# 2. CONVENTION ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

# New York, 20 February 1957

11 August 1958 by the exchange of the said letters, in accordance with article 6. 11 August 1958, No. 4468. Signatories: 29. Parties: 74. United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 309, p. 65.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: REGISTRATION: STATUS: TEXT:

Note: The Convention was opened for signature pursuant to resolution 1040 (XI)<sup>1</sup> adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 29 January 1957.

| Participant Signatu         | re   | Accessio<br>Successi<br>Ratificat | on(d), | Participant               | Signatu | re   | Accessio<br>Successi<br>Ratificat | on(d), |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Albania                     |      | 27 Jul                            | 1960 a | Iceland                   |         |      | 18 Oct                            | 1977 a |
| Antigua and Barbuda         |      | 25 Oct                            | 1988 d | India                     | 15 May  | 1957 |                                   |        |
| Argentina                   |      | 10 Oct                            | 1963 a | Ireland                   | 24 Sep  | 1957 | 25 Nov                            | 1957   |
| Armenia                     |      | 18 May                            | 1994 a | Israel                    | 12 Mar  | 1957 | 7 Jun                             | 1957   |
| Australia                   |      | 14 Mar                            | 1961 a | Jamaica                   | 12 Mar  | 1957 | 30 Jul                            | 1964 d |
| Austria                     |      | 19 Jan                            | 1968 a | Jordan                    |         |      | 1 Jul                             | 1992 a |
| Azerbaijan                  |      | 16 Aug                            | 1996 a | Kazakhstan                |         |      | 28 Mar                            | 2000 a |
| Bahamas                     |      | 10 Jun                            | 1976 d | Kyrgyzstan                |         |      | 10 Feb                            | 1997 a |
| Barbados                    |      | 26 Oct                            | 1979 a | Latvia                    |         |      | 14 Apr                            | 1992 a |
| Belarus 7 Oct               | 1957 | 23 Dec                            | 1958   | Lesotho                   |         |      | 4 Nov                             | 1974 d |
| Belgium15 May               | 1972 |                                   |        | Liberia                   |         |      | 16 Sep                            | 2005 a |
| Bosnia and                  |      |                                   |        | Libyan Arab               |         |      |                                   |        |
| Herzegovina <sup>2</sup>    |      | 1 Sep                             | 1993 d | Jamahiriya                |         |      | •                                 | 1989 a |
| Brazil26 Jul                | 1966 | 4 Dec                             | 1968   | Luxembourg <sup>7,8</sup> | _       |      | [22 Jul                           | 1977 ] |
| Bulgaria                    |      | 22 Jun                            | 1960 a | Madagascar                | -       | 2002 |                                   |        |
| Cambodia11 Nov              |      |                                   |        | Malawi                    |         |      | 8 Sep                             | 1966 a |
| Canada20 Feb                | 1957 | 21 Oct                            | 1959   | Malaysia                  |         |      | 24 Feb                            | 1959 a |
| Chile                       | 1957 |                                   |        | Mali                      |         |      | 2 Feb                             | 1973 a |
| China <sup>3</sup> 20 Feb   | 1957 | 22 Sep                            | 1958   | Malta                     |         |      | 7 Jun                             | 1967 d |
| Colombia20 Feb              | 1957 |                                   |        | Mauritius                 |         |      | 18 Jul                            | 1969 d |
| Côte d'Ivoire               |      | 2 Nov                             | 1999 a | Mexico                    |         |      | 4 Apr                             | 1979 a |
| Croatia <sup>2</sup>        |      | 12 Oct                            | 1992 d | Montenegro <sup>9</sup>   |         |      | 23 Oct                            | 2006 d |
| Cuba20 Feb                  | 1957 | 5 Dec                             | 1957   | Netherlands <sup>10</sup> |         |      | [ 8 Aug                           |        |
| Cyprus                      |      | 26 Apr                            | 1971 d | New Zealand <sup>11</sup> |         | 1958 | 17 Dec                            | 1958   |
| Czech Republic <sup>4</sup> |      | 22 Feb                            | 1993 d | Nicaragua                 |         |      | 9 Jan                             | 1986 a |
| Denmark20 Feb               | 1957 | 22 Jun                            | 1959   | Norway                    | -       | 1957 | 20 May                            | 1958   |
| Dominican Republic20 Feb    | 1957 | 10 Oct                            | 1957   | Pakistan                  | •       | 1958 |                                   |        |
| Ecuador16 Jan               | 1958 | 29 Mar                            |        | Poland                    |         |      | 3 Jul                             | 1959 a |
| Fiji                        |      | 12 Jun                            | 1972 d | Portugal                  | 21 Feb  | 1957 |                                   |        |
| Finland                     |      | 15 May                            | 1968 a | Romania                   |         |      | 2 Dec                             | 1960 a |
| Germany <sup>5,6</sup>      |      | 7 Feb                             | 1974 a | Russian Federation        | -       | 1957 | 17 Sep                            | 1958   |
| Ghana                       |      | 15 Aug                            | 1966 a | Rwanda                    |         |      | 26 Sep                            | 2003 a |
| Guatemala20 Feb             | 1957 | 13 Jul                            | 1960   | Serbia <sup>2</sup>       |         |      | 12 Mar                            | 2001 d |
| Guinea19 Mar                | 1975 |                                   |        | Sierra Leone              |         |      | 13 Mar                            | 1962 d |
| Hungary 5 Dec               | 1957 | 3 Dec                             | 1959   | Singapore                 |         |      | 18 Mar                            | 1966 d |

