



Convention to Combat Desertification

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Eleventh 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 United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) 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. At the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD (COP 4), the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V) was adopted by decision 7/COP.4.
3. 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.
4. As at the opening of COP 11 on 16 September 2013, the Parties will be the States and regional economic integration organizations to have deposited their instruments by 18 June 2013. Parties which deposited their instruments after 18 June and by 29 June 2013 will become Parties during COP 11. Those which do so after 29 June 2013 will not become Parties until after the closure of the session, but can participate in the session as observers, together with the United Nations, its specialized agencies, any State member thereof or observer thereto not Party to the Convention, as well as accredited intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
5. This document contains information concerning dates of signature and ratification received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary, as at 3 September 2013.

6. The following table lists all 195 Parties to the Convention as at 3 September 2013 and 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.

7. For the purpose of this document, all references to ratification include information on accession, acceptance and approval of the Convention.

Status of ratification

(R=Ratification, Ac=Accession, At=Acceptance)

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Ratification</i> | <i>Entry into force</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Afghanistan | | 01/11/95(Ac) | 26/12/96 |
| Albania | | 27/04/00(Ac) | 26/07/00 |
| Algeria | 14/10/94 | 22/05/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Andorra | | 15/07/02(Ac) | 13/10/02 |
| Angola | 14/10/94 | 30/06/97(R) | 28/09/97 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 04/04/95 | 06/06/97(R) | 04/09/97 |
| Argentina | 15/10/94 | 06/01/97(R) | 06/04/97 |
| Armenia | 14/10/94 | 02/07/97(R) | 30/09/97 |
| Australia | 14/10/94 | 15/05/00(R) | 13/08/00 |
| Austria | | 02/06/97(Ac) | 31/08/97 |
| Azerbaijan | | 10/08/98(Ac) | 08/11/98 |
| Bahamas | | 10/11/00(Ac) | 08/02/01 |
| Bahrain | | 14/07/97(Ac) | 12/10/97 |
| Bangladesh | 14/10/94 | 26/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Barbados | | 14/05/97(Ac) | 12/08/97 |
| Belarus | | 29/08/01(Ac) | 27/11/01 |
| Belgium | | 30/06/97(Ac) | 28/09/97 |
| Belize | | 23/07/98(Ac) | 21/10/98 |
| Benin | 14/10/94 | 29/08/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Bhutan | | 20/08/03(Ac) | 18/11/03 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 14/10/94 | 01/08/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | | 26/08/02(Ac) | 24/11/02 |
| Botswana | 12/10/95 | 11/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Brazil | 14/10/94 | 25/06/97(R) | 23/09/97 |
| Brunei Darussalam | | 04/12/02 (Ac) | 04/03/03 |
| Bulgaria | | 21/02/01(Ac) | 22/05/01 |
| Burkina Faso | 14/10/94 | 26/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Burundi | 14/10/94 | 06/01/97(R) | 06/04/97 |
| Cambodia | 15/10/94 | 18/08/97(R) | 16/11/97 |
| Cameroon | 14/10/94 | 29/05/97(R) | 27/08/97 |
| Canada ^a | 14/10/94 | 01/12/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Cape Verde | 14/10/94 | 08/05/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Central African Republic | 14/10/94 | 05/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Chad | 14/10/94 | 27/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Chile | 03/03/95 | 11/11/97(R) | 09/01/98 |
| China | 14/10/94 | 18/02/97(R) | 19/05/97 |
| Colombia | 14/10/94 | 08/06/99(R) | 06/09/99 |
| Comoros | 14/10/94 | 03/03/98(R) | 01/06/98 |
| Congo | 15/10/94 | 12/07/99(R) | 11/10/99 |
| Cook Islands | | 21/08/98(Ac) | 19/11/98 |

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Ratification</i> | <i>Entry into force</i> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Costa Rica | 15/10/94 | 05/01/98(R) | 05/04/98 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 15/10/94 | 04/03/97(R) | 02/06/97 |
| Croatia | 15/10/94 | 06/10/00(At) | 04/01/01 |
| Cuba | 15/10/94 | 13/03/97(R) | 11/06/97 |
| Cyprus | | 29/03/00(Ac) | 27/06/00 |
| Czech Republic | | 25/01/00(Ac) | 24/04/00 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | | 29/12/03(Ac) | 28/03/04 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 14/10/94 | 12/09/97(R) | 11/11/97 |
| Denmark | 15/10/94 | 22/12/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Djibouti | 15/10/94 | 12/06/97(R) | 10/08/97 |
| Dominica | | 08/12/97(Ac) | 08/03/98 |
| Dominican Republic | | 26/06/97(Ac) | 24/09/97 |
| Ecuador | 19/01/95 | 06/09/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Egypt | 14/10/94 | 07/07/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| El Salvador | | 27/06/97(Ac) | 25/09/97 |
| Equatorial Guinea | 14/10/94 | 27/06/97(R) | 25/09/97 |
| Eritrea | 14/10/94 | 14/08/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Estonia | | 08/02/12(Ac) | 08/05/12 |
| Ethiopia | 15/10/94 | 27/06/97(R) | 25/09/97 |
| Fiji | | 26/08/98(Ac) | 24/11/98 |
| Finland | 15/10/94 | 20/09/95(At) | 26/12/96 |
| France | 14/10/94 | 12/06/97(R) | 10/09/98 |
| Gabon | | 06/09/96(Ac) | 26/12/96 |
| Gambia | 14/10/94 | 11/06/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Georgia | 15/10/94 | 23/07/99(R) | 21/10/99 |
| Germany | 14/10/94 | 10/07/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Ghana | 15/10/94 | 27/12/96(R) | 27/03/97 |
| Greece | 14/10/94 | 05/05/97(R) | 03/08/97 |
| Grenada | | 28/05/97(Ac) | 25/09/97 |
| Guatemala | | 10/09/98(Ac) | 09/12/98 |
| Guinea | 14/10/94 | 23/06/97(R) | 21/09/97 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 15/10/94 | 27/10/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Guyana | | 26/06/97(Ac) | 24/09/97 |
| Haiti | 15/10/94 | 25/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Honduras | 22/02/95 | 25/06/97(R) | 23/09/97 |
| Hungary | | 13/07/99(Ac) | 11/10/99 |
| Iceland | | 03/06/97(Ac) | 01/09/97 |
| India | 14/10/94 | 17/12/96(R) | 17/03/97 |
| Indonesia | 15/10/94 | 31/08/98(R) | 29/11/98 |
| Iraq | | 28/05/10(Ac) | 26/08/10 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 14/10/94 | 29/04/97(R) | 28/07/97 |
| Ireland | 15/10/94 | 31/07/97(R) | 29/10/97 |
| Israel | 14/10/94 | 26/03/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Italy | 14/10/94 | 23/06/97(R) | 21/09/97 |

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Ratification</i> | <i>Entry into force</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Jamaica | | 12/11/97(Ac) | 12/03/98 |
| Japan | 14/10/94 | 11/09/98(At) | 10/12/98 |
| Jordan | 13/04/95 | 21/10/96(R) | 19/01/97 |
| Kazakhstan | 14/10/94 | 09/07/97(R) | 07/10/97 |
| Kenya | 14/10/94 | 24/06/97(R) | 22/09/97 |
| Kiribati | | 08/09/98(Ac) | 07/12/98 |
| Kyrgyzstan | | 19/09/97(Ac) | 18/12/97 |
| Kuwait | 22/09/95 | 27/06/97(R) | 25/09/97 |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 30/08/95 | 20/09/96(At) | 26/12/96 |
| Latvia | | 21/10/02(Ac) | 19/01/03 |
| Lebanon | 14/10/94 | 16/05/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Lesotho | 15/10/94 | 12/09/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Liberia | | 02/03/98(Ac) | 31/05/98 |
| Libya | 15/10/94 | 22/07/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Liechtenstein | | 29/12/99(Ac) | 28/03/00 |
| Lithuania | | 25/07/03(Ac) | 23/10/03 |
| Luxembourg | 14/10/94 | 04/02/97(R) | 05/05/97 |
| Madagascar | 14/10/94 | 25/06/97(R) | 23/09/97 |
| Malaysia | 06/10/95 | 25/06/97(R) | 23/09/97 |
| Malawi | 17/01/95 | 13/06/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Maldives | | 03/09/02(Ac) | 02/12/02 |
| Mali | 15/10/94 | 31/10/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Malta | 15/10/94 | 30/01/98(R) | 30/04/98 |
| Marshall Islands | | 02/06/98(Ac) | 31/08/98 |
| Mauritania | 14/10/94 | 07/08/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Mauritius | 17/03/95 | 23/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Mexico | 15/10/94 | 03/04/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 12/12/94 | 25/03/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Monaco | | 05/03/99(Ac) | 03/06/99 |
| Mongolia | 15/10/94 | 03/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Montenegro | | 04/06/07(Ac) | 02/09/07 |
| Morocco | 15/10/94 | 07/11/96(R) | 06/02/97 |
| Mozambique | 28/09/95 | 13/03/97(R) | 11/06/97 |
| Myanmar | | 02/01/97(Ac) | 02/04/97 |
| Namibia | 24/10/94 | 16/05/97(R) | 14/08/97 |
| Nauru | | 22/09/98(Ac) | 21/12/98 |
| Nepal | 12/10/95 | 15/10/96(R) | 13/01/97 |
| Netherlands ^b | 15/10/94 | 27/06/95(At) | 26/12/96 |
| New Zealand ^c | | 07/09/00(Ac) | 06/12/00 |
| Nicaragua | 21/11/94 | 17/02/98(R) | 18/05/98 |
| Niger | 14/10/94 | 19/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Nigeria | 31/10/94 | 08/07/97(R) | 06/10/97 |
| Niue | | 14/08/98(Ac) | 12/11/98 |
| Norway | 15/10/94 | 30/08/96(R) | 26/12/96 |

