UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UNIVERSAL NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW
Eleventh session
New York, 30 May 1978

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA

Note by the Secretary-General


2. Seventy-eight States were represented at the Conference. One State, eight intergovernmental and seven non-governmental organizations sent observers to the Conference.

3. The Conference elected Mr. R. Herber (Federal Republic of Germany) as President, Mr. M. Chafik (Egypt) as Chairman of the First Committee, Mr. D. Popov (Bulgaria) as Chairman of the Second Committee, Mr. R. K. Dixit (India) as Chairman of the Drafting Committee, and Mrs. H. H. Yusof (Malaysia) as Chairman of the Credentials Committee. The Conference was serviced by the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.


5. The Convention was opened for signature at the concluding meeting of the Conference on 31 March 1978 and, on that day, signed by 14 States. The Convention will remain open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 30 April 1979, after which date it will be open for accession, in accordance with its provisions.
Revision conferences

6. The Convention provides for a conference of the Contracting States for revising or amending it; such conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the depositary of the Convention at the request of not less than one-third of the Contracting States (art. 32).

7. The Convention also makes provision for a revision conference for the exclusive purpose of altering the limitation amounts (in case of a significant change in their real value) and the unit of account or monetary unit defined in article 26; such conference shall be convened by the depositary when not less than one fourth of the Contracting States so request (art. 33).