
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREAMBLE	21
PART I. INTRODUCTION	22
Article 1. Use of terms and scope	22
PART II. TERRITORIAL SEA AND CONTIGUOUS ZONE	23
SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS	23
Article 2. Legal status of the territorial sea, of the air space over the territorial sea and of its bed and subsoil	23
SECTION 2. LIMITS OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA	23
Article 3. Breadth of the territorial sea	23
Article 4. Outer limit of the territorial sea	23
Article 5. Normal baseline	23
Article 6. Reefs	23
Article 7. Straight baselines	24
Article 8. Internal waters	24
Article 9. Mouths of rivers	24
Article 10. Bays	24
Article 11. Ports	25
Article 12. Roadsteads	25
Article 13. Low-tide elevations	25
Article 14. Combination of methods for determining baselines	26
Article 15. Delimitation of the territorial sea between States with opposite or adjacent coasts	26
Article 16. Charts and lists of geographical coordinates	26
SECTION 3. INNOCENT PASSAGE IN THE TERRITORIAL SEA	26
SUBSECTION A. RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL SHIPS	26
Article 17. Right of innocent passage	26
Article 18. Meaning of passage	26
Article 19. Meaning of innocent passage	27
Article 20. Submarines and other underwater vehicles	27
Article 21. Laws and regulations of the coastal State relating to innocent passage	27
Article 22. Sea lanes and traffic separation schemes in the territorial sea	28
Article 23. Foreign nuclear-powered ships and ships carrying nuclear or other inherently	

	dangerous or noxious substances	29
Article 24.	Duties of the coastal State	29
Article 25.	Rights of protection of the coastal State	29
Article 26.	Charges which may be levied upon foreign ships ..	29
SUBSECTION B.	RULES APPLICABLE TO MERCHANT SHIPS AND GOVERNMENT SHIPS OPERATED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES	30
Article 27.	Criminal jurisdiction on board a foreign ship	30
Article 28.	Civil jurisdiction in relation to foreign ships	30
SUBSECTION C.	RULES APPLICABLE TO WARSHIPS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT SHIPS OPERATED FOR NON-COMMERCIAL PURPOSES	31
Article 29.	Definition of warships	31
Article 30.	Non-compliance by warships with the laws and regulations of the coastal State	31
Article 31.	Responsibility of the flag State for damage caused by a warship or other government ship operated for non-commercial purposes	31
Article 32.	Immunities of warships and other government ships operated for non-commercial purposes	31
SECTION 4.	CONTIGUOUS ZONE	31
Article 33.	Contiguous zone	31
PART III.	STRAITS USED FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION	32
SECTION 1.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	32
Article 34.	Legal status of waters forming straits used for international navigation	32
Article 35.	Scope of this Part	32
Article 36.	High seas routes or routes through exclusive economic zones through straits used for international navigation	32
SECTION 2.	TRANSIT PASSAGE	33
Article 37.	Scope of this section	33
Article 38.	Right of transit passage	33
Article 39.	Duties of ships and aircraft during transit passage ..	33
Article 40.	Research and survey activities	34
Article 41.	Sea lanes and traffic separation schemes in straits	

	used for international navigation	34
Article 42.	Laws and regulations of States bordering straits relating to transit passage	35
Article 43.	Navigational and safety aids and other improvements and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution	35
Article 44.	Duties of States bordering straits	35
SECTION 3.	INNOCENT PASSAGE	36
Article 45.	Innocent passage	36
PART IV.	ARCHIPELAGIC STATES	36
Article 46.	Use of terms	36
Article 47.	Archipelagic baselines	36
Article 48.	Measurement of the breadth of the territorial sea, the contiguous zone, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf	37
Article 49.	Legal status of archipelagic waters, of the air space over archipelagic waters and of their bed and subsoil	37
Article 50.	Delimitation of internal waters	37
Article 51.	Existing agreements, traditional fishing rights and existing submarine cables	38
Article 52.	Right of innocent passage	38
Article 53.	Right of archipelagic sea lanes passage	38
Article 54.	Duties of ships and aircraft during their passage, research and survey activities, duties of the archipelagic State and laws and regulations of the archipelagic State relating to archipelagic sea lanes passage	39
PART V.	EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE	40
Article 55.	Specific legal regime of the exclusive economic zone	40
Article 56.	Rights, jurisdiction and duties of the coastal State in the exclusive economic zone	40
Article 57.	Breadth of the exclusive economic zone	40

Article 58.	Rights and duties of other States in the exclusive economic zone	40
Article 59.	Basis for the resolution of conflicts regarding the attribution of rights and jurisdiction in the exclusive economic zone	41
Article 60.	Artificial islands, installations and structures in the exclusive economic zone	41
Article 61.	Conservation of the living resources	42
Article 62.	Utilization of the living resources	43
Article 63.	Stocks occurring within the exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States or both within the exclusive economic zone and in an area beyond and adjacent to it	44
Article 64.	Highly migratory species	44
Article 65.	Marine mammals	44
Article 66.	Anadromous stocks	45
Article 67.	Catadromous species	45
Article 68.	Sedentary species	46
Article 69.	Right of land-locked States	46
Article 70.	Right of geographically disadvantaged States	47
Article 71.	Non-applicability of articles 69 and 70	48
Article 72.	Restrictions on transfer of rights	48
Article 73.	Enforcement of laws and regulations of the coastal State	48
Article 74.	Delimitation of the exclusive economic zone between States with opposite or adjacent coasts	49
Article 75.	Charts and lists of geographical coordinates	49
PART VI. CONTINENTAL SHELF		49
Article 76.	Definition of the continental shelf	49
Article 77.	Rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf	51
Article 78.	Legal status of the superjacent waters and air space and the rights and freedoms of other States	51
Article 79.	Submarine cables and pipelines on the continental shelf	51

Article 80.	Artificial islands, installations and structures on the continental shelf	52
Article 81.	Drilling on the continental shelf	52
Article 82.	Payments and contributions with respect to the exploitation of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles	52
Article 83.	Delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts	52
Article 84.	Charts and lists of geographical coordinates	53
Article 85.	Tunnelling	53
PART VII. HIGH SEAS		53
SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS		53
Article 86.	Application of the provisions of this Part	53
Article 87.	Freedom of the high seas	53
Article 88.	Reservation of the high seas for peaceful purposes	54
Article 89.	Invalidity of claims of sovereignty over the high seas	54
Article 90.	Right of navigation	54
Article 91.	Nationality of ships	54
Article 92.	Status of ships	54
Article 93.	Ships flying the flag of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency	55
Article 94.	Duties of the flag State	55
Article 95.	Immunity of warships on the high seas	56
Article 96.	Immunity of ships used only on government non-commercial service	56
Article 97.	Penal jurisdiction in matters of collision or any other incident of navigation	56
Article 98.	Duty to render assistance	56
Article 99.	Prohibition of the transport of slaves	57
Article 100.	Duty to cooperate in the repression of piracy	57
Article 101.	Definition of piracy	57
Article 102.	Piracy by a warship, government ship or government aircraft whose crew has mutinied	58
Article 103.	Definition of a pirate ship or aircraft	58

Article 104.	Retention or loss of the nationality of a pirate ship or aircraft	58
Article 105.	Seizure of a pirate ship or aircraft	58
Article 106.	Liability for seizure without adequate grounds	58
Article 107.	Ships and aircraft which are entitled to seize on account of piracy	58
Article 108.	Illicit traffic in narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances	59
Article 109.	Unauthorized broadcasting from the high seas	59
Article 110.	Right of visit	59
Article 111.	Right of hot pursuit	60
Article 112.	Right to lay submarine cables and pipelines	61
Article 113.	Breaking or injury of a submarine cable or pipeline	61
Article 114.	Breaking or injury by owners of a submarine cable or pipeline of another submarine cable or pipeline	61
Article 115.	Indemnity for loss incurred in avoiding injury to a submarine cable or pipeline	61
SECTION 2.	C O N S E R V A T I O N A N D MANAGEMENT OF THE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE HIGH SEAS	62
Article 116.	Right to fish on the high seas	62
Article 117.	Duty of States to adopt with respect to their nationals measures for the conservation of the living resources of the high seas	62
Article 118.	Cooperation of States in the conservation and management of living resources	62
Article 119.	Conservation of the living resources of the high seas	62
Article 120.	Marine mammals	63
PART VIII.	REGIME OF ISLANDS	63
Article 121.	Regime of islands	63

PART IX.	ENCLOSED OR SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS	63
	Article 122. Definition	63
	Article 123. Cooperation of States bordering enclosed or semi-enclosed seas	64
PART X.	RIGHT OF ACCESS OF LAND-LOCKED STATES TO AND FROM THE SEA AND FREEDOM OF TRANSIT	64
	Article 124. Use of terms	64
	Article 125. Right of access to and from the sea and freedom of transit	65
	Article 126. Exclusion of application of the most-favoured-nation clause	65
	Article 127. Customs duties, taxes and other charges	65
	Article 128. Free zones and other customs facilities	65
	Article 129. Cooperation in the construction and improvement of means of transport	65
	Article 130. Measures to avoid or eliminate delays or other difficulties of a technical nature in traffic in transit	66
	Article 131. Equal treatment in maritime ports	66
	Article 132. Grant of greater transit facilities	66
PART XI.	THE AREA	66
	SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS	66
	Article 133. Use of terms	66
	Article 134. Scope of this Part	66
	Article 135. Legal status of the superjacent waters and air space	67
	SECTION 2. PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE AREA	67
	Article 136. Common heritage of mankind	67
	Article 137. Legal status of the Area and its resources	67
	Article 138. General conduct of States in relation to the Area	67
	Article 139. Responsibility to ensure compliance and liability for damage	67
	Article 140. Benefit of mankind	68
	Article 141. Use of the Area exclusively for peaceful purposes	68
	Article 142. Rights and legitimate interests of coastal States	68
	Article 143. Marine scientific research	69

Article 144.	Transfer of technology	69
Article 145.	Protection of the marine environment	70
Article 146.	Protection of human life	70
Article 147.	A c c o m m o d a t i o n o f activities in the Area and in the marine environment	70
Article 148.	Participation of developing States in activities in the Area	71
Article 149.	Archaeological and historical objects	71
SECTION 3.	DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES OF THE AREA ..	71
Article 150.	Policies relating to activities in the Area	71
Article 151.	Production policies	72
Article 152.	Exercise of powers and functions by the Authority	75
Article 153.	System of exploration and exploitation	75
Article 154.	Periodic review	76
Article 155.	The Review Conference	76
SECTION 4.	THE AUTHORITY	78
SUBSECTION A.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	78
Article 156.	Establishment of the Authority	78
Article 157.	Nature and fundamental principles of the Authority	78
Article 158.	Organs of the Authority	78
SUBSECTION B.	THE ASSEMBLY	79
Article 159.	Composition, procedure and voting	79
Article 160.	Powers and functions	79
SUBSECTION C.	THE COUNCIL	81
Article 161.	Composition, procedure and voting	81
Article 162.	Powers and functions	83
Article 163.	Organs of the Council	86
Article 164.	The Economic Planning Commission	87
Article 165.	The Legal and Technical Commission	88
SUBSECTION D.	THE SECRETARIAT	89
Article 166.	The Secretariat	89
Article 167.	The staff of the Authority	90
Article 168.	International character of the Secretariat	90
Article 169.	C o n s u l t a t i o n a n d c o o p e r a t i o n w i t h i n t e r n a t i o n a l a n d n o n - g o v e r n m e n t a l organizations	91
SUBSECTION E.	THE ENTERPRISE	91
Article 170.	The Enterprise	91
SUBSECTION F.	F I N A N C I A L ARRANGEMENTS OF THE AUTHORITY	91
Article 171.	Funds of the Authority	91
Article 172.	Annual budget of the Authority	92
Article 173.	Expenses of the Authority	92
Article 174.	Borrowing power of the Authority	92
Article 175.	Annual audit	92

SUBSECTION G.	LEGAL STATUS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES	93
Article 176.	Legal status	93
Article 177.	Privileges and immunities	93
Article 178.	Immunity from legal process	93
Article 179.	Immunity from search and any form of seizure	93
Article 180.	Exemption from restrictions, regulations, controls and moratoria	93
Article 181.	Archives and official communications of the Authority	93
Article 182.	Privileges and immunities of certain persons connected with the Authority	94
Article 183.	Exemption from taxes and customs duties	94
SUBSECTION H.	SUSPENSION OF THE EXERCISE OF RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS	94
Article 184.	Suspension of the exercise of voting rights	94
Article 185.	Suspension of exercise of rights and privileges of membership	95
SECTION 5.	SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AND ADVISORY OPINIONS	95
Article 186.	Seabed Disputes Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea	95
Article 187.	Jurisdiction of the Seabed Disputes Chamber	95
Article 188.	Submission of disputes to a special chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea or an ad hoc chamber of the Seabed Disputes Chamber or to binding commercial arbitration	96
Article 189.	Limitation on jurisdiction with regard to decisions of the Authority	97
Article 190.	Participation and appearance of sponsoring States Parties in proceedings	97
Article 191.	Advisory opinions	97
PART XII.	PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT	98
SECTION 1.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	98

Article 192.	General obligation	98
Article 193.	Sovereign right of States to exploit their natural resources	98
Article 194.	Measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment	98
Article 195.	Duty not to transfer damage or hazards or transform one type of pollution into another	99
Article 196.	Use of technologies or introduction of alien or new species	99
SECTION 2.	GLOBAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION	99
Article 197.	Cooperation on a global or regional basis	99
Article 198.	Notification of imminent or actual damage	100
Article 199.	Contingency plans against pollution	100
Article 200.	Studies, research programmes and exchange of information and data	100
Article 201.	Scientific criteria for regulations	100
SECTION 3.	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	100
Article 202.	Scientific and technical assistance to developing States	100
Article 203.	Preferential treatment for developing States	101
SECTION 4.	M O N I T O R I N G A N D ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	101
Article 204.	Monitoring of the risks or effects of pollution	101
Article 205.	Publication of reports	101
Article 206.	Assessment of potential effects of activities	101
SECTION 5.	INTERNATIONAL RULES AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION TO PREVENT, REDUCE AND CONTROL POLLUTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT	102
Article 207.	Pollution from land-based sources	102
Article 208.	Pollution from seabed activities subject to national jurisdiction	102
Article 209.	Pollution from activities in the Area	103
Article 210.	Pollution by dumping	103
Article 211.	Pollution from vessels	103
Article 212.	Pollution from or through the atmosphere	105
SECTION 6.	ENFORCEMENT	105
Article 213.	Enforcement with respect to pollution from land-based sources	105
Article 214.	Enforcement with respect to pollution from seabed activities	106

Article 215.	Enforcement with respect to pollution from activities in the Area	106
Article 216.	Enforcement with respect to pollution by dumping	106
Article 217.	Enforcement by flag States	106
Article 218.	Enforcement by port States	107
Article 219.	Measures relating to seaworthiness of vessels to avoid pollution	108
Article 220.	Enforcement by coastal States	108
Article 221.	Measures to avoid pollution arising from maritime casualties	109
Article 222.	Enforcement with respect to pollution from or through the atmosphere	110
SECTION 7.	SAFEGUARDS	110
Article 223.	Measures to facilitate proceedings	110
Article 224.	Exercise of powers of enforcement	110
Article 225.	Duty to avoid adverse consequences in the exercise of the powers of enforcement.	110
Article 226.	Investigation of foreign vessels	111
Article 227.	Non-discrimination with respect to foreign vessels	111
Article 228.	Suspension and restrictions on institution of proceedings	111
Article 229.	Institution of civil proceedings	112
Article 230.	Monetary penalties and the observance of recognized rights of the accused	112
Article 231.	Notification to the flag State and other States concerned	112
Article 232.	Liability of States arising from enforcement measures	113
Article 233.	Safeguards with respect to straits used for international navigation	113
SECTION 8.	ICE-COVERED AREAS	113
Article 234.	Ice-covered areas	113
SECTION 9.	RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY	113
Article 235.	Responsibility and liability	113
SECTION 10.	SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY	114
Article 236.	Sovereign immunity	114
SECTION 11.	OBLIGATIONS UNDER OTHER CONVENTIONS ON THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT	114

Article 237.	Obligations under other conventions on the protection and preservation of the marine environment.	114
PART XIII. MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH 115		
SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS 115		
Article 238.	Right to conduct marine scientific research	115
Article 239.	Promotion of marine scientific research	115
Article 240.	General principles for the conduct of marine scientific research	115
Article 241.	Non-recognition of marine scientific research activities as the legal basis for claims	115
SECTION 2. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION 116		
Article 242.	Promotion of international cooperation	116
Article 243.	Creation of favourable conditions	116
Article 244.	Publication and dissemination of information and knowledge	116
SECTION 3. CONDUCT AND PROMOTION OF MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH 116		
Article 245.	Marine scientific research in the territorial sea ...	116
Article 246.	Marine scientific research in the exclusive economic zone and on the continental shelf	117
Article 247.	Marine scientific research projects undertaken by or under the auspices of international organizations	118
Article 248.	Duty to provide information to the coastal State	118
Article 249.	Duty to comply with certain conditions	118
Article 250.	Communications concerning marine scientific research projects	119
Article 251.	General criteria and guidelines	119
Article 252.	Implied consent	119
Article 253.	Suspension or cessation of marine scientific research activities	120
Article 254.	Rights of neighbouring land-locked and geographically disadvantaged States	120

Article 255.	Measures to facilitate marine scientific research and assist research vessels	121
Article 256.	Marine scientific research in the Area	121
Article 257.	Marine scientific research in the water column beyond the exclusive economic zone	121
SECTION 4.	SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTALLATIONS OR EQUIPMENT IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT	121
Article 258.	Deployment and use	121
Article 259.	Legal status	122
Article 260.	Safety zones	122
Article 261.	Non-interference with shipping routes	122
Article 262.	Identification markings and warning signals	122
SECTION 5.	RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY	122
Article 263.	Responsibility and liability	122
SECTION 6.	SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AND INTERIM MEASURES	123
Article 264.	Settlement of disputes	123
Article 265.	Interim measures	123
PART XIV.	DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY	123
SECTION 1.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	123
Article 266.	Promotion of the development and transfer of marine technology	123
Article 267.	Protection of legitimate interests	123
Article 268.	Basic objectives	124
Article 269.	Measures to achieve the basic objectives	124
SECTION 2.	INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	124
Article 270.	Ways and means of international cooperation	124
Article 271.	Guidelines, criteria and standards	125
Article 272.	Coordination of international programmes	125
Article 273.	Cooperation with international organizations and the Authority	125
Article 274.	Objectives of the Authority	125
SECTION 3.	NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MARINE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CENTRES	126
Article 275.	Establishment of national centres	126
Article 276.	Establishment of regional centres	126
Article 277.	Functions of regional centres	126
SECTION 4.	COOPERATION AMONG INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	127

