

Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

4 February 2022

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Preparatory Committee

Geneva, 20 December 2021 and 4-11 April 2022

Item 7 of the agenda

Comprehensive consideration of all provisions of the Convention

Status of universalization of the Convention

Background information document submitted by the Implementation Support Unit

Summary

The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) to prepare a background information document on the status of universalization of the Convention (see [BWC/CONF.IX/PC/2](#), sub-paragraph 27(e)). The ISU has duly compiled this document which describes the current status of universalization of the Convention and activities undertaken from 2017 until 2021 to promote universalization. It also includes information from States Parties and other organizations, where that information has been provided to the BWC office holders or the ISU. The Convention currently has 183 States Parties, with four signatories and 10 states having neither signed nor ratified. A total of 14 States are therefore not party to the Convention.

I. Introduction

1. The Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference, (see Section N of Part II of [BWC/CONF.VIII/4](#)), contained the following text regarding universalization of the Convention:

“79. The Conference notes with satisfaction that fifteen states have deposited their instruments of ratification, accession or succession since the Seventh Review Conference.

80. The Conference underlines that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single state not party that could possess or acquire biological weapons.

81. The Conference reiterates the high importance of universalization, in particular by affirming the particular importance of the ratification of the Convention by signatory states and accession to the Convention by those which have not signed the Convention, without delay. States Parties agree to continue to promote universalization.

82. The Conference notes that the primary responsibility for promoting the universality of the Convention rests with the States Parties. The Conference urges



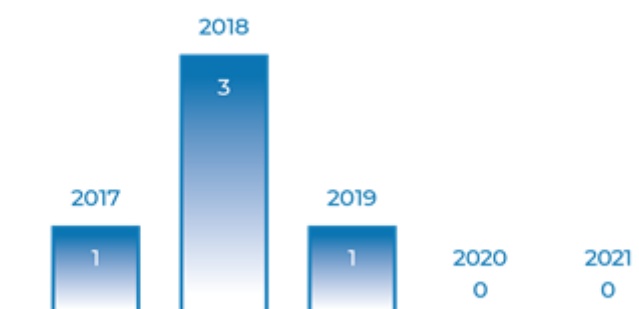
States Parties to take action to persuade non-parties to accede to the Convention without delay, and particularly welcomes action by States Parties and regional initiatives to provide assistance and support that would lead to wider accession to the Convention.

83. The Conference welcomes regional initiatives that would lead to wider accession and adherence to the Convention.

84. The Conference urges those States Parties, in a position to do so, to offer assistance and support to States in their preparations for ratification or accession to the Convention.”

2. Since the Eighth Review Conference, five States have joined the Convention, increasing the total number of States Parties from 178 to 183, (a full list of States Parties is contained in Annex I). A further four States have signed but not ratified the Convention (Annex II contains a list of Signatory States) and ten States have neither signed nor ratified the Convention (contained in Annex III). This document describes the progress made since the Eighth Review Conference and provides information made available to the ISU on the status of ratification or accession in each of the remaining 14 States yet to join the Convention.

New States Parties 2017-2021



II. Developments in Africa

3. With eight States yet to join the Convention (Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Namibia, Somalia, and South Sudan), Africa is the region with the highest number of States not yet party to the Convention. It has therefore been a priority region for activities by the Chairs of the Meetings of States Parties, as it has and continues to be for the ISU.

Central African Republic

4. The Central African Republic ratified the Convention on 25 September 2018, becoming the 182nd State Party to the Convention.

Chad

5. Chad has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. Representatives from Chad participated in the Regional Workshop on Achieving the Universalization of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa on 4 March 2021.

6. Within the framework of the German Biosecurity Programme and the Enable and Enhance Initiative, Germany has been encouraging Chad to join the BWC. Moreover,

Germany reported receiving positive feedback from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chad, mentioning that Chad would assess accession to the BWC with a positive outlook, especially in light of Germany's substantial support through the Enable and Enhance Initiative and in light of the experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic, and Germany's support to confront it. Chad attended the 2020 Meetings of Experts and the 2020 Meeting of States Parties.

