



**UNITED
NATIONS**



**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/CRIC(1)/INF.2
14 November 2002

ENGLISH ONLY

COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
First session
Rome, 11-22 November 2002

**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 14 November 2002.

4. The information is presented in two tables. All Parties to the Convention as at 14 November 2002 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.

ROM.02-013

GE.02-70589

Table 1. Parties to the Convention
(as at 14 November 2002)

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

* Countries which have acceded to the Convention but have not yet become Parties 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. 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. Bolivia	14/10/94	01/08/96(R)	26/12/96
21. Bosnia and Herzegovina		26/08/02(Ac)	24/11/02
22. Botswana	12/10/95	11/09/96(R)	26/12/96
23. Brazil	14/10/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
24. Bulgaria		21/02/01(Ac)	22/05/01
25. Burkina Faso	14/10/94	26/01/96(R)	26/12/96
26. Burundi	14/10/94	06/01/97(R)	06/04/97
27. Cambodia	15/10/94	18/08/97(R)	16/11/97
28. Cameroon	14/10/94	29/05/97(R)	27/08/97
29. Canada	14/10/94	01/12/95(R)	26/12/96
30. Cape Verde	14/10/94	08/05/95(R)	26/12/96
31. Central African Republic	14/10/94	05/09/96(R)	26/12/96
32. Chad	14/10/94	27/09/96(R)	26/12/96
33. Chile	03/03/95	11/11/97(R)	09/01/98
34. China	14/10/94	18/02/97(R)	19/05/97
35. Colombia	14/10/94	08/06/99(R)	06/09/99
36. Comoros	14/10/94	03/03/98(R)	01/06/98
37. Congo	15/10/94	12/07/99(R)	11/10/99
38. Cook Islands		21/08/98(Ac)	19/11/98
39. Costa Rica	15/10/94	05/01/98(R)	05/04/98
40. Côte d'Ivoire	15/10/94	04/03/97(R)	02/06/97
41. Croatia	15/10/94	06/10/00(At)	04/01/01
42. Cuba	15/10/94	13/03/97(R)	11/06/97
43. Cyprus		29/03/00(Ac)	27/06/00
44. Czech Republic		25/01/00(Ac)	24/04/00
45. Democratic Republic of the Congo	14/10/94	12/09/97(R)	11/11/97
46. Denmark	15/10/94	22/12/95(R)	26/12/96

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
47. Djibouti	15/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/08/97
48. Dominica		08/12/97(Ac)	08/03/98
49. Dominican Republic		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
50. Ecuador	19/01/95	06/09/95(R)	26/12/96
51. Egypt	14/10/94	07/07/95(R)	26/12/96
52. El Salvador		27/06/97(Ac)	25/09/97
53. Equatorial Guinea	14/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
54. Eritrea	14/10/94	14/08/96(R)	26/12/96
55. Ethiopia	15/10/94	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
56. Fiji		26/08/98(Ac)	24/11/98
57. Finland	15/10/94	20/09/95(At)	26/12/96
58. France	14/10/94	12/06/97(R)	10/09/98
59. Gabon		06/09/96(Ac)	26/12/96
60. Gambia	14/10/94	11/06/96(R)	26/12/96
61. Georgia	15/10/94	23/07/99(R)	21/10/99
62. Germany	14/10/94	10/07/96(R)	26/12/96
63. Ghana	15/10/94	27/12/96(R)	27/03/97
64. Greece	14/10/94	05/05/97(R)	03/08/97
65. Grenada		28/05/97(Ac)	25/09/97
66. Guatemala		10/09/98(Ac)	09/12/98
67. Guinea	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
68. Guinea-Bissau	15/10/94	27/10/95(R)	26/12/96
69. Guyana		26/06/97(Ac)	24/09/97
70. Haiti	15/10/94	25/09/96(R)	26/12/96
71. Honduras	22/02/95	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
72. Hungary		13/07/99(Ac)	11/10/99
73. Iceland		03/06/97(Ac)	01/09/97
74. India	14/10/94	17/12/96(R)	17/03/97
75. Indonesia	15/10/94	31/08/98(R)	29/11/98
76. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14/10/94	29/04/97(R)	28/07/97
77. Ireland	15/10/94	31/07/97(R)	29/10/97
78. Israel	14/10/94	26/03/96(R)	26/12/96
79. Italy	14/10/94	23/06/97(R)	21/09/97
80. Jamaica		12/11/97(Ac)	12/03/98
81. Japan	14/10/94	11/09/98(At)	10/12/98
82. Jordan	13/04/95	21/10/96(R)	19/01/97
83. Kazakhstan	14/10/94	09/07/97(R)	07/10/97
84. Kenya	14/10/94	24/06/97(R)	22/09/97
85. Kiribati		08/09/98(Ac)	07/12/98
86. Kyrgyzstan		19/09/97(Ac)	18/12/97
87. Kuwait	22/09/95	27/06/97(R)	25/09/97
88. Lao People's Democratic Republic	30/08/95	20/09/96(At)	26/12/96
89. Latvia		21/10/02(Ac)	19/01/03
90. Lebanon	14/10/94	16/05/96(R)	26/12/96
91. Lesotho	15/10/94	12/09/95(R)	26/12/96
92. Liberia		02/03/98(Ac)	31/05/98
93. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15/10/94	22/07/96(R)	26/12/96
94. Liechtenstein		29/12/99(Ac)	28/03/00

