

Opened for signature on 1 March 1980, the Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981. As of 31 May 1987, 93 countries had consented to be bound by its provisions, either through ratification or accession. These countries are:

Angola	Iraq
Argentina	Ireland
Australia	Italy
Austria	Jamaica
Bangladesh	Japan
Barbados	Kenya
Belgium	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Bhutan	Liberia
Brazil	Malawi
Bulgaria	Mali
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Mauritius
Canada	Mexico
Cape Verde	Mongolia
China	New Zealand
Colombia	Nicaragua
Congo	Nigeria
Costa Rica	Norway
Cuba	Panama
Cyprus	Paraguay
Czechoslovakia	Peru
Democratic Yemen	Philippines
Denmark	Poland
Dominica	Portugal
Dominican Republic	Republic of Korea
Ecuador	Romania
Egypt	Rwanda
El Salvador	Saint Christopher and Nevis
Equatorial Guinea	Saint Lucia
Ethiopia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Finland	Senegal
France	Spain
Gabon	Sri Lanka
German Democratic Republic	Sweden
Germany (Federal Republic of)	Thailand
Ghana	Togo
Greece	Tunisia
Guatemala	Turkey
Guinea	Uganda
Guinea-Bissau	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Guyana	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Haiti	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Honduras	United Republic of Tanzania
Hungary	Uruguay
Iceland	Venezuela
Indonesia	Viet Nam
	Yugoslavia
	Zaire
	Zambia

The full text of the Convention is set out in the pages that follow.