Comoros

7. Comoros has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. One representative from Comoros attended a regional universalization workshop on the BWC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 11 to 12 December 2018. The event was co-organised by the African Union and UNODA, under European Union Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP. No further information has been reported since then.

Djibouti

8. Djibouti has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. In 2018, representatives from Djibouti, including the President of the National Assembly, participated in the universalization workshop that took place in Djibouti City from 3 to 4 October. The event was organized by the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and UNODA for States not party to the Convention in the IGAD region under European Union Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP.

9. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassy in Djibouti, where France highlighted the importance of the BWC, the French BWC Chairmanship in 2019, as well as the benefits of joining the Convention. France also expressed its intention to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession. Djibouti attended the 2020 Meeting of States Parties during which the ISU met with the representatives from Djibouti to discuss next steps.

Egypt

10. Egypt has signed but not ratified the Convention. Ratification of the Convention has traditionally been linked to other political considerations. A representative from Egypt participated in the Regional Workshop on Achieving the Universalization of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa on 4 March 2021. Egypt also attended the 2019 and 2020 Meetings of Experts, as well as the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

Eritrea

11. Eritrea has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. No information has been received since 2015, where Eritrea participated in a workshop in Nairobi in September 2015 for Member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 and other international instruments. The ISU participated and encouraged Eritrea to join the Convention.

12. Eritrea was invited to a universalisation workshop co-organized by the African Union and UNODA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 to 12 December 2018, under European Union Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP, but did not participate in the event.

Namibia

13. Namibia has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassy in Windhoek to encourage Namibia to join the BWC. France highlighted the importance of the BWC, the 2019 French Chairmanship, as well as the benefits of joining the Convention. France also

expressed its intention to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession. On 3 May, Namibia informed France that it was considering applying to the Nuclear Suppliers Group, and a prerequisite for joining the group would be for Namibia to accede to the BWC, alongside other treaties. For that reason, Namibia is reviewing the possibility of joining the Convention. Furthermore, Namibia was carefully considering the French offer of technical and legal assistance for the accession process.

14. In 2020, UNODA and the ISU, via the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, contacted Namibian authorities to encourage accession to the BWC. A representative from Namibia participated in the Regional Workshop on Achieving the Universalization of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa on 4 March 2021. Namibia attended the 2017 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

Somalia

15. Somalia has signed but not ratified the Convention. Two representatives from Somalia participated in the universalization workshop that took place in Djibouti City from 3 to 4 October 2018. The event was organized by the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and UNODA, for States not party to the Convention in the IGAD region under European Union Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP. In December 2019, on the margins of the 2019 Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Yann Hwang of France, Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties, together with the ISU, had a meeting with H.E Abdullahi Hamud, State Minister, Office of the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia to discuss BWC universalization. Somalia expressed interest in receiving further support in the ratification process. Somalia attended the 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

South Sudan

16. South Sudan has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. In 2018, South Sudan participated in the universalization workshop that took place in Djibouti City from 3 to 4 October. The event was organized by the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and UNODA, for States not party to the Convention in the IGAD region under European Union Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP. On 7 June 2019, the Council of Ministers of South Sudan approved the country's accession to the BWC and instructed that the BWC be transmitted to the Transitional National Legislative Authority for consideration. A representative from South Sudan participated in the Regional Workshop on Achieving the Universalization of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa on 4 March 2021. South Sudan attended the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

United Republic of Tanzania

17. The United Republic of Tanzania ratified the Convention on 14 August 2019, becoming the 183rd State Party to the Convention.

III. Developments in Asia and the Pacific

18. Asia, particularly the Middle East and the Pacific, is another area of high priority for universalization activities. In the Middle East, universalization of the Convention is linked to wider political issues within the sub-region. In the Pacific, where three States have yet to join the Convention (Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), and Tuvalu), the main issue is one of resources.

