

Article XV: Signature, ratification, accession, entry into force

Commentary

There seems to be an understanding that:

1. (a) The Convention shall be open for signature to all States and shall be ratified by signatories;
 - (b) Non-signatory States shall be entitled to accede to the Convention;
 - (c) Provisions on the entry into force shall ensure the widest possible adherence of States to the Convention.
2. The preference was expressed for the number of 60 ratifications for the Convention to enter into force.

Note:

In the course of consultations on this article the status of Annexes to the Convention, as well as of the provisions on reservations have been raised.

1. It is to be further discussed whether a separate article on the status of Annexes is needed.

Possible wording for the provision on the status of Annexes

"Annexes Nos. ... form an integral part of this Convention".

2. Several delegations held the view that neither reservations nor exceptions to the Convention should be provided, while some expressed views that such right might be included with respect to some provisions which were not clearly indicated.

The view was expressed that in regard to reservations, due attention should be paid to interpretative statements.

It is to be discussed whether to place the provision on reservations within the framework of Article XV or to elaborate a separate article for this purpose.

Possible wording for the provisions on reservations

1. No reservations or exceptions, however phrased or named, [including interpretative statements or declarations], may be made to this Convention [unless expressly permitted by other provisions of the Convention].
2. The provision in paragraph 1 above does not preclude a State when signing, ratifying or acceding to this Convention, from making statements or declarations, however phrased or named, provided that such statements or