some States would insist on the present text of the conventions while others would be in favour of a redraft. In the opinion of the Hungarian People's Republic it is necessary to settle some questions which could not be solved before and which are of special importance for international co-operation in this field. Such unsolved questions, whose settlement ought to be urged, are the fixing of the maximum breadth of the territorial sea and a more precise definition of the outer limit of the continental shelf. The solution of these questions does not call for a revision of the Geneva Conventions of 1958.

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The Hungarian People's Republic is of the view that after appropriate and purposeful preparatory work it would be necessary to determine the maximum breadth of the territorial sea and the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond the bounds of national jurisdiction. A settlement of these questions would namely promote co-operation among States and reduce the danger of possible international conflicts in that area.

INDIA

Original: English
17 July 1970

The Government of India has throughout been appreciative of the effective role played by the United Nations in codifying and developing international law in several fields. In regard to the law of the sea, a United Nations Plenipotentiary Conference was able to prepare four conventions in 1958, which have all entered into force. These conventions have in a large measure codified international custom on the subject and developed law, and therefore have made a significant contribution to establishing the framework of public order and the rule of law among nations. It is, however, well known that these conventions did not resolve some issues definitively, such as the breadth of territorial waters, the régime of international straits, historic bays, exclusive and special fishing rights of coastal States. Some questions were also left vague, for example, whether warships require express authorization of the coastal State before entering its territorial waters. Some questions have raised controversy and concern, such as the definition of continental shelf given in article 1 of the Convention on the Continental Shelf, 1958. The 1958 Conventions did not deal with the question of the sea-bed and the ocean floor.

Developments have taken place since 1958 in regard to many of the unresolved and controversial issues. These developments have resolved some issues by state practice and appear to have created new issues, claims or rights. The question of the recognition of the status of the sea-bed as the common heritage of mankind and the establishment of an international régime and machinery for exploiting its resources in the interest of mankind, and especially the developing countries, has been under consideration of the United Nations since 1967.

The Government of India is of the view that time has now come when the subject of the law of the sea should be reviewed and fair and reasonable solutions found which, while safeguarding the essential interests of the coastal and other States, would ensure the permanent interests of mankind as a whole.

In accordance with this view, the Government of India's response to resolution 2574 (XXIV) will be positive. My Government would, therefore, support the convening of a conference on the law of the sea at an early date. For a conference to be useful and successful, it will be necessary to ensure that it has available to it basic proposals on the subjects to be discussed, prepared at competent hands after adequate study and keeping in mind the interests of the coastal and other States as well as of mankind as a whole. The purpose of such a conference will not be to unsettle the settled law but on the other hand to clarify, settle and develop the law of the sea, particularly in the light of the developments since 1958.

Keeping these in mind, the Government of India propose that the General Assembly may at its twenty-fifth session consider the desirability of establishing an experts committee consisting of representatives of Governments who may be entrusted with the task of (1) considering the subjects which should come up before a plenipotentiary conference and making recommendations thereon, and (2) preparing draft articles on these subjects which may serve as basic proposals for the plenipotentiary conference.

The experts committee may be convened to meet some time in the middle of 1971. Its composition, date and place of meeting and other related matters such as the supply of adequate background studies prepared either by the Secretariat staff or by special rapporteurs, may be settled by the United Nations General Assembly at its forthcoming session.

The experts committee may be requested to submit its report to the General Assembly for consideration at its twenty-sixth session.

INDONESIA

Original: English
7 July 1970

In view of the fact that the provisions in the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea do not clearly stipulate the realities of the present situation due to the degree of technological advancement since that time, the Indonesian Government would consider it appropriate if the United Nations took the initiative to convene a conference for the purpose of reviewing the Geneva Conventions.

The Indonesian Government believes that it would be important for such a conference on the law of the sea to consider all aspects of the problem regarding the establishment of an international régime for the supervision of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor extending beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction and to formulate a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the heretofore undefined area.

It is the opinion of the Government of Indonesia that a thorough preparatory study should be made before such a conference be convened, taking into consideration the relevant United Nations resolutions.