Israel

19. Israel has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. Israel has traditionally linked its accession to the Convention to other regional security considerations. Israel attended the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of Experts, as well as the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

Kiribati

20. Kiribati has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. A representative from Kiribati took part from 27 to 28 July 2017 in a regional workshop on universalization, hosted by Fiji, in Nadi. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the ISU, with financial support from the European Union in the framework of EU Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP. The participant from Kiribati reported that the country does not have any BWC related legislation in place and is considering approaching other States Parties in order to seek assistance.

21. Kiribati also participated in the “BWC Universalization Workshop for the Pacific Region” in Fiji, which was co-organized by the ISU and the Government of Fiji with financial support from the Permanent Mission of Australia in Geneva, from 12 to 13 December 2018. Kiribati demonstrated its high interest in the BWC by having three strategic offices represented at the workshop, namely the Attorney-General’s Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Police Service. Kiribati requested a bilateral meeting with the ISU on the margins of the workshop to discuss the accession process. The participating representatives all undertook to make their recommendation to the Cabinet for accession without further delay. The participants also requested political support from the BWC Chairman and the ISU. As a follow-up to the workshop, the Chairman of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Ljupčo Jivan Gjorgjinski of North Macedonia, wrote to the Permanent Representative of Kiribati to the United Nations to encourage accession to the BWC.

22. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassy in Suva, Fiji, to encourage Kiribati to join the BWC. France highlighted the importance of the BWC, the current French Chairmanship, as well as the benefits of joining the Convention. France also intended to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession. On 21 September 2019, Kiribati participated in the “Workshop on the universalization of the BWC for the Pacific”, in Wellington, New Zealand. Kiribati sent a high-level delegation to the workshop, including the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Environment, Land and Agricultural Development and the Attorney-General.

Micronesia (Federated States of)

23. The Federated States of Micronesia have neither signed nor ratified the Convention. The Assistant Attorney-General attended the “BWC Universalization Workshop for the Pacific Region” in Fiji in December 2018. He later reported to the ISU that the Attorney-General had been informed about the workshop and had conveyed his recommendation directly to the President for accession to the BWC without further delay. As a follow-up to the workshop, the Chairman of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Ljupčo Jivan Gjorgjinski of North Macedonia, wrote to the Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations to encourage accession to the BWC.

24. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassy in Manila, the Philippines, to encourage the Federated States of Micronesia to join the BWC. France highlighted the importance of the BWC, the 2019 French Chairmanship, as well as the benefits of joining the Convention. France also expressed its intention to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession.

25. On 21 September 2019, the Federated States of Micronesia participated in the “Workshop on the universalization of the BWC for the Pacific”, in Wellington, New Zealand.

The Assistant Attorney-General reported that a legislative proposal from the President to Congress had been drafted and had undergone a first reading. However, in view of the change of government, the initiative had come to a temporary halt. He expressed his confidence about progress in the near future. On 13 June 2019, a resolution was introduced in Congress calling for accession to the Convention.

26. In 2020, the U.S. Embassy in Micronesia worked closely with the Government of Micronesia to encourage the completion of the process of accession to the BWC. The instrument of accession to the BWC has been sent to the Micronesian Congress by the Executive Branch, and it is currently being reviewed.

Niue

27. Niue acceded to the Convention on 14 June 2018, becoming the 181st State Party to the Convention.

Samoa

28. Samoa acceded to the Convention on 21 September 2017, becoming the 179th State Party to the Convention.

State of Palestine

29. The State of Palestine acceded to the Convention on 9 January 2018, becoming the 180th State Party to the Convention.

Syrian Arab Republic

30. The Syrian Arab Republic has signed but not ratified the Convention. Ratification of the Convention has traditionally been linked to other regional security considerations. The Syrian Arab Republic participated in the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

Tuvalu

31. Tuvalu has neither signed nor ratified the Convention. Tuvalu took part from 27 to 28 July 2017 in a regional workshop on universalization, hosted by Fiji, in Nadi. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the ISU, with financial support from the European Union in the framework of EU Council Decision 2016/51/CFSP. During the event, the representative of Tuvalu explained that it was participating for the first time in a dedicated BWC event, he noted the modest financial requirements with respect to joining the Convention and stated that Tuvalu is considering approaching VERTIC in order to discuss legal assistance related to the BWC.

32. During the “BWC Universalization Workshop for the Pacific Region” in Fiji, which took place in December 2018, Tuvalu was represented by an official from the Attorney-General’s office, who undertook to make a recommendation for accession to the Cabinet. Tuvalu demonstrated its interest in accession to the BWC by requesting a bilateral meeting with a participating official from Niue (the most recent BWC State Party from the region) on the margins of the workshop, in order to collect all practical information on Niue’s accession process. Tuvalu requested political support from the MSP Chairman and the ISU. As a follow-up to the workshop, the Chairman of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Ljupčo Jivan Gjorgjinski of North Macedonia, wrote to the Permanent Representative of Tuvalu to the United Nations to encourage accession to the BWC.

33. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassy in Suva, Fiji, to encourage Tuvalu to join the BWC. France highlighted the

importance of the BWC, the 2019 French Chairmanship, as well as the benefits of joining the Convention. France also expressed its intention to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession.

34. On 21 September 2019, the Crown Counsel of Tuvalu participated in the “Workshop on the universalization of the BWC for the Pacific”, in Wellington, New Zealand.

35. The Office of the Attorney-General in Tuvalu contacted the ISU in early 2020 to request assistance with drafting a policy paper on the benefits and obligations under the BWC, in view of a potential accession to be considered by its government. The requested policy paper was provided by the ISU to Tuvalu in July 2020.

IV. Developments in Latin America and the Caribbean

Haiti

36. Haiti has signed but not ratified the Convention. From 21 to 23 March 2018, a workshop to promote the universalization of the Convention was co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Haiti, UNODA and the ISU, under European Union Council Decision 2016/51. High-level bilateral meetings took place on the margins of the workshop, with the Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs of Haiti, as well as senior parliamentarians. During these meetings, strong support was expressed for ratification of the Convention. Ratification of the Convention needs to be approved by the National Assembly of Haiti.

37. The ISU participated from 29 to 30 April 2019 in the “Regional Caribbean Parliamentary Workshop to Promote Ratification and Implementation of the BWC and Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)”, organized by Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies of Haiti participated in the workshop. The event was a good opportunity for the ISU to raise the BWC with a senior parliamentarian from Haiti and to obtain further information on the status of the ratification process. During the bilateral meeting, the Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies confirmed that the issue will be reported to the President of the Chamber, as well as the Head of State, to stress the importance of ratification. Haiti attended the 2018 and 2019 Meetings of Experts, as well as the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties.

V. Activities by the Chairs of the Meetings of States Parties

38. In October 2017, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Amandeep Singh Gill of India, wrote to all Permanent Representatives of States not party and Signatory States to encourage them to join the Convention.

39. In October 2018, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Ljupčo Jivan Gjorgjinski of North Macedonia, wrote to all Permanent Representatives in Geneva and in New York of Signatory States and States not party to encourage them to join the Convention.

40. On 25 April 2019, an initiative to universalize the BWC was launched by France via its embassies in Djibouti, Fiji (for Kiribati and Tuvalu), Manila (for the Federated States of Micronesia) and Namibia. After putting the fight against biological weapons into context, France recalled the main challenges faced by the 2019 French Chairmanship of the BWC. The importance of accession by the targeted countries in combining national efforts to combat these threats was highlighted, as well as the international commitments of these countries (e.g. the Chemical Weapons Convention and Security Council resolution 1540), and the political potential which accession could bring. France also highlighted the security capabilities to which the Convention gave access, as well as the economic benefits which accession would bring by boosting scientific and commercial cooperation. France also expressed its intention to provide technical and judicial assistance for the accession process and the transposition of the law into national law in the event of accession.

41. On 16 May 2019, a video message by the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Yann Hwang of France, was delivered to the “Workshop on Promoting the Role of Women Parliamentarians in Africa in Preventing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction” which took place in Banjul, the Gambia. In his message, the Chairman noted that parliamentarians play a crucial role in advocating for the accession, ratification and implementation of the Convention.

