

Reference: C.N.158.2008(Depository Notification)
(Re-issued) (French only)

**TREATY EVENT
MULTILATERAL TREATY FRAMEWORK:
AN INVITATION TO UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION**

**2008 TREATY EVENT: TOWARDS UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION –
DIGNITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL OF US**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
23 - 25 AND 29 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

It is recalled that a series of successful treaty events has been held annually at the United Nations Headquarters commencing with the Millennium Summit in September 2000. An impressive total of over 1,350 treaty actions (signatures, ratifications, etc.) have been undertaken at these treaty events. In 2007, the treaty event, “Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation”, was held during the sixty-second General Assembly general debate, and 48 States undertook a total of 81 treaty actions.

This year, the annual treaty event will be held from 23 to 25 and 29 to 30 September 2008 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, to coincide with the general debate of the sixty-third General Assembly. The event, entitled “2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and justice for all of us”, provides a distinct opportunity for States to demonstrate their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations. This year’s event will highlight treaties associated with the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Year of Planet Earth, the International Year of Sanitation and the International Polar Year as well as transit and transport treaties of concern to landlocked and transit developing countries.

The list of treaties being highlighted during the 2008 Treaty Event is attached. As is customary, it will be possible to undertake treaty actions with regard to any treaty deposited with the Secretary-General during the treaty event.

Delegations intending to sign or deposit instruments during the treaty event relating to multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General may wish to inform their Governments accordingly for the purpose of completing the requisite domestic procedures.

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depository notifications are currently issued in both hard copy and electronic format. Depository notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations at the following e-mail address: missions@un.int. Such notifications are also available in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at <http://untreaty.un.org>, where interested individuals can subscribe to directly receive depository notifications by e-mail through a new automated subscription service. Depository notifications are available for pick-up by the Permanent Missions in Room NL-300.

The publication *2008 Treaty Event: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation – Dignity and justice for all of us* is currently being compiled and will be circulated to all Permanent Missions in New York as soon as possible. This publication will contain summaries of key provisions, relevant final clauses and status of the treaties being highlighted in the 2008 Treaty Event.

Further information concerning the 2008 Treaty Event is available on the United Nations Treaty Collection web site (<http://untreaty.un.org>) and at the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs (contact Ms. Sherry Holbrook or Mr. Bradford Smith at 1 212 963-5047).

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List of multilateral treaties to be highlighted in the 2008 Treaty Event

(For an up to date status of the treaties listed below, please refer to the UN Treaty Collection website at the following address: <http://untreaty.un.org> Only those treaties appearing with an asterisk (*) are still open for signature. All treaties are open for ratification, acceptance, approval and/or accession in accordance with their provisions.)

Human rights (in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

1. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (New York, 9 December 1948)
2. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (New York, 7 March 1966)*
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (New York, 16 December 1966)*
4. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New York, 16 December 1966)*
5. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New York, 16 December 1966)*
6. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (New York, 15 December 1989)*
7. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York, 18 December 1979)*
8. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York, 6 October 1999)*
9. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (New York, 10 December 1984)*
10. Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (New York, 18 December 2002)*
11. Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 20 November 1989)*
12. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (New York, 25 May 2000)*

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13. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (New York, 25 May 2000)*
14. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (New York, 18 December 1990)*
15. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (New York, 13 December 2006)*
16. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (New York, 13 December 2006)*
17. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (New York, 20 December 2006)*

Protecting Planet Earth: the environment, sustainable development, water, sanitation and the polar regions

18. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 (Geneva, 27 January 2006)
19. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 10 December 1982)
20. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (New York, 4 August 1995)
21. Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel, 22 March 1989)

Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Geneva, 22 September 1995)
22. Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel, 10 December 1999)
23. Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Helsinki, 17 March 1992)
24. Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (London, 17 June 1999)

Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Geneva, 17 February 2004)
25. Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and to the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Kiev, 21 May 2003)

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26. Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Helsinki, 17 March 1992)
27. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York, 9 May 1992)
28. Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto, 11 December 1997)

Amendment to Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Nairobi, 17 November 2006)

29. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal, 29 January 2000)
30. Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (New York, 21 May 1997)
31. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus, Denmark, 25 June 1998)

Amendment to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Almaty, 27 May 2005)

Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Kiev, 21 May 2003)

32. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Stockholm, 22 May 2001)

Transit, customs and trade agreements of concern to land-locked and transit developing countries

33. Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring (New York, 4 June 1954)
34. Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972)
35. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975)
36. The International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982)
37. Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport (Geneva, 21 January 1994)
38. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (Geneva, 19 May 1956)
39. Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (Geneva, 5 July 1978)
40. Convention on Road Traffic (Vienna, 8 November 1968)

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41. Convention on Road Signs and Signals (Vienna, 8 November 1968)
42. Convention on Transit Trade of Land-locked States (New York, 8 July 1965)
43. United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts (New York, 23 November 2005)

Disarmament and penal matters

44. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III) (Geneva, 10 October 1980)

Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Geneva, 21 December 2001)

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Geneva, 3 May 1996)

Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, Entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons) (Vienna, 13 October 1995)

Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V) (Geneva, 28 November 2003)

45. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their destruction (Oslo, 18 September 1997)
46. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (New York, 10 September 1996)*
47. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Rome, 17 July 1998)
48. United Nations Convention against Corruption (New York, 31 October 2003)

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Privileges and immunities and the safety of United Nations and associated personnel

49. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (New York, 13 February 1946)
50. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (New York, 21 November 1947)
51. United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property (New York, 2 December 2004)
52. Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (New York, 9 December 1994)
53. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (New York, 8 December 2005)

31 March 2008



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