Article 278.	Cooperation among international organizations . . .	127
PART XV.	SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES	127
SECTION 1.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	127
Article 279.	Obligation to settle disputes by peaceful means . . .	127
Article 280.	Settlement of disputes by any peaceful means chosen by the parties	127
Article 281.	Procedure where no settlement has been reached by the parties	127
Article 282.	Obligations under general, regional or bilateral agreements	128
Article 283.	Obligation to exchange views	128
Article 284.	Conciliation	128
Article 285.	Application of this section to disputes submitted pursuant to Part XI	128
SECTION 2.	COMPULSORY PROCEDURES ENTAILING BINDING DECISIONS	129
Article 286.	Application of procedures under this section	129
Article 287.	Choice of procedure	129
Article 288.	Jurisdiction	130
Article 289.	Experts	130
Article 290.	Provisional measures	130
Article 291.	Access	131
Article 292.	Prompt release of vessels and crews	131
Article 293.	Applicable law	131
Article 294.	Preliminary proceedings	132
Article 295.	Exhaustion of local remedies	132
Article 296.	Finality and binding force of decisions	132
SECTION 3.	LIMITATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS TO APPLICABILITY OF SECTION 2	132
Article 297.	Limitations on applicability of section 2	132
Article 298.	Optional exceptions to applicability of section 2 . . .	134
Article 299.	Right of the parties to agree upon a procedure . . .	135
PART XVI.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	135
Article 300.	Good faith and abuse of rights	135
Article 301.	Peaceful uses of the seas	136
Article 302.	Disclosure of information	136
Article 303.	Archaeological and historical objects found at sea	136
Article 304.	Responsibility and liability for damage	136

PART XVII.	FINAL PROVISIONS	137
Article 305.	Signature	137
Article 306.	Ratification and formal confirmation	137
Article 307.	Accession	137
Article 308.	Entry into force	138
Article 309.	Reservations and exceptions	138
Article 310.	Declarations and statements	138
Article 311.	Relation to other conventions and international agreements	138
Article 312.	Amendment	139
Article 313.	Amendment by simplified procedure	139
Article 314.	Amendments to the provisions of this Convention relating exclusively to activities in the Area	140
Article 315.	Signature, ratification of, accession to and authentic texts of amendments	140
Article 316.	Entry into force of amendments	140
Article 317.	Denunciation	141
Article 318.	Status of Annexes	141
Article 319.	Depositary	141
Article 320.	Authentic texts	142
ANNEX I.	HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES	143
ANNEX II.	COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF	143
ANNEX III.	BASIC CONDITIONS OF PROSPECTING, EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION	145
Article 1.	Title to minerals	145
Article 2.	Prospecting	145
Article 3.	Exploration and exploitation	146
Article 4.	Qualifications of applicants	146
Article 5.	Transfer of technology	147
Article 6.	Approval of plans of work	149
Article 7.	Selection among applicants for production authorizations	150
Article 8.	Reservation of areas	151
Article 9.	Activities in reserved areas	152
Article 10.	Preference and priority among applicants	152
Article 11.	Joint arrangements	152
Article 12.	Activities carried out by the Enterprise	153
Article 13.	Financial terms of contracts	153
Article 14.	Transfer of data	160
Article 15.	Training programmes	160
Article 16.	Exclusive right to explore and exploit	160

