

CONVENTION

ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION BY DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER

London, Mexico City, Moscow & Washington 29 December 1972

(The Convention entered into force on 30 August, 1975)

States which have signed, ratified or acceded at London

State	Date of Signature	Date of deposit of Instrument of Ratification
Argentine Republic	10 May, 1973	11 September, 1979
Australia*	10 October, 1973	21 August, 1985
Belgium*	25 September, 1973	12 June, 1985
Canada	9 February, 1973	13 November, 1975
Denmark*	29 December, 1972	23 October, 1974
Finland	29 December, 1972	3 May, 1979
France*	31 May, 1973	3 February, 1977
Germany, Federal Republic of*(1)	22 January, 1973	18 November, 1977
Greece*	9 November, 1973	10 August, 1981
Hungary	14 December, 1973	5 February, 1976
Iceland	29 December, 1972	24 May, 1973
Ireland	31 December, 1973	17 February, 1982
Italy*	29 December, 1972	30 April, 1984
Japan	22 June, 1973	15 October, 1980
Jordan	23 August, 1973	
Khmer Republic	2 January, 1973	
Kuwait	1 March, 1973	
Lebanon	15 May, 1973	
Liberia	1 January, 1973	
Luxembourg*	29 December, 1972	21 February, 1991
Mexico	29 December, 1972	7 April, 1975
Monaco*	5 October, 1973	16 May, 1977
Nepal	1 January, 1973	
Netherlands	12 April, 1973	2 December, 1977
New Zealand*	30 May, 1973	30 April, 1975
Norway	29 December, 1972	4 April, 1974
Philippines	29 December, 1972	
Portugal	29 December, 1972	14 April, 1978
Russian Federation (formerly Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)	29 December, 1972	30 December, 1975
Spain	27 April, 1973	31 July, 1974
Sweden	29 December, 1972	21 February, 1974
Switzerland	6 June, 1973	31 July, 1979
Togo	21 November, 1973	
United Kingdom*(2)	29 December, 1972	17 November, 1975
United States of America	29 December, 1972	29 April, 1974

ACCESSIONS

State	Date of deposit of Instrument of Accession
United Arab Emirates	9 August, 1974
Afghanistan	2 April, 1975
Zaire	16 September, 1975
Cuba	1 December, 1975
Kenya	7 January, 1976
Nigeria	19 March, 1976
Tunisia	13 April, 1976
Yugoslavia (5)	25 June, 1976
German Democratic Republic(1)	20 August, 1976
Libya	22 November, 1976
Chile	4 August, 1977
South Africa	7 August, 1978
Poland	23 January, 1979
Papua New Guinea	11 March, 1980
Suriname	21 October, 1980
Gabon	5 February, 1982
Brazil	26 July, 1982
Nauru	26 July, 1982
Oman	14 March, 1984
Seychelles	29 October, 1984
China, People's Republic of*(2,4)	14 November, 1985
Cote d'Ivoire	9 October, 1987
Antigua and Barbuda	6 January, 1989
Malta	28 December, 1989
Cyprus	18 June, 1990
Jamaica	22 March, 1991
Egypt	30 July, 1992
Vanuatu	22 September, 1992
Korea, Republic of	21 December, 1993
Barbados	4 May, 1994
Pakistan, Islamic Republic of	9 March, 1995
Tonga	8 November, 1995
Iran	20 January, 1997
Azerbaijan	1 July, 1997
Bolivia(3)	10 June, 1999
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	24 October, 2001
Peru	7 May, 2003
Equatorial Guinea	21 January, 2004
Bulgaria	25 January, 2006
Sierra Leone	12 March, 2008
Tanzania (6)	28 July, 2008
Syria*	6 May, 2009
Benin	28 April, 2011

SUCCESSIONS

State	Date of deposit of Instrument
Kiribati	12 May, 1982
Solomon Islands	6 March, 1984
Slovenia	27 May, 1992
Croatia	23 September, 1992