| Participant Signature                          | e    | Accessio<br>Successi<br>Ratificat                      | con(d),                    | Participant   | Signatur | re     | Accession<br>Succession<br>Ratificat | on(d),           |
|--|------|--|----------------------------|---|----------|--------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Slovakia <sup>4</sup><br>Slovenia <sup>2</sup> |      | 28 May<br>6 Jul  | 1993 d<br>1992 d           | Uganda<br>Ukraine   |          | 1957   | 15 Apr<br>3 Dec                      | 1965 a<br>1958   |
| South Africa29 Jan Sri Lanka St. Lucia         | 1993 | <ul><li>17 Dec</li><li>30 May</li><li>14 Oct</li></ul> | 2002<br>1958 a<br>1991 d   | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>7</sup> | [20 Feb  | 1957 ] | [28 Aug                              | 1957 ]           |
| St. Vincent and the Grenadines Swaziland       |      | 27 Apr<br>18 Sep                                       | 1999 d<br>1970 a           | United Republic of Tanzania Uruguay                               |          | 1957   | 28 Nov                               | 1962 a           |
| Sweden 6 May The former Yugoslav Republic of   | 1957 | 13 May   | 1958                       | Venezuela (Bolivarian<br>Republic of)<br>Zambia                   |          |        | 31 May<br>22 Jan                     | 1983 a<br>1975 d |
| Macedonia  Trinidad and Tobago  Tunisia        |      | 20 Apr<br>11 Apr<br>24 Jan                             | 1994 d<br>1966 d<br>1968 a | Zimbabwe  |          |        | 1 Dec                                | 1998 d           |

# Declaration and Reservations (Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)

#### **ARGENTINA**

Article 7:

The Argentine Government expressly reserves the rights of the Republic with respect to the Islas Malvinas (Falkland Islands), the South Sandwich Islands and the lands included within the Argentine Antarctic Sector, declaring that they do not constitute a colony or possession of any nation but are part of Argentine territory and lie within its dominion and sovereignty. *Article 10:* 

The Argentine Government reserves the right not to submit disputes directly or indirectly linked with the territories under Argentine sovereignty to the procedure indicated in this article.

#### **BRAZIL**

"Reservation is made concerning application of article 10."

### CHILE

The Government of Chile makes a reservation with regard to article 10, in the sense that it does not accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice for the purpose of the settlement of disputes which may arise between Contracting States concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention.

#### **GUATEMALA**

Article 10 of the said Convention shall, by reason of constitutional requirements, be applied without prejudice to article 149, paragraph 3 (b) of the Constitution of the Republic.

#### INDIA

Reservation as to Article 10:

"Any dispute which may arise between any two or more Contracting States concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention which is not settled by negotiations shall with the consent of the parties to the dispute be referred to the International Court of Justice for decision unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement."

## TUNISIA

[Article 10]

For any dispute to be referred to the International Court of Justice, the agreement of all the parties to the dispute shall be necessary in every case.

#### **URUGUAY**

On behalf of Uruguay we hereby make a reservation to the provisions of article 3 which has a bearing on the application of the Convention. The Constitution of Uruguay does not authorize the granting of nationality to an alien unless he is the child of a Uruguayan father or mother, in which case he may become a natural citizen. This case apart, an alien who fulfils the constitutionality and legal conditions may be granted only legal citizenship, and not nationality.

#### VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)

[ See chapter XVI.1. ]

# Territorial Application

| Participant   | Date of receipt of the notification | Territories  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Australia   | 14 Mar 1961                         | All the non-metropolitan territories for the international relations of which Australia is responsible |
| Netherlands <sup>10</sup>   | 8 Aug 1966                          | Aruba and Netherlands Antilles   |
| New Zealand <sup>11</sup>   | 17 Dec 1958                         | The Cook Islands (including Niue), the Tokelau Islands, and the Trust Territory of Western Samoa       |
| United Kingdom of<br>Great Britain and<br>Northern Ireland <sup>7</sup> | 28 Aug 1957                         | Channel Islands and Isle of Man  |

# Notifications made under article 7 (2)

| Participant  | Date of receipt of the notification: | Territories:  |  |  |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland       | 18 Mar 1958                          | Aden, the Bahamas, Barbados, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, British Solomon Islands, British Somaliland, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Kenya, the Leeward Islands (Antigua, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis), the British Virgin Islands, Malta, Mauritius, North Borneo, St. Helena, Sarawak, the Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Swaziland, Tanganyika, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the Windward Islands (Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent), Zanzibar |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland       | 19 May 1958<br>                      | The Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland  |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom of Great<br>Britain and Northern<br>Ireland | 3 Nov 1960                           | Tonga   |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom of Great<br>Britain and Northern<br>Ireland | 1 Oct 1962                           | Brunei  |  |  |  |

## Notes:

"former Yugoslavia", "Slovenia", "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and "Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/3572), p. 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Convention on 27 March 1957 and 13 March 1959, respectively. See also note 1 under "Bosnia and Herzegovina", "Croatia",

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Signed and ratified on behalf of the Republic of China on 20 February 1957 and 22 September 1958, respectively. See note concerning signatures, ratifications, accessions, etc., on

behalf of China (note 1 under "China" in the "Historical Information" secton in the front matter of this volume).

In communications addressed to the Secretary-General with reference to the above-mentioned signature and/or ratification, the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of Czechoslovakia, Denmark, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia stated that, since their Governments did not recognize the Nationalist Chinese authorities as the Government of China, they could not regard the said signature or ratification as valid. The Permanent Missions of Czechoslovakia and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics further stated that the sole authorities entitled to act for China and the Chinese people in the United Nations and in international relations, and to sign, ratify, accede or denounce treaties, conventions and agreements on behalf of China, were the Government of the People's Republic of China and its duly appointed representatives.

In a note addressed to the Secretary-General, the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations stated that the Government of the Republic of China was the only legal Government which represented China and the Chinese people in international relations and that, therefore, the allegations made in the above-mentioned communications as to the lack of validity of the signature or ratification in question had no legal foundation whatever.

- Czechoslovakia had signed and ratified the Convention on September 1957 and 5 April 1962, respectively. See also note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.
- <sup>5</sup> The German Democratic Republic had acceded to the Convention with a reservation and a declaration on 27 December 1973. For the text of the reservation and the declaration, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 905, p. 76. See also note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.
- <sup>6</sup> See note 1 under "Germany" regarding Berlin (West) in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.
- On 24 December 1981, the Secretary-General received from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland a notification of denunciation of the said Convention:

The notification specifies that the denunciation is effected on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and of the following territories for the international relations of which the United Kingdom is responsible and to which the Convention was extended in accordance with the provisions of article 7: Bailiwick of Jersey, Bailiwick of Guernsey, Isle of Man, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena and Dependencies, Turks and Caicos Islands, State of Brunei, United Kingdom Sovereign Bases Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia in the Island of Cyprus.

In accordance with the provisions of article 9 (2) of the Convention, the denunciation will take effect one year after the date of receipt of the said notification, that is to say, on 24 December 1982.

- <sup>8</sup> On 12 July 2007, the Secretary-General received from the Government of Luxembourg a notification of denunciation under article 9 (1) of the Convention. In accordance with the provisions of article 9 (1) of the Convention, the denunciation will take effect one year after the date of receipt of the said notification, that is to say, on 12 July 2008.
- 9 See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.
- <sup>10</sup> See note 1 under "Netherlands" regarding Aruba/Nertherlands Antilles in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

On 16 January 1992, the Secretary-General received from the Government of the Netherlands a notification of denunciation (for the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba). In accordance with article 9 (1), the denunciation will take effect one year after the date of receipt of the said notification, i.e., on 16 January 1993.

See note 1 under "New Zealand" regarding Tokelau in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.