42. In December 2019, France initiated a series of efforts to promote universalization under the chairmanship of Ambassador Hwang. The French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs wrote to his counterparts from Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Egypt, Haiti, Israel, Kiribati, Micronesia, Namibia, South Sudan and Tuvalu to encourage them to join the Convention.

43. In September 2020, a letter from the Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu of Kenya, was sent to all Signatory States, as well as States not party to the BWC, to better understand their circumstances and encourage them to consider joining the Convention.

44. On 4 March 2021, Ambassador Mailu, participated in a virtual regional workshop for African States not party to the Convention. The event was convened by UNODA in cooperation with the ISU and the Permanent Mission of Kenya in Geneva. The workshop was organized in the framework of European Union Council Decision 2019/97 in support of the BWC. The workshop was attended by representatives from Chad, Egypt, Namibia and South Sudan.

45. On the margins of the 2020 Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Mailu held bilateral meetings with representatives from Djibouti and Namibia to seek further information regarding their ratification or accession processes.

Activities in New York

46. In October 2018, on the margins of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Gjorgjinski met with representatives of the following States not party to the Convention: Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, Namibia, Tanzania and Tuvalu.

47. In October 2019, on the margins of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Hwang, met with the Permanent Representatives of Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia and Tuvalu in order to encourage them to join the BWC and to seek further information regarding their accession processes.

Activities in Geneva

48. On 30 May 2018, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Mr. Gjorgjinski, and the ISU met with the Permanent Representative of Tanzania in Geneva in order to encourage Tanzania to join the Convention and to seek further information regarding its ratification process.

49. In November 2019, the Chairman of the Meeting of States Parties, Ambassador Hwang, and the ISU met with the Permanent Representatives of Haiti, Namibia and South Sudan in Geneva in order to encourage them to join the Convention and to seek further information regarding their ratification or accession processes.

VI. Cooperation with other actors

50. Universalization efforts have also been strengthened by the activities of States Parties and other actors. The Depositary States (the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) have been particularly active in encouraging States not party to join the Convention.

51. In addition, individual States Parties and groups of States Parties (for example the European Union and the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction) have also informed the ISU of activities undertaken to encourage States not party to join the Convention. Under European Union Council Decision 2019/97, the EU supported a range of activities to encourage the universalization of the Convention, including regional workshops (in-person and virtual) and supporting participations from representatives of States not party to the Convention in BWC meetings in Geneva via the Sponsorship Programme.

52. The ISU remained in close and regular contact with the African Union (AU), the European Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), the Committee established pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and UNODA's UNSCR 1540 Support Unit, including its Regional Coordinator for Africa, the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), as well as UNODA's Regional Centres for Africa (UNREC), Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) and Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) to coordinate mutual universalization efforts.

VII. Conclusions

53. The years since the Eighth Review Conference have witnessed a slow increase in the number of States Parties to the Convention. However, with only 183 States Parties, the Convention still lags some way behind both the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, both with over 190 States Parties. While some States have expressed political reasons for not joining the Convention at the current time, others have stated their political support for the objectives of the Convention, but refer to resource constraints and lack of capacity as key limiting factors. Concerns over financial and reporting obligations under the Convention are also commonly cited.

54. The promotion of universalization is an ongoing task which requires long-running commitment and resources and continuous engagement with States not party. Developments in such States, for example natural disasters, political upheavals and elections can significantly delay or even completely halt ratification or accession processes. Positive results can be achieved through cooperation among States Parties, particularly through bilateral contacts with States not party and through regional and multilateral fora and activities. Eventually, as more States join the Convention, the experience in similar treaties is that a more targeted approach will be needed, tailored to specific national requirements.

55. Recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has underlined the relevance of the Convention and States Parties have stressed the need to maintain the momentum of ratification and accession processes in States not party to the Convention.