IRELAND

Original: English
21 July 1970

The Government of Ireland have been greatly impressed by the work done by the United Nations in the field of international law and especially in relation to the law of the sea. They appreciate, in particular, the achievements of the Geneva Conferences on the Law of the Sea where the adoption of four Conventions providing solutions for most of the problems then existing in this sphere was the fruit of patient effort. They realize, nevertheless, that some problems were not resolved by these Conventions and, moreover, that technological advances in recent years have given rise to further problems, especially in relation to the sea-bed and ocean floor. In this latter respect the Government of Ireland welcomed the initiative of the delegation of Malta at the twenty-second session of the General Assembly, and the valuable work done in pursuance of that initiative by the

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Assembly and the Committees set up by it to consider questions of reservation for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, and the use of their resources in the interests of mankind. The reports of these Committees have clearly established the extent of the problems, including legal problems, posed by man's steadily increasing capacity to extend his activities to the sea-bed and ocean floor, even at great depths. It was of course in the light of these reports that the General Assembly adopted the resolution to which the Secretary-General refers in his note.

The Government of Ireland have noted that the resolution contemplates a conference which would review the four 1958 Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea and related questions, with the particular object of defining the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor lying beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. They are convinced that priority should be given to the convening of a conference which would deal only with the régime of the continental shelf, the limits of national jurisdiction thereon and the régime to be established in respect of the area outside these limits. They recognize that this task would involve a review of the Convention on the Continental Shelf but are of the opinion that, at the most, only marginal reference to the other three Geneva Conventions would be required. A conference entrusted with this limited task could be convened within a relatively short time, and certainly at a much earlier date than a conference with wider terms of reference such as are contemplated by the resolution, involving a much longer period of preparation and also a lengthier and more difficult conference.

The Government of Ireland foresee that, by reason of rapid advances in the field of sea-bed technology, Governments will be under pressure soon, if not already, from scientific and commercial interests, and also from their military services, to permit activity in areas of the sea-bed where the question of rights and of jurisdiction has not been settled. Accordingly, the Government's view is that solution of these problems is of such urgency as not to allow of a delay of the dimensions required for preparation of a conference entrusted with a review of virtually the entire law of the sea. Nevertheless, if a large majority of the States Members of the United Nations and of the coastal States are in favour of convening such a conference rather than one with a more limited task, the Government of Ireland would be prepared to participate in it.

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The Government are convinced that any conference entrusted with consideration of the régime of the continental shelf, and of the sea-bed and ocean floor outside the limits of national jurisdiction, must have due regard to the legitimate rights and interests of coastal States. If the conclusions reached did not recognize such rights and interests, the conference would inevitably fail in its objective of reaching a general consensus on the legal rules applicable to these matters.

ITALY

[Original: English]
12 August 1970

The Italian delegation to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly expressed its support for a formulation different from that of the resolution 2574 A (XXIV), namely one which would have requested the Secretary-General "to ascertain the views of Member States on the desirability of convening at an early date a conference particularly for the purpose of arriving at a clear, precise, and internationally acceptable definition of the area of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and their subsoil, which lies beyond national jurisdiction, taking into account the relevant provisions of international law and the prospective establishment of an equitable international régime for use of this area for the benefit of all mankind".

As it is known, the Italian delegation abstained in the vote of the final text of the resolution since it believed that the resolution's formulation was wider than warranted by the real needs for a revision of certain rules of the law of the sea.

In the light of the foregoing, Italy does not believe that it would be useful or necessary to convene a new conference on the law of the sea on the whole range of subjects indicated in resolution 2574 A (XXIV). Indeed a number of important rules of the law of the sea have been adequately codified in the Conventions adopted in 1958 and 1960 by the Conferences of the United Nations on the law of the sea, with particular reference to the régime of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea, fishing and other matters.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that certain of the above-mentioned aspects of the law of the sea have been regulated in a way which is not sufficiently precise by the said Geneva Conventions.

Generally speaking, however, the Italian Government feels that the scope of a new conference on the law of the sea should be precisely delimited and that it should be prepared with all possible care if it is to produce results which have not been produced in the past.

More specifically it has been remarked by the Italian Government that the work of the United Nations Committee on the peaceful uses of the sea-bed and the ocean floor has encountered difficulties due mostly to the reason that the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf does not appear to have determined with sufficient precision the limit of the national jurisdiction of States over this area. As it is known, the said Convention states that the rights of the coastal State extend "to a depth of 200 metres or, beyond that limit, to where the depth of the superjacent waters admits of the exploitation of the national resources of the said areas". In the Italian opinion, even though such a formulation contains certain criteria for defining the limit of the continental shelf, it may give rise to differing interpretations when it refers to a "depth of 200 metres or, beyond that limit, to where the depth of the superjacent water admits of the exploitation of the natural resources of the said areas", and such interpretations are a contributing factor in making it difficult to arrive at a precisely determined limit.

On the other hand, the Italian Government has noted that the work of the Committee on the peaceful uses of the sea-bed has already contributed to the development of a useful debate on the subject. This debate should continue in such a way as to provide a basis for the further convening - which is to be hoped for - of a United Nations conference for the purpose of reviewing the 1958 Convention on the continental shelf as concerns the exact limit of the said shelf. Thus the Committee could also make more rapid progress in its work concerning the definition of the legal régime for the area lying beyond the said limit since the definition of the legal régime is obviously connected with the precise determination of the area to which it should apply.

MAURITIUS

Original: English
18 August 1970

The Parliament of Mauritius has recently passed legislation in the form of the Territorial Sea Act, 1970, and the Continental Shelf Act, 1970, the provisions of which closely follow the articles of the 1958 Conventions on the Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone and on the Continental Shelf.

On attaining independence, Mauritius succeeded to all treaty rights and obligations of the former Colony of Mauritius, including the two above-mentioned Conventions. However, the Government of Mauritius will, in the near future, specifically succeed to the two above Conventions.

The Government of Mauritius strongly supports the efforts of the United Nations to further the interests of international law by attempting to find a solution to the problems of the law of the sea which either were not resolved at the 1958 and 1960 Conferences or have become apparent since.

More particularly, the Government of Mauritius would welcome a general measure of agreement on the extent of the outer limits of the territorial sea, on a more precise definition of the limits of the continental shelf outside national jurisdictions and on the uses of the ocean bed and the subsoil thereof, in the fields of anti-pollution and of non-military (as distinct from peaceful) operations.

The Government of Mauritius feels, however, that the recognized principles of international law, as embodied in the 1958 Conventions and evidenced by the practice of States, should not lightly be disturbed and that it would view with grave concern any action which might tend to affect the rights it has claimed in respect of a twelve-mile limit to its territorial sea and of sovereignty over its Continental Shelf.

It must be stressed that any international conference should only be convened if the issues which are to be resolved thereat are clearly defined, if it is settled that generally agreed principles of international law are not to be re-opened for discussion and if the preparatory work to such a conference has been so fully canvassed as to ensure the likelihood of some measure of agreement.

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In conclusion, the Government of Mauritius does not feel that it would be opportune at this juncture to convene a conference on the law of the sea with such wide terms of reference as "to review the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas".

The Government of Mauritius is of the opinion that, in the light of the recommendations of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction, and of the views expressed by Member States in reply to the Secretary-General's note of 29 January 1970, any suggestions which will enhance the possibility of eventual agreement on the outstanding issues should be fully explored, with a view to convening at some future date a conference at which agreement may be reached thereon.

MONGOLIA

[Original: English]
11 August 1970

1. The Mongolian People's Republic, although a landlocked country, has always displayed keen interest in the codification and progressive development of the law of the sea.

2. It is the considered view of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic that the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the law of the sea constitute a viable instrument of international co-operation in this field. In fact, the régimes embodied in these Conventions, well based on generally accepted principles and norms of international law, have received wide international recognition and stood the test of time.

3. What is advisable is not a hasty review of the said Conventions, which came into being as a result of a decade of assiduous labour and negotiations, but constructive and imaginative application of principles and norms laid down therein.

4. In view of the above-said considerations, the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic deems it undesirable to convene at the present stage a conference to review the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the law of the sea which would involve practically all the essential fields of international law in that domain.

5. At the same time the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic is aware that there are still some very important but not yet resolved questions, such as the formulation of basic principles governing the activities of States on the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, more precise definition of the outer limit of the continental shelf and the determination of the maximum breadth of territorial waters. It submits that the earliest possible arrival at an agreement on these specific issues would enhance the Conventions in question.

PHILIPPINES

[Original: English]
11 August 1970

The Philippine Government considers it desirable to convene at an early date a conference on the law of the sea "to review the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, particularly in order to arrive at a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in the light of the international régime to be established for that area".