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

Country	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force
143. Saudi Arabia		25/06/97(Ac)	23/09/97
144. Senegal	14/10/94	26/07/95(R)	26/12/96
145. Seychelles	14/10/94	26/06/97(R)	24/09/97
146. Sierra Leone	11/11/94	25/09/97(R)	24/12/97
147. Singapore		26/04/99(Ac)	25/07/99
148. Slovakia		07/01/02(Ac)	07/04/02
149. Slovenia		28/06/01(Ac)	26/09/01
150. Solomon Islands		16/04/99(Ac)	15/07/99
151. Somalia		24/07/02(Ac)	22/10/02
152. South Africa	09/01/95	30/09/97(R)	29/12/97
153. Spain	14/10/94	30/01/96(R)	26/12/96
154. Sri Lanka		09/12/98(Ac)	09/03/99
155. Sudan	15/10/94	24/11/95(R)	26/12/96
156. Suriname		01/06/00(Ac)	30/08/00
157. Swaziland	27/07/95	07/10/96(R)	05/01/97
158. Sweden	15/10/94	12/12/95(R)	26/12/96
159. Switzerland	14/10/94	19/01/96(R)	26/12/96
160. Syrian Arab Republic	15/10/94	10/06/97(R)	08/09/97
161. Tajikistan		16/07/97(Ac)	14/10/97
162. Thailand		07/03/01(Ac)	05/06/01
163. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		06/03/02(Ac)	04/06/02
164. Togo	15/10/94	04/10/95(At)	26/12/96
165. Tonga		25/09/98(Ac)	24/12/98
166. Trinidad and Tobago		08/06/00(Ac)	06/09/00
167. Tunisia	14/10/94	11/10/95(R)	26/12/96
168. Turkey	14/10/94	31/03/98(R)	29/06/98
169. Turkmenistan	27/03/95	18/09/96(R)	26/12/96
170. Tuvalu		14/09/98(Ac)	13/12/98
171. Uganda	21/11/94	25/06/97(R)	23/09/97
172. Ukraine		27/08/02(Ac)	25/11/02
173. United Arab Emirates		21/10/98(Ac)	19/01/99
174. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	14/10/94	18/10/96(R)	16/01/97
175. United Republic of Tanzania	14/10/94	19/06/97(R)	17/09/97
176. United States of America	14/10/94	17/11/00(R)	15/02/01
177. Uruguay		17/02/99(Ac)	18/05/99
178. Uzbekistan	07/12/94	31/10/95(R)	26/12/96
179. Vanuatu	28/09/95	10/08/99(R)	08/11/99
180. Venezuela		29/06/98(Ac)	27/09/98
181. Viet Nam		25/08/98(Ac)	23/11/98
182. Yemen		14/01/97(Ac)	14/04/97
183. Zambia	15/10/94	19/09/96(R)	26/12/96
184. Zimbabwe	15/10/94	23/09/97(R)	22/12/97
Regional Economic Integration Organization			
185. European Community	14/10/94	26/03/98(R)	24/06/98
TOTAL	115	185	

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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