Annex I

List of States Parties to the Convention (As at 4 February 2022)

1. Afghanistan
2. Albania
3. Algeria
4. Andorra
5. Angola
6. Antigua and Barbuda
7. Argentina
8. Armenia
9. Australia
10. Austria
11. Azerbaijan
12. Bahamas
13. Bahrain
14. Bangladesh
15. Barbados
16. Belarus
17. Belgium
18. Belize
19. Benin
20. Bhutan
21. Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
22. Bosnia-Herzegovina
23. Botswana
24. Brazil
25. Brunei Darussalam
26. Bulgaria
27. Burkina Faso
28. Burundi
29. Cambodia
30. Cameroon
31. Canada
32. Cape Verde
33. Central African Republic
34. Chile
35. China
36. Colombia

37. Congo
38. Cook Islands
39. Costa Rica
40. Côte d'Ivoire
41. Croatia
42. Cuba
43. Cyprus
44. Czech Republic
45. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
46. Democratic Republic of the Congo
47. Denmark
48. Dominica
49. Dominican Republic
50. Ecuador
51. El Salvador
52. Equatorial Guinea
53. Estonia
54. Eswatini
55. Ethiopia
56. Fiji
57. Finland
58. France
59. Gabon
60. Gambia
61. Georgia
62. Germany
63. Ghana
64. Greece
65. Grenada
66. Guatemala
67. Guinea
68. Guinea-Bissau
69. Guyana
70. Holy See
71. Honduras
72. Hungary
73. Iceland
74. India
75. Indonesia
76. Iran (Islamic Republic of)

77. Iraq
78. Ireland
79. Italy
80. Jamaica
81. Japan
82. Jordan
83. Kazakhstan
84. Kenya
85. Kuwait
86. Kyrgyzstan
87. Lao People's Democratic Republic
88. Latvia
89. Lebanon
90. Lesotho
91. Liberia
92. Libya
93. Liechtenstein
94. Lithuania
95. Luxembourg
96. Madagascar
97. Malawi
98. Malaysia
99. Maldives
100. Mali
101. Malta
102. Marshall Islands
103. Mauritania
104. Mauritius
105. Mexico
106. Monaco
107. Mongolia
108. Montenegro
109. Morocco
110. Mozambique
111. Myanmar
112. Nauru
113. Nepal
114. Netherlands
115. New Zealand
116. Nicaragua

117. Niger
118. Nigeria
119. Niue
120. North Macedonia
121. Norway
122. Oman
123. Pakistan
124. Palau
125. Panama
126. Papua New Guinea
127. Paraguay
128. Peru
129. Philippines
130. Poland
131. Portugal
132. Qatar
133. Republic of Korea
134. Republic of Moldova
135. Romania
136. Russian Federation
137. Rwanda
138. Saint Kitts and Nevis
139. Saint Lucia
140. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
141. Samoa
142. San Marino
143. Sao Tome and Principe
144. Saudi Arabia
145. Senegal
146. Serbia
147. Seychelles
148. Sierra Leone
149. Singapore
150. Slovakia
151. Slovenia
152. Solomon Islands
153. South Africa
154. Spain
155. Sri Lanka
156. State of Palestine

157. Sudan
158. Suriname
159. Sweden
160. Switzerland
161. Tajikistan
162. Thailand
163. Timor-Leste
164. Togo
165. Tonga
166. Trinidad and Tobago
167. Tunisia
168. Turkey
169. Turkmenistan
170. Uganda
171. Ukraine
172. United Arab Emirates
173. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
174. United Republic of Tanzania
175. United States of America
176. Uruguay
177. Uzbekistan
178. Vanuatu
179. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
180. Viet Nam
181. Yemen
182. Zambia
183. Zimbabwe

Annex II

List of Signatory States to the Convention (As at 4 February 2022)

1. Egypt
2. Haiti
3. Somalia
4. Syrian Arab Republic

Annex III

List of States not party to the Convention (As at 4 February 2022)

1. Chad
 2. Comoros
 3. Djibouti
 4. Eritrea
 5. Israel
 6. Kiribati
 7. Micronesia (Federated States of)
 8. Namibia
 9. South Sudan
 10. Tuvalu
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