Article 17.	Rules, regulations and procedures of the Authority	160
Article 18.	Penalties	163
Article 19.	Revision of contract	163
Article 20.	Transfer of rights and obligations	164
Article 21.	Applicable law	164
Article 22.	Responsibility	164
ANNEX IV. STATUTE OF THE ENTERPRISE		164
Article 1.	Purposes	164
Article 2.	Relationship to the Authority	165
Article 3.	Limitation of liability	165
Article 4.	Structure	165
Article 5.	Governing Board	165
Article 6.	Powers and functions of the Governing Board	166
Article 7.	Director-General and staff of the Enterprise	167
Article 8.	Location	167
Article 9.	Reports and financial statements	167
Article 10.	Allocation of net income	168
Article 11.	Finances	168
Article 12.	Operations	170
Article 13.	Legal status, privileges and immunities	171
ANNEX V. CONCILIATION		172
SECTION 1. CONCILIATION PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO SECTION 1 OF PART XV		172
Article 1.	Institution of proceedings	172
Article 2.	List of conciliators	173
Article 3.	Constitution of conciliation commission	173
Article 4.	Procedure	174
Article 5.	Amicable settlement	174
Article 6.	Functions of the commission	174
Article 7.	Report	174
Article 8.	Termination	174
Article 9.	Fees and expenses	175
Article 10.	Right of parties to modify procedure	175
SECTION 2. COMPULSORY SUBMISSION TO CONCILIATION PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO SECTION 3 OF PART XV		175
Article 11.	Institution of proceedings	175
Article 12.	Failure to reply or to submit to conciliation	175
Article 13.	Competence	175
Article 14.	Application of section 1	175
ANNEX VI. STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA		176
Article 1.	General provisions	176

SECTION 1.	ORGANIZATION OF THE TRIBUNAL	176
Article 2.	Composition	176
Article 3.	Membership	176
Article 4.	Nominations and elections	176
Article 5.	Term of office	177
Article 6.	Vacancies	177
Article 7.	Incompatible activities	178
Article 8.	Conditions relating to participation of members in a particular case	178
Article 9.	Consequence of ceasing to fulfil required conditions	178
Article 10.	Privileges and immunities	178
Article 11.	Solemn declaration by members	178
Article 12.	President, Vice-President and Registrar	179
Article 13.	Quorum	179
Article 14.	Seabed Disputes Chamber	179
Article 15.	Special chambers	179
Article 16.	Rules of the Tribunal	180
Article 17.	Nationality of members	180
Article 18.	Remuneration of members	180
Article 19.	Expenses of the Tribunal	181
SECTION 2.	COMPETENCE	181
Article 20.	Access to the Tribunal	181
Article 21.	Jurisdiction	181
Article 22.	Reference of disputes subject to other agreements	181
Article 23.	Applicable law	181
SECTION 3.	PROCEDURE	182
Article 24.	Institution of proceedings	182
Article 25.	Provisional measures	182
Article 26.	Hearing	182
Article 27.	Conduct of case	182
Article 28.	Default	182
Article 29.	Majority for decision	183
Article 30.	Judgment	183
Article 31.	Request to intervene	183
Article 32.	Right to intervene in cases of interpretation or application	183
Article 33.	Finality and binding force of decisions	183
Article 34.	Costs	184
SECTION 4.	SEABED DISPUTES CHAMBER	184
Article 35.	Composition	184
Article 36.	Ad hoc chambers	184
Article 37.	Access	185
Article 38.	Applicable law	185
Article 39.	Enforcement of decisions of the Chamber	185
Article 40.	Applicability of other sections of this Annex	185
SECTION 5.	AMENDMENTS	185
Article 41.	Amendments	185

ANNEX VII.	ARBITRATION	186
Article 1.	Institution of proceedings	186
Article 2.	List of arbitrators	186
Article 3.	Constitution of arbitral tribunal	186
Article 4.	Functions of arbitral tribunal	187
Article 5.	Procedure	187
Article 6.	Duties of parties to a dispute	188
Article 7.	Expenses	188
Article 8.	Required majority for decisions	188
Article 9.	Default of appearance	188
Article 10.	Award	188
Article 11.	Finality of award	188
Article 12.	Interpretation or implementation of award	189
Article 13.	Application to entities other than States Parties	189
ANNEX VIII.	SPECIAL ARBITRATION	189
Article 1.	Institution of proceedings	189
Article 2.	Lists of experts	189
Article 3.	Constitution of special arbitral tribunal	190
Article 4.	General provisions	191
Article 5.	Fact finding	191
ANNEX IX.	PARTICIPATION BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	191
Article 1.	Use of terms	191
Article 2.	Signature	192
Article 3.	Formal confirmation and accession	192
Article 4.	Extent of participation and rights and obligations	192
Article 5.	Declarations, notifications and communications	193
Article 6.	Responsibility and liability	193
Article 7.	Settlement of disputes	193
Article 8.	Applicability of Part XVII	194

PREAMBLE

The States Parties to this Convention,

Prompted by the desire to settle, in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, all issues relating to the law of the sea and aware of the historic significance of this Convention as an important contribution to the maintenance of peace, justice and progress for all peoples of the world,

Noting that developments since the United Nations Conferences on the Law of the Sea held at Geneva in 1958 and 1960 have accentuated the need for a new and generally acceptable Convention on the law of the sea,

