



**UNITED
NATIONS**



**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

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**STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO
COMBAT DESERTIFICATION**

Note by the secretariat

1. The text of the Convention was adopted in Paris on 17 June 1994, at the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; it was opened for signature in Paris on 14 and 15 October 1994, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 13 October 1995. By that date, the Convention had received 115 signatures. The Convention entered into force on 26 December 1996. Those States which have not signed the Convention may accede to it at any time.
2. For any States ratifying, accepting or approving the Convention or acceding thereto after the date of entry into force, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
3. This document contains information concerning dates of signature and ratification received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary, as at 5 October 2001.
4. The information is presented in two tables. All Parties to the Convention as at 5 October 2001 are listed in alphabetical order in table 1. The second table shows the general status of ratification of the Convention. The dates in the column on ratification are those of the receipt of the instrument of ratification or accession by the Depositary.
5. For the purpose of this document, all references to ratification include information on accession, acceptance and approval of the Convention.

Table 1. Parties to the Convention*
(as at 5 October 2001)

1. Afghanistan	65. Guatemala	125. Peru
2. Albania	66. Guinea	126. Philippines
3. Algeria	67. Guinea-Bissau	127. Portugal
4. Angola	68. Guyana	128. Qatar
5. Antigua and Barbuda	69. Haiti	129. Republic of Korea
6. Argentina	70. Honduras	130. Republic of Moldova
7. Armenia	71. Hungary	131. Romania
8. Australia	72. Iceland	132. Rwanda
9. Austria	73. India	133. Saint Kitts and Nevis
10. Azerbaijan	74. Indonesia	134. Saint Lucia
11. Bahamas	75. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	135. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
12. Bahrain	76. Ireland	136. Samoa
13. Bangladesh	77. Israel	137. San Marino
14. Barbados	78. Italy	138. Sao Tome and Principe
15. Belarus	79. Jamaica	139. Saudi Arabia
16. Belgium	80. Japan	140. Senegal
17. Belize	81. Jordan	141. Seychelles
18. Benin	82. Kazakhstan	142. Sierra Leone
19. Bolivia	83. Kenya	143. Singapore
20. Botswana	84. Kiribati	144. Slovenia
21. Brazil	85. Kuwait	145. Solomon Islands
22. Bulgaria	86. Kyrgyzstan	146. South Africa
23. Burkina Faso	87. Lao People's Democratic Republic	147. Spain
24. Burundi	88. Lebanon	148. Sri Lanka
25. Cambodia	89. Lesotho	149. Sudan
26. Cameroon	90. Liberia	150. Suriname
27. Canada	91. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	151. Swaziland
28. Cape Verde	92. Liechtenstein	152. Sweden
29. Central African Republic	93. Luxembourg	153. Switzerland
30. Chad	94. Madagascar	154. Syrian Arab Republic
31. Chile	95. Malawi	155. Tajikistan
32. China	96. Malaysia	156. Thailand
33. Colombia	97. Mali	157. Togo
34. Comoros	98. Malta	158. Tonga
35. Congo	99. Marshall Islands	159. Trinidad and Tobago
36. Cook Islands	100. Mauritania	160. Tunisia
37. Costa Rica	101. Mauritius	161. Turkey
38. Côte d'Ivoire	102. Mexico	162. Turkmenistan
39. Croatia	103. Micronesia (Federated States of)	163. Tuvalu
40. Cuba	104. Monaco	164. Uganda
41. Cyprus	105. Mongolia	165. United Arab Emirates
42. Czech Republic	106. Morocco	166. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
43. Democratic Republic of the Congo	107. Mozambique	167. United Republic of Tanzania
44. Denmark	108. Myanmar	168. United States of America
45. Djibouti	109. Namibia	169. Uruguay
46. Dominica	110. Nauru	170. Uzbekistan
47. Dominican Republic	111. Nepal	171. Vanuatu
48. Ecuador	112. Netherlands	172. Venezuela
49. Egypt	113. New Zealand	173. Viet Nam
50. El Salvador	114. Nicaragua	174. Yemen
51. Equatorial Guinea	115. Niger	175. Zambia
52. Eritrea	116. Nigeria	176. Zimbabwe
53. Ethiopia	117. Niue	
54. European Community	118. Norway	
55. Fiji	119. Oman	
56. Finland	120. Pakistan	
57. France	121. Palau	
58. Gabon	122. Panama	
59. Gambia	123. Papua New Guinea	
60. Georgia	124. Paraguay	
61. Germany		
62. Ghana		
63. Greece		
64. Grenada		

