Geneva, 6-9 April 1992

RECORD OF DECISION

At the first meeting, on 6 April 1992, the following decisions were taken:

(a) The Preparatory Committee elected Ambassador Paul O'Sullivan of Australia as Chairman, and Ambassador Todor Dichev of Bulgaria and Ambassador Mounir Zahran of Egypt as Vice-Chairmen. These three officers composed the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee.

(b) The Preparatory Committee adopted its agenda as contained in document ENMOD/CONF.II/PC/2.

(c) The Preparatory Committee decided that it would take its decisions by consensus.

(d) The Preparatory Committee decided that the Second Review Conference would take place in Geneva from 14 to 25 September 1992.

(e) The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend to the Second Review Conference the draft rules of procedure contained in document ENMOD/CONF.II/PC/CPR.2 with the following changes:

- in Rules 5 and 8 the number "18" was inserted before the word "Vice-Presidents";

- in Rule 41, in the first line, after the word "Conference", insert "excluding that part of those meetings devoted to consideration of the agenda item on general debate;"

- in Rule 44, insert an additional paragraph as follows:

"(2) Any national liberation organization entitled by the General Assembly of the United Nations **/ to participate as an Observer in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly, all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly, and all international conferences convened under the auspices of other organs of the United Nations, may apply to the Secretary-General of the Conference for Observer status, which will be accorded on the decision of the Conference. Such a liberation organization shall be entitled to appoint officials to attend meetings of the Plenary other than those designated closed meetings, and to receive documents of the Conference. An Observer organization shall also be entitled to submit documents to the participants in the Conference."


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(f) The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend to the Second Review Conference the provisional agenda as contained in document ENMOD/CONF.II/PC/CRP.1.

(g) The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as Depository of the Convention, to transmit to the Member States of the United Nations which are not Parties to it, an invitation to consider adherence to the Convention prior to the opening of the Second Review Conference on 14 September 1992, with a view to advancing the objective of achieving universal adherence to the Convention.

(h) The Preparatory Committee decided that the General Committee of the Second Review Conference would be composed of the President, 18 Vice-Presidents, Chairman of the Drafting Committee and Chairman of the Credentials Committee and that the geographical distribution of those posts would be as follows: Africa 3; Asia 5; Eastern Europe 4; Latin America 3; and Western Europe and Other States 6. Decisions relating to the number of Vice-Presidents and the geographical distribution of posts are subject to confirmation by the Review Conference.

(i) The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit an updated information paper containing a summary of the negotiations leading to the conclusion of the Convention and of subsequent developments related to the Convention, particularly for the period from 1984 to 1992. The Committee further decided to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depository of the Convention, to submit a document containing a compilation of such official communications regarding the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Convention as he might have received. The Committee also decided to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make available to States Parties to the Convention the relevant documentation on environment and security from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The background documentation requested above should be circulated not later than two weeks before the opening of the Conference.

(j) The Preparatory Committee decided to invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint an official as Provisional Secretary-General of the Second Review Conference to discharge functions in connection with the Conference prior to its opening and such an appointment will be confirmed at the Conference.

(k) The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Secretariat to prepare a document containing the actual cost of the Preparatory Committee and a revised estimated cost of the Second Review Conference.