EXTENSIONS

Berlin West	18 November 1977
Jersey	5 March 1976
Guernsey)
Isle of Man)
Belize)
Bermuda)
British Indian Ocean Territory)
British Virgin Islands)
Cayman Islands)
Falkland Islands)
Falkland Island Dependencies)
Gilbert Islands)
Hong Kong ²) 17 November 1975
Montserrat)
Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie & Oeno Islands))
St. Helena & Dependencies)
Seychelles)
Solomon Islands)
Turks & Caicos Islands)
Tuvalu)
United Kingdom Sovereign Base Areas)
of Akrotiri and Dhekelia in the)
island of Cyprus)
Faroe Islands	15 November, 1976
Netherlands Antilles	2 December, 1977
Aruba	1 January, 1986
Macau	12 May, 1999

Notes:

- * See Reservations and Declarations.
- 1. The Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic united to form one sovereign State on 3 October 1990.
- 2. Ceased to apply to Hong Kong wef 1 July 1997.
Applied to Hong Kong SAR wef: 1 July 1997.
- 3. Accession accepted as having same legal effect as ratification (Bolivia previously signed in Mexico City on 29 December 1972).
- 4. Applied by the People's Republic of China to Macao SAR wef: 20 December 1999.
- 5. As of 3 June 2006, the Republic of Serbia became the continuation State of 'Serbia and Montenegro' : in a Note dated 12 December 2006, the Government of the Republic of Montenegro confirmed that this Agreement continues in force for the Republic of Montenegro with effect from 3 June, 2006.
- 6. In a letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization dated 26 November 2008, the Tanzanian High Commission stated as follows "The United Republic of Tanzania is formed by Tanzania Mainland and Tanzania Zanzibar. In accordance with the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, Zanzibar enjoys a high degree of autonomy in a number of matters (non-union) including Maritime Administration.

In this connection...the Conventions ratified/acceded to by the United Republic of Tanzania, apply to Zanzibar. [Depositary's Note: The obligations of Zanzibar under the provisions of this Convention are indicated].

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania will assume responsibility for the international rights and obligations arising from the application of the Conventions to Zanzibar".
[The content of the letter from the Tanzanian High Commission were relayed to the Government of the United Kingdom by the Secretary-General of the IMO in a letter dated 3 Dec. 2008].

DECLARATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

AUSTRALIA

Declaration regarding paragraph (1) (c) of Article VII: "The Australian Government considers that the provisions of the present Convention in no way detract from the rights of a coastal State to take action in areas under its jurisdiction, and in particular, from the right of a coastal State to take action for the purpose of protecting the resources of its continental shelf."

BELGIUM

Reservation:

"Le Gouvernement belge estime qu'en l'état actuel du Droit international et considérant les travaux en cours dans ce domaine, certaines dispositions de la Convention ne peuvent être interprétées comme attribuant à un Etat côtier des droits de contrôle des immersions au-delà des limites généralement acceptées par le Droit international.

Le Gouvernement belge estime également que la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi que ce soit l'état actuel du Droit international en matière de responsabilité."

CHINA, People's Republic of

Declaration:

The signature by the Taiwan authorities in the name of China on December 29, 1972, is illegal and therefore null and void.

DENMARK

Declaration:

"Under Danish law in force, the matters regulated by the Convention constitute a special Faroese affair and the provisions relating to implementation of the Convention have not yet been adopted in so far as the Faroe Islands are concerned. The ratification of Denmark is therefore, until further notice, subject to reservation with regard to the obligation of the Faroe Islands under the Convention."

On 2 November 1976, the Danish Government notified the United Kingdom Government that:

"On 24 August 1976, the local Faroese authorities announced the passing of the legislation requisite to the entry into force of the Convention. Consequently the reservation relative to the Faroese obligations pursuant to the Convention shall be repealed with effect from 15 November 1976."

FRANCE

Declaration:

"Le Gouvernement français estime qu'en l'état actuel du droit international et compte tenu des travaux en cours dans ce domaine, aucune disposition de la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme conférant à un Etat côtier le droit de contrôler des immersions hors des conditions généralement admises par le Droit international.

