



**UNITED
NATIONS**



**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

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COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
Third session
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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 29 April 2005.
4. The information is presented in two tables. All Parties to the Convention as at 29 April 2005 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 29 April 2005)

1. Afghanistan	66. Germany	132. Paraguay
2. Albania	67. Ghana	133. Peru
3. Algeria	68. Greece	134. Philippines
4. Andorra	69. Grenada	135. Poland
5. Angola	70. Guatemala	136. Portugal
6. Antigua and Barbuda	71. Guinea	137. Qatar
7. Argentina	72. Guinea-Bissau	138. Republic of Korea
8. Armenia	73. Guyana	139. Republic of Moldova
9. Australia	74. Haiti	140. Romania
10. Austria	75. Honduras	141. Russian Federation
11. Azerbaijan	76. Hungary	142. Rwanda
12. Bahamas	77. Iceland	143. Saint Kitts and Nevis
13. Bahrain	78. India	144. Saint Lucia
14. Bangladesh	79. Indonesia	145. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
15. Barbados	80. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	146. Samoa
16. Belarus	81. Ireland	147. San Marino
17. Belgium	82. Israel	148. Sao Tome and Principe
18. Belize	83. Italy	149. Saudi Arabia
19. Benin	84. Jamaica	150. Senegal
20. Bhutan	85. Japan	151. Seychelles
21. Bolivia	86. Jordan	152. Sierra Leone
22. Bosnia and Herzegovina	87. Kazakhstan	153. Singapore
23. Botswana	88. Kenya	154. Slovakia
24. Brazil	89. Kiribati	155. Slovenia
25. Brunei Darussalam	90. Kuwait	156. Solomon Islands
26. Bulgaria	91. Kyrgyzstan	157. Somalia
27. Burkina Faso	92. Lao People's Democratic Republic	158. South Africa
28. Burundi	93. Latvia	159. Spain
29. Cambodia	94. Lebanon	160. Sri Lanka
30. Cameroon	95. Lesotho	161. Sudan
31. Canada	96. Liberia	162. Suriname
32. Cape Verde	97. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	163. Swaziland
33. Central African Republic	98. Liechtenstein	164. Sweden
34. Chad	99. Lithuania	165. Switzerland
35. Chile	100. Luxembourg	166. Syrian Arab Republic
36. China	101. Madagascar	167. Tajikistan
37. Colombia	102. Malawi	168. Thailand
38. Comoros	103. Malaysia	169. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
39. Congo	104. Maldives	170. Timor Leste
40. Cook Islands	105. Mali	171. Togo
41. Costa Rica	106. Malta	172. Tonga
42. Côte d'Ivoire	107. Marshall Islands	173. Trinidad and Tobago
43. Croatia	108. Mauritania	174. Tunisia
44. Cuba	109. Mauritius	175. Turkey
45. Cyprus	110. Mexico	176. Turkmenistan
46. Czech Republic	111. Micronesia (Federated States of)	177. Tuvalu
47. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	112. Monaco	178. Uganda
48. Democratic Republic of the Congo	113. Mongolia	179. Ukraine
49. Denmark	114. Morocco	180. United Arab Emirates
50. Djibouti	115. Mozambique	181. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
51. Dominica	116. Myanmar	182. United Republic of Tanzania
52. Dominican Republic	117. Namibia	183. United States of America
53. Ecuador	118. Nauru	184. Uruguay
54. Egypt	119. Nepal	185. Uzbekistan
55. El Salvador	120. Netherlands	186. Vanuatu
56. Equatorial Guinea	121. New Zealand	187. Venezuela
57. Eritrea	122. Nicaragua	188. Viet Nam
58. Ethiopia	123. Niger	189. Yemen
59. European Community	124. Nigeria	190. Zambia
60. Fiji	125. Niue	191. Zimbabwe
61. Finland	126. Norway	
62. France	127. Oman	
63. Gabon	128. Pakistan	
64. Gambia	129. Palau	
65. Georgia	130. Panama	
	131. Papua New Guinea	