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole,

Recognizing the desirability of establishing through this Convention, with due regard for the sovereignty of all States, a legal order for the seas and oceans which will facilitate international communication, and will promote the peaceful uses of the seas and oceans, the equitable and efficient utilization of their resources, the conservation of their living resources, and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment,

Bearing in mind that the achievement of these goals will contribute to the realization of a just and equitable international economic order which takes into account the interests and needs of mankind as a whole and, in particular, the special interests and needs of developing countries, whether coastal or land-locked,

Desiring by this Convention to develop the principles embodied in resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970 in which the General Assembly of the United Nations solemnly declared *inter alia* that the area of the seabed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well as its resources, are the common heritage of mankind, the exploration and exploitation of which shall be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States,

Believing that the codification and progressive development of the law of the sea achieved in this Convention will contribute to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and will promote the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter,


Affirming that matters not regulated by this Convention continue to be governed by the rules and principles of general international law,

Have agreed as follows:

PART I

INTRODUCTION

Article 1 *Use of terms and scope*

- 
1. For the purposes of this Convention:
 - (1) "Area" means the seabed and ocean floor and subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction;
 - (2) "Authority" means the International Seabed Authority;
 - (3) "activities in the Area" means all activities of exploration for, and exploitation of, the resources of the Area;
 - (4) "pollution of the marine environment" means the introduction by man, directly or indirectly, of substances or energy into the marine environment, including estuaries, which results or is likely to result in such deleterious effects as harm to living resources and marine life, hazards to human health, hindrance to marine activities, including fishing and other legitimate uses of the sea, impairment of quality for use of sea water and reduction of amenities;
 - (5) (a) "dumping" means:
 - (i) any deliberate disposal of wastes or other matter from vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea;
 - (ii) any deliberate disposal of vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea;(b) "dumping" does not include:
 - (i) the disposal of wastes or other matter incidental to, or derived from the normal operations of vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea and their equipment, other than wastes or other matter transported by or to vessels, aircraft, platforms or other man-made structures at sea, operating for the purpose of disposal of such matter or derived from the treatment of such wastes or other matter on such vessels, aircraft, platforms or structures;
 - (ii) placement of matter for a purpose other than the mere disposal thereof, provided that such placement is not contrary to the aims of this Convention.
 2. (1) "States Parties" means States which have consented to be bound by this Convention and for which this Convention is in force.
 - (2) This Convention applies *mutatis mutandis* to the entities referred to in article 305, paragraph 1(b), (c), (d), (e) and (f), which become Parties to this Convention in accordance with the conditions relevant to each, and to that extent "States Parties" refers to those entities.

*Article 129**Cooperation in the construction and improvement of means of transport*

Where there are no means of transport in transit States to give effect to the freedom of transit or where the existing means, including the port installations and equipment, are inadequate in any respect, the transit States and land-locked States concerned may cooperate in constructing or improving them.

*Article 130**Measures to avoid or eliminate delays
or other difficulties of a technical nature in traffic in transit*

1. Transit States shall take all appropriate measures to avoid delays or other difficulties of a technical nature in traffic in transit.
2. Should such delays or difficulties occur, the competent authorities of the transit States and land-locked States concerned shall cooperate towards their expeditious elimination.

*Article 131**Equal treatment in maritime ports*

Ships flying the flag of land-locked States shall enjoy treatment equal to that accorded to other foreign ships in maritime ports.

*Article 132**Grant of greater transit facilities*

This Convention does not entail in any way the withdrawal of transit facilities which are greater than those provided for in this Convention and which are agreed between States Parties to this Convention or granted by a State Party. This Convention also does not preclude such grant of greater facilities in the future.

PART XI**THE AREA****SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS***Article 133**Use of terms*

For the purposes of this Part:

- (a) "resources" means all solid, liquid or gaseous mineral resources *in situ* in the Area at or beneath the seabed, including polymetallic nodules;
- (b) resources, when recovered from the Area, are referred to as "minerals".

Article 134
Scope of this Part

1. This Part applies to the Area.
2. Activities in the Area shall be governed by the provisions of this Part.
3. The requirements concerning deposit of, and publicity to be given to, the charts or lists of geographical coordinates showing the limits referred to in article 1, paragraph 1(1), are set forth in Part VI.
4. Nothing in this article affects the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf in accordance with Part VI or the validity of agreements relating to delimitation between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

Article 135
Legal status of the superjacent waters and air space

Neither this Part nor any rights granted or exercised pursuant thereto shall affect the legal status of the waters superjacent to the Area or that of the air space above those waters.