FRANCE (Continued)

Il estime également que la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi que ce soit l'état actuel du Droit international en ce qui concerne les principes de la responsabilité.

Dans les cas où les dispositions de la présente Convention seraient interprétées comme faisant obstacle à des activités qu'il estime nécessaires à sa défense nationale, le Gouvernement français n'appliquerait pas lesdites dispositions à ces activités."

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Declaration on signature:

"The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany reserves the right to formulate, on the occasion of its ratification of the present Convention, its attitude in respect of statements made by other States on the occasion of signature or ratification of the present Convention and to make reservations or statements on its part. In particular, it is of the opinion that at the present state of international law, the provisions of the present Convention cannot be interpreted as granting the right to a coastal State to assume by unilateral action control over zones of the high sea beyond the limits provided by international law".

Declaration on ratification:

"With effect from the day on which the Convention enters into force for the Federal Republic of Germany it will also apply to Berlin (West)."

GREECE

Reservations:

"1. Article VII par.1(c) should be construed in connection with the provisions of Article XIII. 2. The true meaning of the provisions of Article XIII is that no right is recognised to any coastal State on the dumping control beyond the provisions of existing international law."

ITALY

Declaration:

"Le Gouvernement italien estime qu'en l'état actuel du droit international et considérant les travaux en préparation dans ce domaine, les dispositions de la présente Convention ne peuvent être interprétées comme attribuant des droits à un Etat côtier de contrôler des immersions hors des conditions généralement admises par le droit international.

ITALY (Continued)

Il estime également que la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi que ce soit l'état actuel du droit international en ce qui concerne les principes de la responsabilité."

By a Note of 30 April 1984, the Italian Government, on ratification, replaced the above declaration with the following:

"Le Gouvernement italien estime que la présente convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi que ce soit l'état actuel du Droit International en ce qui concerne les principes de responsabilité."

LUXEMBOURG

Declaration:

"Le Gouvernement luxembourgeois estime qu'en l'état actuel du droit international et considérant les travaux en préparation dans ce domaine les dispositions de la présente Convention ne peuvent être interprétées comme attribuant des droits à un Etat côtier de contrôler des immersions hors des conditions généralement admises par le droit international.

Il estime également que la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi que ce soit l'état actuel du droit international en ce qui concerne les principes de la responsabilité."

In a communication dated 20 February 1991 the Government of Luxembourg notified the United Kingdom of the withdrawal of the reservations stipulated by Luxembourg upon the signature of the Convention.

MONACO

Declaration:

"Le Gouvernement Princier estime qu'en l'état actuel du Droit International et considérant les travaux en préparation dans ce domaine, les dispositions de la présente Convention ne peuvent être interprétées comme attribuant des droits à un Etat côtier de contrôler des immersions hors des conditions généralement admises par le Droit International.

Il estime également que la présente Convention ne peut être interprétée comme modifiant en quoi qu ce soit d'état actuel du Droit International en ce qui concerne les principes de la responsabilité."

NEW ZEALAND

Declaration:

"The New Zealand Government takes the view that the provisions of the present Convention cannot be interpreted as restricting the right of a coastal State to take measures to control marine pollution and in particular to control dumping in areas under its jurisdiction."

On ratification the Government of New Zealand declared that its ratification did not extend to the Cook Islands, and the Tokelau Islands.

SYRIA

Declaration [*Depositary's Translation: Original - Arabic*]:

"The Syria Arab Republic's accession to this Agreement does not in any way signify recognition of Israel and will not lead to entry into any dealing with it that is regulated by the provisions of the Agreement."

UNITED KINGDOM

Declaration:

"The United Kingdom considers that in the light of existing international law and taking into account the work being prepared in this field, the provisions of the present Convention cannot be interpreted as recognising any right in a coastal State to control dumping beyond that which it has under generally accepted principles of international law."