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

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
45. Cyprus		29/03/00(Ac)	27/06/00
46. Czech Republic		25/01/00(Ac)	24/04/00
47. Democratic People's Republic of Korea		29/12/03(Ac)	28/03/04
48. Democratic Republic of the Congo	14/10/94	12/09/97(R)	11/11/97
49. Denmark	15/10/94	22/12/95(R)	26/12/96
50. Djibouti	15/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/08/97
51. Dominica		08/12/97(Ac)	08/03/98
52. Dominican Republic		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
53. Ecuador	19/01/95	06/09/95(R)	26/12/96
54. Egypt	14/10/94	07/07/95(R)	26/12/96
55. El Salvador		27/06/97(Ac)	25/09/97
56. Equatorial Guinea	14/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
57. Eritrea	14/10/94	14/08/96(R)	26/12/96
58. Ethiopia	15/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
59. Fiji		26/08/98(Ac)	24/11/98
60. Finland	15/10/94	20/09/95(At)	26/12/96
61. France	14/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/09/98
62. Gabon		06/09/96(Ac)	26/12/96
63. Gambia	14/10/94	11/06/96(R)	26/12/96
64. Georgia	15/10/94	23/07/99(R)	21/10/99
65. Germany	14/10/94	10/07/96(R)	26/12/96
66. Ghana	15/10/94	27/12/96(R)	27/03/97
67. Greece	14/10/94	05/05/97(R)	03/08/97
68. Grenada		28/05/97(Ac)	25/09/97
69. Guatemala		10/09/98(Ac)	09/12/98
70. Guinea	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
71. Guinea-Bissau	15/10/94	27/10/95(R)	26/12/96
72. Guyana		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
73. Haiti	15/10/94	25/09/96(R)	26/12/96
74. Honduras	22/02/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
75. Hungary		13/07/99(Ac)	11/10/99
76. Iceland		03/06/97(Ac)	01/09/97
77. India	14/10/94	17/12/96(R)	17/03/97
78. Indonesia	15/10/94	31/08/98(R)	29/11/98
79. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14/10/94	29/04/97(R)	28/07/97
80. Ireland	15/10/94	31/07/97(R)	29/10/97
81. Israel	14/10/94	26/03/96(R)	26/12/96
82. Italy	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
83. Jamaica		12/11/97(Ac)	12/03/98
84. Japan	14/10/94	11/09/98(At)	10/12/98
85. Jordan	13/04/95	21/10/96(R)	19/01/97
86. Kazakhstan	14/10/94	09/07/97(R)	07/10/97
87. Kenya	14/10/94	24/06/97(R)	22/09/97
88. Kiribati		08/09/98(Ac)	07/12/98
89. Kyrgyzstan		19/09/97(Ac)	18/12/97
90. Kuwait	22/09/95	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
91. Lao People's Democratic Republic	30/08/95	20/09/96(At)	26/12/96

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

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
139. Romania		19/08/98(Ac)	17/11/98
140. Russian Federation		29/05/03(Ac)	27/08/03
141. Rwanda	22/06/95	22/10/98(R)	20/01/99
142. Saint Kitts and Nevis		30/06/97(Ac)	28/09/97
143. Saint Lucia		02/07/97(Ac)	30/09/97
144. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	15/10/94	16/03/98(R)	14/06/98
145. Samoa		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
146. San Marino		23/07/99(Ac)	21/10/99
147. Sao Tome and Principe	04/10/95	08/07/98(R)	06/10/98
148. Saudi Arabia		25/06/97(Ac)	23/09/97
149. Senegal	14/10/94	26/07/95(R)	26/12/96
150. Seychelles	14/10/94	26/06/97(R)	24/09/97
151. Sierra Leone	11/11/94	25/09/97(R)	24/12/97
152. Singapore		26/04/99(Ac)	25/07/99
153. Slovakia		07/01/02(Ac)	07/04/02
154. Slovenia		28/06/01(Ac)	26/09/01
155. Solomon Islands		16/04/99(Ac)	15/07/99
156. Somalia		24/07/02(Ac)	22/10/02
157. South Africa	09/01/95	30/09/97(R)	29/12/97
158. Spain	14/10/94	30/01/96(R)	26/12/96
158. Sri Lanka		09/12/98(Ac)	09/03/99
160. Sudan	15/10/94	24/11/95(R)	26/12/96
161. Suriname		01/06/00(Ac)	30/08/00
162. Swaziland	27/07/95	07/10/96(R)	05/01/97
163. Sweden	15/10/94	12/12/95(R)	26/12/96
164. Switzerland	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
165. Syrian Arab Republic	15/10/94	10/06/97(R)	08/09/97
166. Tajikistan		16/07/97(Ac)	14/10/97
167. Thailand		07/03/01(Ac)	05/06/01
168. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		06/03/02(Ac)	04/06/02
169. Timor Leste		20/08/03(Ac)	18/11/03
170. Togo	15/10/94	04/10/95(At)	26/12/96
171. Tonga		25/09/98(Ac)	24/12/98
172. Trinidad and Tobago		08/06/00(Ac)	06/09/00
173. Tunisia	14/10/94	11/10/95(R)	26/12/96
174. Turkey	14/10/94	31/03/98(R)	29/06/98
175. Turkmenistan	27/03/95	18/09/96(R)	26/12/96
176. Tuvalu		14/09/98(Ac)	13/12/98
177. Uganda	21/11/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
178. Ukraine		27/08/02(Ac)	25/11/02
179. United Arab Emirates		21/10/98(Ac)	19/01/99
180. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14/10/94	18/10/96(R)	16/01/97
181. United Republic of Tanzania	14/10/94	19/06/97(R)	17/09/97
182. United States of America	14/10/94	17/11/00(R)	15/02/01
183. Uruguay		17/02/99(Ac)	18/05/99
184. Uzbekistan	07/12/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
185. Vanuatu	28/09/95	10/08/99(R)	08/11/99
186. Venezuela		29/06/98(Ac)	27/09/98
187. Viet Nam		25/08/98(Ac)	23/11/98
188. Yemen		14/01/97(Ac)	14/04/97
189. Zambia	15/10/94	19/09/96(R)	26/12/96
190. Zimbabwe	15/10/94	23/09/97(R)	22/12/97
Regional Economic Integration Organization			
191. European Community	14/10/94	26/03/98(R)	24/06/98
TOTAL	115	191	

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 Depository."

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.”