The Philippine Government believes that a review of the Conventions adopted in the Conference of the Law of the Sea in 1958 and 1959 in Geneva is now timely, because the membership of the United Nations has practically become more than double than at the time when the said Conventions were adopted. The Conventions themselves provide for a review and it would appear that this review is now due.

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There is need for a thorough preparation in order to ensure the success of the Conference, but even before the holding of the Conference, the Philippine Government maintains its position that the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction should continue with its efforts towards the establishment of an international régime for that area of the sea-bed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof beyond the limits of national jurisdiction so that it may truly become the common heritage of mankind.

SOUTH AFRICA

[Original: English]
28 July 1970

South Africa has no objection in principle to the convening of an international conference on the law of the sea but believes that before such a conference is convened there must be some advance assurance that it will succeed in its objectives. Therefore, until such time as a reliable assessment can be formed as to the likely success of a conference convened for the purpose outlined in General Assembly resolution 2574 A (XXIV), it would be premature to venture an opinion on the "desirability" or otherwise of convening it "at an early date". A great deal of preparatory work involving consultations amongst Member States by whatever means seem feasible and practical must be undertaken before such an opinion can realistically be formed.

In any event, the South African Government is of the opinion that the inclusion in the agenda for such a conference of all the Law of the Sea Conventions of 1958 will result in the introduction of additional complex and controversial issues which will not only render an assessment of the probable success or otherwise of the conference more problematical but will also seem to rule out any possibility of convening the conference "at an early date".

SPAIN

[Original: Spanish]
30 June 1970

The Spanish Government shares the concern of other Governments at the unsatisfactory situation regarding some aspects of the law of the sea. The United Nations has already achieved considerable success in the task of codification in this field, culminating in the Geneva Conventions of 1958. It is well known, however, that agreement could not be reached on some points and, at the same time, that new technical and economic conditions have created other problems.

Accordingly, the Spanish Government considers that further efforts are required to bring about international regulation of the marine environment, in particular to determine the boundaries between the various maritime zones and to elaborate the régime applicable to each one, so as to permit rational utilization and conservation of their resources. Since these problems are closely linked together, a comprehensive effort should be made to develop the international law of the sea and no restrictions should be placed on the topics of discussion.

The Spanish Government therefore favours the convening of a General Conference on the Law of the Sea, under the auspices of the United Nations. In order to guarantee success, appropriate preparations must be made by the Organization, in accordance with the procedure followed before in similar instances.

The debate in the General Assembly would be followed by the establishment of an ad hoc committee whose working documents and drafts of an agreement would be submitted to a conference of plenipotentiaries.

Bearing in mind that the need for an international agreement on this matter is becoming increasingly urgent and that, in view of the complexity of the problems involved, the conference will take some time to prepare, the Spanish Government would like the foregoing procedure to be initiated at the forthcoming twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

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UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Original: Russian
2 July 1970

As is well known, the legal régimes of the high seas, territorial waters, contiguous zone and continental shelf and the legal regulation of fishing and protection of the living resources of the high seas have evolved over a long period of time in the course of the prolonged use of those portions of the world ocean and its fauna by various States of the world. They have been formulated and reflected in many treaties and agreements between States.

Subsequently, as a result of the efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies with a view to the codification and progressive development of this branch of international law, they were embodied in the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the law of the sea. Based on universally recognized rules and principles of international law, the 1958 Geneva Conventions are the product of the combined efforts of many States and serve as a sound international legal basis for the activities of States in the world ocean.

The attempts of a number of States to undermine or weaken this international legal foundation may, in the opinion of the Government of the Ukrainian SSR, lead to serious complications with regard to international co-operation between States in this field. The Ukrainian SSR accordingly does not see the necessity of convening at an early date a conference on the law of the sea to review the legal régimes of the world ocean and its resources as laid down in the Geneva Conventions.

In the opinion of the Government of the Ukrainian SSR, such outstanding questions in this field as the determination of the maximum breadth of territorial waters, the more precise definition of the limit of the continental shelf and the formulation of basic principles to govern the activities of States on the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, could be resolved in the near future, after careful study, on the basis of universally recognized principles and rules of international law and consideration of the interests of all States concerned. Specific ways of solving these pressing individual questions could be determined after the necessary preparatory work had been done by United Nations bodies.
