

the Convention and wish to remain outside of it must recognize the disservice they do not only to the attainment of agreed rules for the uses of the oceans but to the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

The conclusion of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea does not complete the work that must be done to bring the oceans under the rule of law. While many states will sign the Law of the Sea Convention, a number may not. Our work will not end until we have a Convention in force with universal application. To achieve that goal we must demonstrate the same patience, understanding, tolerance of views and flexibility that have characterized these past years of negotiation. At the same time we must maintain the principles that governed our deliberations, in particular the concept of the "package deal". The Convention sets out a broad range of new rights and responsibilities. If states may arbitrarily select those they will recognize or deny, we will see the end not only of our dream of a universal, comprehensive Convention on the Law of the Sea, but perhaps the end of any prospect for global cooperation on issues that touch the lives of all mankind. We must not, we cannot allow that to happen. The Law of the Sea Convention, and the Convention alone, provides a firm basis for the peaceful conduct of ocean affairs for the years to come. It must stand as one of the United Nation's greatest accomplishments and worthy of the support of every nation.