* Belarus has ratified the Convention but has not yet become Party to it (see table 2).

Table 2. Status of ratification
(R=Ratification, Ac=Accession, At=Acceptance)

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
1. Afghanistan		01/11/95(Ac)	26/12/96
2. Albania		27/04/00(Ac)	26/07/00
3. Algeria	14/10/94	22/05/96(R)	26/12/96
4. Angola	14/10/94	30/06/97(R)	28/09/97
5. Antigua and Barbuda	04/04/95	06/06/97(R)	04/09/97
6. Argentina	15/10/94	06/01/97(R)	06/04/97
7. Armenia	14/10/94	02/07/97(R)	30/09/97
8. Australia	14/10/94	15/05/00(R)	13/08/00
9. Austria		02/06/97(Ac)	31/08/97
10. Azerbaijan		10/08/98(Ac)	08/11/98
11. Bahamas		10/11/00(Ac)	08/02/01
12. Bahrain		14/07/97(Ac)	12/10/97
13. Bangladesh	14/10/94	26/01/96(R)	26/12/96
14. Barbados		14/05/97(Ac)	12/08/97
15. Belarus		29/08/01(Ac)	27/11/01
16. Belgium		30/06/97(Ac)	28/09/97
17. Belize		23/07/98(Ac)	21/10/98
18. Benin	14/10/94	29/08/96(R)	26/12/96
19. Bolivia	14/10/94	01/08/96(R)	26/12/96
20. Botswana	12/10/95	11/09/96(R)	26/12/96
21. Brazil	14/10/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
22. Bulgaria		21/02/01(Ac)	22/05/01
23. Burkina Faso	14/10/94	26/01/96(R)	26/12/96
24. Burundi	14/10/94	06/01/97(R)	06/04/97
25. Cambodia	15/10/94	18/08/97(R)	16/11/97
26. Cameroon	14/10/94	29/05/97(R)	27/08/97
27. Canada	14/10/94	01/12/95(R)	26/12/96
28. Cape Verde	14/10/94	08/05/95(R)	26/12/96
29. Central African Republic	14/10/94	05/09/96(R)	26/12/96
30. Chad	14/10/94	27/09/96(R)	26/12/96
31. Chile	03/03/95	11/11/97(R)	09/01/98
32. China	14/10/94	18/02/97(R)	19/05/97
33. Colombia	14/10/94	08/06/99(R)	06/09/99
34. Comoros	14/10/94	03/03/98(R)	01/06/98
35. Congo	15/10/94	12/07/99(R)	11/10/99
36. Cook Islands		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
37. Costa Rica	15/10/94	05/01/98(R)	05/04/98
38. Côte d'Ivoire	15/10/94	04/03/97(R)	02/06/97
39. Croatia	15/10/94	06/10/00(At)	04/01/01
40. Cuba	15/10/94	13/03/97(R)	11/06/97
41. Cyprus		29/03/00(Ac)	27/06/00
42. Czech Republic		25/01/00(Ac)	24/04/00
43. Democratic Republic of the Congo	14/10/94	12/09/97(R)	11/11/97
44. Denmark	15/10/94	22/12/95(R)	26/12/96

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
45. Djibouti	15/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/08/97
46. Dominica		08/12/97(Ac)	08/03/98
47. Dominican Republic		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
48. Ecuador	19/01/95	06/09/95(R)	26/12/96
49. Egypt	14/10/94	07/07/95(R)	26/12/96
50. El Salvador		27/06/97(Ac)	25/09/97
51. Equatorial Guinea	14/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
52. Eritrea	14/10/94	14/08/96(R)	26/12/96
53. Ethiopia	15/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
54. Fiji		26/08/98(Ac)	24/11/98
55. Finland	15/10/94	20/09/95(At)	26/12/96
56. France	14/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/09/98
57. Gabon		06/09/96(Ac)	26/12/96
58. Gambia	14/10/94	11/06/96(R)	26/12/96
59. Georgia	15/10/94	23/07/99(R)	21/10/99
60. Germany	14/10/94	10/07/96(R)	26/12/96
61. Ghana	15/10/94	27/12/96(R)	27/03/97
62. Greece	14/10/94	05/05/97(R)	03/08/97
63. Grenada		28/05/97(Ac)	25/09/97
64. Guatemala		10/09/98(Ac)	09/12/98
65. Guinea	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
66. Guinea-Bissau	15/10/94	27/10/95(R)	26/12/96
67. Guyana		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
68. Haiti	15/10/94	25/09/96(R)	26/12/96
69. Honduras	22/02/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
70. Hungary		13/07/99(Ac)	11/10/99
71. Iceland		03/06/97(Ac)	01/09/97
72. India	14/10/94	17/12/96(R)	17/03/97
73. Indonesia	15/10/94	31/08/98(R)	29/11/98
74. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14/10/94	29/04/97(R)	28/07/97
75. Ireland	15/10/94	31/07/97(R)	29/10/97
76. Israel	14/10/94	26/03/96(R)	26/12/96
77. Italy	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
78. Jamaica		12/11/97(Ac)	12/03/98
79. Japan	14/10/94	11/09/98(At)	10/12/98
80. Jordan	13/04/95	21/10/96(R)	19/01/97
81. Kazakhstan	14/10/94	09/07/97(R)	07/10/97
82. Kenya	14/10/94	24/06/97(R)	22/09/97
83. Kiribati		08/09/98(Ac)	07/12/98
84. Kyrgyzstan		19/09/97(Ac)	18/12/97
85. Kuwait	22/09/95	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
86. Lao People's Democratic Republic	30/08/95	20/09/96(At)	26/12/96
87. Lebanon	14/10/94	16/05/96(R)	26/12/96
88. Lesotho	15/10/94	12/09/95(R)	26/12/96
89. Liberia		02/03/98(Ac)	31/05/98

