

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.153

Letter dated 20 September 1982 from the representative of Venezuela to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]
[21 September 1982]

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of note No. GM-215 of today's date, addressed to you by Dr. José Alberto Zambrano Velasco, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, the original of which will be sent to you later:

"Republic of Venezuela
"Ministry of Foreign Affairs
"GM-215
"Caracas, 20 September 1982

"Sir,

"As you are aware, Venezuela participated diligently and with dedication, during eight years of work, in the search for the common objective of adopting a universally acceptable Convention on the Law of the Sea. For the reasons expressed at the appropriate time by the Chairman of the delegation of Venezuela, our country found it impossible to associate itself with the adopted text in its entirety.

"In the light of the foregoing statement, which is motivated by considerations dictated by national interest, and with due regard to the various circumstances, my Government regrets having to withdraw its original offer to act as host at Caracas for the signature of the Final Act and the opening of the Convention for signature.

"In taking the difficult decision of which I am informing you, the Government of Venezuela hopes that it will find understanding among the participants in the Conference. At the same time, it wishes to express its gratitude to all the countries that supported the initiative to make Venezuela the site of the final meetings of the Conference, which was and is a source of pride for our country.

"I take this opportunity to express to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

"(Signed) José Alberto ZAMBRANO VELASCO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Venezuela"

I take this opportunity once again to express to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) A. MARTINI URDANETA
Ambassador
Representative of Venezuela
to the Third United Nations Conference
on the Law of the Sea

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Letter dated 24 September 1982 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the President of the Conference

[Original: English]
[27 September 1982]

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, referring to the letter dated 28 April 1982 from the representatives of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru (A/CONF.62/L.143)⁵⁸ and to the written statement by the delegation of Colombia dated 29 April 1982 (A/CONF.62/WS/32),⁵⁹ would like to state that there is a fundamental balance between the rights and duties of coastal and other States in the adopted text of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (A/CONF.62/L.122) relating to zones of coastal State jurisdiction.

The relevant provisions of the Convention recognize, beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea, specific resource-related rights and jurisdiction of the coastal State in the exclusive economic zone, while all States continue to enjoy in that zone the high seas freedoms of navigation and over-flight and of the laying of submarine cables and pipelines, and other internationally lawful uses of the sea.

My delegation has the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Conference.

(Signed) E. F. JUNG
Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Third United Nations Conference
on the Law of the Sea

⁵⁸ See *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVI.