

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREAMBLE	21
PART I. INTRODUCTION	22
Article 1. Use of terms and scope	22
PART II. TERRITORIAL SEA AND CONTIGUOUS ZONE	23
SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS	23
Article 2. Legal status of the territorial sea, of the air space over the territorial sea and of its bed and subsoil	23
SECTION 2. LIMITS OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA	23
Article 3. Breadth of the territorial sea	23
Article 4. Outer limit of the territorial sea	23
Article 5. Normal baseline	23
Article 6. Reefs	23
Article 7. Straight baselines	24
Article 8. Internal waters	24
Article 9. Mouths of rivers	24
Article 10. Bays	24
Article 11. Ports	25
Article 12. Roadsteads	25
Article 13. Low-tide elevations	25
Article 14. Combination of methods for determining baselines	26
Article 15. Delimitation of the territorial sea between States with opposite or adjacent coasts	26
Article 16. Charts and lists of geographical coordinates	26
SECTION 3. INNOCENT PASSAGE IN THE TERRITORIAL SEA	26
SUBSECTION A. RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL SHIPS	26
Article 17. Right of innocent passage	26
Article 18. Meaning of passage	26
Article 19. Meaning of innocent passage	27
Article 20. Submarines and other underwater vehicles	27
Article 21. Laws and regulations of the coastal State relating to innocent passage	27
Article 22. Sea lanes and traffic separation schemes in the territorial sea	28
Article 23. Foreign nuclear-powered ships and ships carrying nuclear or other inherently	

SECTION 3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Article 202

Scientific and technical assistance to developing States

States shall, directly or through competent international organizations:

- (a) promote programmes of scientific, educational, technical and other assistance to developing States for the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the prevention, reduction and control of marine pollution. Such assistance shall include, *inter alia*:
 - (i) training of their scientific and technical personnel;
 - (ii) facilitating their participation in relevant international programmes;
 - (iii) supplying them with necessary equipment and facilities;
 - (iv) enhancing their capacity to manufacture such equipment;
 - (v) advice on and developing facilities for research, monitoring, educational and other programmes;
- (b) provide appropriate assistance, especially to developing States, for the minimization of the effects of major incidents which may cause serious pollution of the marine environment;
- (c) provide appropriate assistance, especially to developing States, concerning the preparation of environmental assessments.

Article 203

Preferential treatment for developing States

Developing States shall, for the purposes of prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the marine environment or minimization of its effects, be granted preference by international organizations in:

- (a) the allocation of appropriate funds and technical assistance; and
- (b) the utilization of their specialized services.

SECTION 4. MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Article 204

Monitoring of the risks or effects of pollution

1. States shall, consistent with the rights of other States, endeavour, as far as practicable, directly or through the competent international organizations, to observe, measure, evaluate and analyse, by recognized scientific methods, the risks or effects of pollution of the marine environment.

2. In particular, States shall keep under surveillance the effects of any activities which they permit or in which they engage in order to determine whether these activities are likely to pollute the marine environment.

Article 205

Publication of reports

States shall publish reports of the results obtained pursuant to article 204 or provide such reports at appropriate intervals to the competent international organizations, which should make them available to all States.

Article 206
Assessment of potential effects of activities

When States have reasonable grounds for believing that planned activities under their jurisdiction or control may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, they shall, as far as practicable, assess the potential effects of such activities on the marine environment and shall communicate reports of the results of such assessments in the manner provided in article 205.

**SECTION 5. INTERNATIONAL RULES AND NATIONAL
LEGISLATION
TO PREVENT, REDUCE AND CONTROL
POLLUTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT**

Article 207
Pollution from land-based sources

1. States shall adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources, including rivers, estuaries, pipelines and outfall structures, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.

2. States shall take other measures as may be necessary to prevent, reduce and control such pollution.

3. States shall endeavour to harmonize their policies in this connection at the appropriate regional level.

4. States, acting especially through competent international organizations or diplomatic conference, shall endeavour to establish global and regional rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources, taking into account characteristic regional features, the economic capacity of developing States and their need for economic development. Such rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures shall be re-examined from time to time as necessary.

5. Laws, regulations, measures, rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 shall include those designed to minimize, to the fullest extent possible, the release of toxic, harmful or noxious substances, especially those which are persistent, into the marine environment.

Article 208
Pollution from seabed activities subject to national jurisdiction

1. Coastal States shall adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment arising from or in connection with seabed activities subject to their jurisdiction and from artificial islands, installations and structures under their jurisdiction, pursuant to articles 60 and 80.

2. States shall take other measures as may be necessary to prevent, reduce and control such pollution.

3. Such laws, regulations and measures shall be no less effective than international rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.