SECTION 2. PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE AREA

Article 136
Common heritage of mankind

The Area and its resources are the common heritage of mankind.

Article 137
Legal status of the Area and its resources

1. No State shall claim or exercise sovereignty or sovereign rights over any part of the Area or its resources, nor shall any State or natural or juridical person appropriate any part thereof. No such claim or exercise of sovereignty or sovereign rights nor such appropriation shall be recognized.
2. All rights in the resources of the Area are vested in mankind as a whole, on whose behalf the Authority shall act. These resources are not subject to alienation. The minerals recovered from the Area, however, may only be alienated in accordance with this Part and the rules, regulations and procedures of the Authority.
3. No State or natural or juridical person shall claim, acquire or exercise rights with respect to the minerals recovered from the Area except in accordance with this Part. Otherwise, no such claim, acquisition or exercise of such rights shall be recognized.

Article 138
General conduct of States in relation to the Area

The general conduct of States in relation to the Area shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Part, the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and other rules of international law in the interests of maintaining peace and security and promoting international cooperation and mutual understanding.



NB



*Article 139**Responsibility to ensure compliance and liability for damage*

1. States Parties shall have the responsibility to ensure that activities in the Area, whether carried out by States Parties, or state enterprises or natural or juridical persons which possess the nationality of States Parties or are effectively controlled by them or their nationals, shall be carried out in conformity with this Part. The same responsibility applies to international organizations for activities in the Area carried out by such organizations.

2. Without prejudice to the rules of international law and Annex III, article 22, damage caused by the failure of a State Party or international organization to carry out its responsibilities under this Part shall entail liability; States Parties or international organizations acting together shall bear joint and several liability. A State Party shall not however be liable for damage caused by any failure to comply with this Part by a person whom it has sponsored under article 153, paragraph 2(b), if the State Party has taken all necessary and appropriate measures to secure effective compliance under article 153, paragraph 4, and Annex III, article 4, paragraph 4.

3. States Parties that are members of international organizations shall take appropriate measures to ensure the implementation of this article with respect to such organizations.

*Article 140**Benefit of mankind*

1. Activities in the Area shall, as specifically provided for in this Part, be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States, whether coastal or land-locked, and taking into particular consideration the interests and needs of developing States and of peoples who have not attained full independence or other self-governing status recognized by the United Nations in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant General Assembly resolutions.

2. The Authority shall provide for the equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefits derived from activities in the Area through any appropriate mechanism, on a non-discriminatory basis, in accordance with article 160, paragraph 2(f)(i).

*Article 141**Use of the Area exclusively for peaceful purposes*

The Area shall be open to use exclusively for peaceful purposes by all States, whether coastal or land-locked, without discrimination and without prejudice to the other provisions of this Part.

*Article 142**Rights and legitimate interests of coastal States*

1. Activities in the Area, with respect to resource deposits in the Area which lie across limits of national jurisdiction, shall be conducted with due regard to the rights and legitimate interests of any coastal State across whose jurisdiction such deposits lie.

SECTION 4. THE AUTHORITY**SUBSECTION A. GENERAL PROVISIONS***Article 156
Establishment of the Authority*

1. There is hereby established the International Seabed Authority, which shall function in accordance with this Part.
2. All States Parties are *ipso facto* members of the Authority.
3. Observers at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea who have signed the Final Act and who are not referred to in article 305, paragraph 1(c), (d), (e) or (f), shall have the right to participate in the Authority as observers, in accordance with its rules, regulations and procedures.
4. The seat of the Authority shall be in Jamaica.
5. The Authority may establish such regional centres or offices as it deems necessary for the exercise of its functions.

*Article 157
Nature and fundamental principles of the Authority*

1. The Authority is the organization through which States Parties shall, in accordance with this Part, organize and control activities in the Area, particularly with a view to administering the resources of the Area.
2. The powers and functions of the Authority shall be those expressly conferred upon it by this Convention. The Authority shall have such incidental powers, consistent with this Convention, as are implicit in and necessary for the exercise of those powers and functions with respect to activities in the Area.
3. The Authority is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its members.
4. All members of the Authority shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with this Part in order to ensure to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from membership.

*Article 158
Organs of the Authority*

1. There are hereby established, as the principal organs of the Authority, an Assembly, a Council and a Secretariat.
2. There is hereby established the Enterprise, the organ through which the Authority shall carry out the functions referred to in article 170, paragraph 1.
3. Such subsidiary organs as may be found necessary may be established in accordance with this Part.
4. Each principal organ of the Authority and the Enterprise shall be responsible for exercising those powers and functions which are conferred upon it. In exercising such powers and functions each organ shall avoid taking any action which may derogate from or impede the exercise of specific powers and functions conferred upon another organ.