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
90. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15/10/94	22/07/96(R)	26/12/96
91. Liechtenstein		29/12/99(Ac)	28/03/00
92. Luxembourg	14/10/94	04/02/97(R)	05/05/97
93. Madagascar	14/10/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
94. Malaysia	06/10/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
95. Malawi	17/01/95	13/06/96(R)	26/12/96
96. Mali	15/10/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96
97. Malta	15/10/94	30/01/98(R)	30/04/98
98. Marshall Islands		02/06/98(Ac)	31/08/98
99. Mauritania	14/10/94	07/08/96(R)	26/12/96
100. Mauritius	17/03/95	23/01/96(R)	26/12/96
101. Mexico	15/10/94	03/04/95(R)	26/12/96
102. Micronesia (Federated States of)	12/12/94	25/03/96(R)	26/12/96
103. Monaco		05/03/99(Ac)	03/06/99
104. Mongolia	15/10/94	03/09/96(R)	26/12/96
105. Morocco	15/10/94	07/11/96(R)	06/02/97
106. Mozambique	28/09/95	13/03/97(R)	11/06/97
107. Myanmar		02/01/97(Ac)	02/04/97
108. Namibia	24/10/94	16/05/97(R)	14/08/97
109. Nauru		22/09/98(Ac)	21/12/98
110. Nepal	12/10/95	15/10/96(R)	13/01/97
111. Netherlands ^a	15/10/94	27/06/95(At)	26/12/96
112. New Zealand ^b		07/09/00(Ac)	06/12/00
113. Nicaragua	21/11/94	17/02/98(R)	18/05/98
114. Niger	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
115. Nigeria	31/10/94	08/07/97(R)	06/10/97
116. Niue		14/08/98(Ac)	12/11/98
117. Norway	15/10/94	30/08/96(R)	26/12/96
118. Oman		23/07/96(Ac)	26/12/96
119. Pakistan	15/10/94	24/02/97(R)	25/05/97
120. Palau		15/06/99(Ac)	13/09/99
121. Panama	22/02/95	04/04/96(R)	26/12/96
122. Papua New Guinea		06/12/00(Ac)	06/03/01
123. Paraguay	01/12/94	15/01/97(R)	15/04/97
124. Peru	15/10/94	09/11/95(R)	26/12/96
125. Philippines	08/12/94	10/02/00(R)	10/05/00
126. Portugal	14/10/94	01/04/96(R)	26/12/96
127. Qatar		15/03/99(Ac)	13/06/99
128. Republic of Korea	14/10/94	17/08/99(R)	15/11/99
129. Republic of Moldova		10/03/99(Ac)	08/06/99
130. Romania		19/08/98(Ac)	17/11/98
131. Rwanda	22/06/95	22/10/98(R)	20/01/99
132. Saint Kitts and Nevis		30/06/97(Ac)	28/09/97
133. Saint Lucia		02/07/97(Ac)	30/09/97
134. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	15/10/94	16/03/98(R)	14/06/98

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
135. Samoa		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
136. San Marino		23/07/99(Ac)	21/10/99
137. Sao Tome and Principe	04/10/95	08/07/98(R)	06/10/98
138. Saudi Arabia		25/06/97(Ac)	23/09/97
139. Senegal	14/10/94	26/07/95(R)	26/12/96
140. Seychelles	14/10/94	26/06/97(R)	24/09/97
141. Sierra Leone	11/11/94	25/09/97(R)	24/12/97
142. Singapore		26/04/99(Ac)	25/07/99
143. Slovenia		28/06/01(Ac)	26/09/01
144. Solomon Islands		16/04/99(Ac)	15/07/99
145. South Africa	09/01/95	30/09/97(R)	29/12/97
146. Spain	14/10/94	30/01/96(R)	26/12/96
147. Sri Lanka		09/12/98(Ac)	09/03/99
148. Sudan	15/10/94	24/11/95(R)	26/12/96
149. Suriname		01/06/00(Ac)	30/08/00
150. Swaziland	27/07/95	07/10/96(R)	05/01/97
151. Sweden	15/10/94	12/12/95(R)	26/12/96
152. Switzerland	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
153. Syrian Arab Republic	15/10/94	10/06/97(R)	08/09/97
154. Tajikistan		16/07/97(Ac)	14/10/97
155. Thailand		07/03/01(Ac)	05/06/01
156. Togo	15/10/94	04/10/95(At)	26/12/96
157. Tonga		25/09/98(Ac)	24/12/98
158. Trinidad and Tobago		08/06/00(Ac)	06/09/00
159. Tunisia	14/10/94	11/10/95(R)	26/12/96
160. Turkey	14/10/94	31/03/98(R)	29/06/98
161. Turkmenistan	27/03/95	18/09/96(R)	26/12/96
162. Tuvalu		14/09/98(Ac)	13/12/98
163. Uganda	21/11/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
164. United Arab Emirates		21/10/98(Ac)	19/01/99
165. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ^c	14/10/94	18/10/96(R)	16/01/97
166. United Republic of Tanzania	14/10/94	19/06/97(R)	17/09/97
167. United States of America	14/10/94	17/11/00(R)	15/02/01
168. Uruguay		17/02/99(Ac)	18/05/99
169. Uzbekistan	07/12/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96
170. Vanuatu	28/09/95	10/08/99(R)	08/11/99
171. Venezuela		29/06/98(Ac)	27/09/98
172. Viet Nam		25/08/98(Ac)	23/11/98
173. Yemen		14/01/97(Ac)	14/04/97
174. Zambia	15/10/94	19/09/96(R)	26/12/96
175. Zimbabwe	15/10/94	23/09/97(R)	22/12/97
Regional Economic Integration Organization			
176. European Community	14/10/94	26/03/98(R)	24/06/98
TOTAL	115	176	