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Ratification</i> | <i>Entry into force</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Oman | | 23/07/96(Ac) | 26/12/96 |
| Pakistan | 15/10/94 | 24/02/97(R) | 25/05/97 |
| Palau | | 15/06/99(Ac) | 13/09/99 |
| Panama | 22/02/95 | 04/04/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Papua New Guinea | | 06/12/00(Ac) | 06/03/01 |
| Paraguay | 01/12/94 | 15/01/97(R) | 15/04/97 |
| Peru | 15/10/94 | 09/11/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Philippines | 08/12/94 | 10/02/00(R) | 10/05/00 |
| Poland | | 14/11/01(Ac) | 12/02/02 |
| Portugal | 14/10/94 | 01/04/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Qatar | | 15/03/99(Ac) | 13/06/99 |
| Republic of Korea | 14/10/94 | 17/08/99(R) | 15/11/99 |
| Republic of Moldova | | 10/03/99 (Ac) | 08/06/99 |
| Romania | | 19/08/98(Ac) | 17/11/98 |
| Russian Federation | | 29/05/03(Ac) | 27/08/03 |
| Rwanda | 22/06/95 | 22/10/98(R) | 20/01/99 |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | | 30/06/97(Ac) | 28/09/97 |
| Saint Lucia | | 02/07/97(Ac) | 30/09/97 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 15/10/94 | 16/03/98(R) | 14/06/98 |
| Samoa | | 21/08/98(Ac) | 19/11/98 |
| San Marino | | 23/07/99(Ac) | 21/10/99 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 04/10/95 | 08/07/98(R) | 06/10/98 |
| Saudi Arabia | | 25/06/97(Ac) | 23/09/97 |
| Senegal | 14/10/94 | 26/07/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Serbia | | 18/12/07(Ac) | 17/03/08 |
| Seychelles | 14/10/94 | 26/06/97(R) | 24/09/97 |
| Sierra Leone | 11/11/94 | 25/09/97(R) | 24/12/97 |
| Singapore | | 26/04/99(Ac) | 25/07/99 |
| Slovakia | | 07/01/02(Ac) | 07/04/02 |
| Slovenia | | 28/06/01(Ac) | 26/09/01 |
| Solomon Islands | | 16/04/99(Ac) | 15/07/99 |
| Somalia | | 24/07/02(Ac) | 22/10/02 |
| South Africa | 09/01/95 | 30/09/97(R) | 29/12/97 |
| Spain | 14/10/94 | 30/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Sri Lanka | | 09/12/98(Ac) | 09/03/99 |
| Sudan | 15/10/94 | 24/11/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Suriname | | 01/06/00(Ac) | 30/08/00 |
| Swaziland | 27/07/95 | 07/10/96(R) | 05/01/97 |
| Sweden | 15/10/94 | 12/12/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Switzerland | 14/10/94 | 19/01/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 15/10/94 | 10/06/97(R) | 08/09/97 |
| Tajikistan | | 16/07/97(Ac) | 14/10/97 |
| Thailand | | 07/03/01(Ac) | 05/06/01 |

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Ratification</i> | <i>Entry into force</i> |
|--|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | | 06/03/02(Ac) | 04/06/02 |
| Timor-Leste | | 20/08/03(Ac) | 18/11/03 |
| Togo | 15/10/94 | 04/10/95(At) | 26/12/96 |
| Tonga | | 25/09/98(Ac) | 24/12/98 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | | 08/06/00(Ac) | 06/09/00 |
| Tunisia | 14/10/94 | 11/10/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Turkey | 14/10/94 | 31/03/98(R) | 29/06/98 |
| Turkmenistan | 27/03/95 | 18/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Tuvalu | | 14/09/98(Ac) | 13/12/98 |
| Uganda | 21/11/94 | 25/06/97(R) | 23/09/97 |
| Ukraine | | 27/08/02(Ac) | 25/11/02 |
| United Arab Emirates | | 21/10/98(Ac) | 19/01/99 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ^d | 14/10/94 | 18/10/96(R) | 16/01/97 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 14/10/94 | 19/06/97(R) | 17/09/97 |
| United States of America | 14/10/94 | 17/11/00(R) | 15/02/01 |
| Uruguay | | 17/02/99(Ac) | 18/05/99 |
| Uzbekistan | 07/12/94 | 31/10/95(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Vanuatu | 28/09/95 | 10/08/99(R) | 08/11/99 |
| Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | | 29/06/98(Ac) | 27/09/98 |
| Viet Nam | | 25/08/98(Ac) | 23/11/98 |
| Yemen | | 14/01/97(Ac) | 14/04/97 |
| Zambia | 15/10/94 | 19/09/96(R) | 26/12/96 |
| Zimbabwe | 15/10/94 | 23/09/97(R) | 22/12/97 |
| Regional Economic Integration Organization | | | |
| European Union | 14/10/94 | 26/03/98(R) | 24/06/98 |
| TOTAL | 115 | 195 | |

Notes

^a On 28 March 2013, Canada communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations its withdrawal from the UNCCD with effect from 28 March 2014 in accordance with article 38, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

^b For the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Europe.

^c With a declaration to the effect 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.”

^d 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

Declaration:

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

Declaration:

“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

Declaration:

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

Declaration:

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

Declaration:

“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

Declaration:

“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.”