

United Nations Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE: LA 41 TR/2022/DN

The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the United Nations Legal Counsel presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and the Heads of international organizations and has the honour to transmit the following concerning the registration and publication of treaties and international agreements under Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the United Nations General Assembly Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter.

All Member States of the United Nations have, under Article 102 of the Charter, the legal obligation to register with the Secretariat, as soon as possible, all treaties and international agreements in force that they have entered into after 24 October 1945, the date of entry into force of the Charter. Pursuant to Article 102, the Secretariat is responsible for the publication of registered treaties and international agreements.

The Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter were adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1946, during its first session. Since their adoption and until 2021, the Regulations were amended on four occasions, namely in 1949, 1950, 1978 and 2018,¹ with a view to reflecting changes that have taken place over the years in treaty-making practice of the international community and recognizing the role that new technologies have more recently played in the registration and publication process. The Regulations set out the procedural requirements for registration of treaties and treaty actions by Member States and their publication by the Secretariat under Article 102, as well as the requirements for registration and “filing and recording” of treaties and treaty actions by non-member States of the United Nations and international organizations.

During its seventy-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution [76/120](#) of 9 December 2021 on “Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework”, which includes as an annex newly amended Regulations that will apply as from 1 February 2022.

This fifth amendment updates the Regulations with respect to the registration of treaties and international agreements which are provisionally applied; clarifies the registration process if a treaty designates one or more depositaries; and promotes the use of technology to make texts of treaties and international agreements available online soon after registration, along with their translations when available. Furthermore, in order to expedite the publication of the United Nations

¹ See General Assembly resolutions 364 B (IV) of 1 December 1949, 482 (V) of 12 December 1950, 33/141 A of 19 December 1978 and 73/210 of 20 December 2018.

Treaty Series, the amendment allows Member States to submit courtesy translations in any of the six official languages of the Organization and broadens the categories of treaties subject to limited publication.

General Assembly resolution [76/120](#) and an updated list of registration requirements for hard-copy and electronic submissions for both bilateral and multilateral treaties are annexed to this Note. Such list is also available electronically on the Treaty Section website.²

The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and the Heads of international organizations the assurances of his highest consideration.


 27 January 2022

² https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?path=Publication/NV/Page1_en.xml