Notes:

^a For the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Europe.

^b "New Zealand declares that, consistent with the constitutional status of Tokelau and taking into account its commitment to the development of self-government through an act of self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations, this ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a Declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory."

^c For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the British Virgin Islands, St. Helena and Ascension Island. Subsequently, on 24 December 1996, the Government of the United Kingdom notified the Secretary-General that the Convention would apply to Montserrat.

Declarations:

ALGERIA

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 28, paragraph 2, of the [said Convention], to the effect that any dispute must be submitted to the International Court of Justice.

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that for a dispute submitted to the International Court of Justice, the consent of both parties will be necessary in each case.

AUSTRIA

"The Republic of Austria declares in accordance with article 28 of the Convention that it accepts both of the means of dispute in paragraph 2 as compulsory in relation to any Party accepting an obligation concerning one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

GUATEMALA

"The Republic of Guatemala declares that, in respect of any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, it recognizes arbitration in accordance with procedures adopted by the Conference of the Parties in an annex as soon as practicable as a means of dispute settlement, compulsory in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation. This declaration shall remain in force until three months after written notice of its revocation has been deposited with the Depositary."

KUWAIT

With respect to the State of Kuwait, any additional regional implementation annex or any amendment to any regional implementation annex shall enter into force only upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession with respect thereto.

NETHERLANDS

"The Kingdom of the Netherlands declares, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 28 of [the said Convention] that it accepts both means of dispute settlement referred to in that paragraph as compulsory in relation to any party accepting one or both of these means of dispute settlement."

NEW ZEALAND

"Any additional regional implementation annex or any amendment to any regional implementation annex to the Convention shall enter into force for new Zealand only upon the Government of New Zealand's deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect thereto."

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Understandings:

"(1) Foreign assistance.-- The United States understands that, as a "developed country," pursuant to Article 6 of the Convention and its Annexes, it is not obligated to satisfy specific funding requirements or other specific requirements regarding the provision of any resource, including technology, to any "affected country," as defined in Article 1 of the Convention. The United States understands that ratification of the Convention does not alter its domestic legal processes to determine foreign assistance funding or programs.

"(2) Financial resources and mechanism.-- The United States understands that neither Article 20 nor Article 21 of the Convention impose obligations to provide specific levels of funding for the Global Environmental Facility, or the Global Mechanism, to carry out the objectives of the Convention, or for any other purpose.

"(3) United States land management.-- The United States understands that it is a "developed country party" as defined in Article 1 of the Convention, and that it is not required to prepare a national action program pursuant to Part III, Section 1, of the Convention. The United States also understands that no changes to its existing land management practices and programs will be required to meet its obligations under Articles 4 or 5 of the Convention.

"(4) Legal process for amending the Convention.-- In accordance with Article 34 (4), any additional regional implementation annex to the Convention or any amendment to any regional implementation annex to the Convention shall enter into force for the United States only upon the deposit of a corresponding instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

"(5) Dispute settlement.-- The United States declines to accept as compulsory either of the dispute settlement means set out in Article 28(2), and understands that it will not be bound by the outcome, findings, conclusions or recommendations of a conciliation process initiated under Article 28 (6). For any dispute arising from this Convention, the United States does not recognize or accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice."

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