No. 4

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946

Official texts in English and in French. This Convention was registered ex officio by the Secretariat of the United Nations on 14 December 1946.

CONVENTION SUR LES PRIVILÈGES ET IMMUNITÉS DES NATIONS UNIES

Approuvée par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies le 13 février 1946

Textes officiels anglais et français. Cette Convention a été enregistrée d'office par le Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies le. 14 décembre 1946.

i8 United Nations Treaty Series

so United Nations — Treaty Series 1946-1947

(c) Exempt from customs duties and prohibitions and restrictions
on imports and exports in respect o£ its publications.

SECTION 8. While the United Nations will not, as a general rule, claim exemption from excise duties and from taxes on the sale of

22 United Nations Treaty Series 1946-1947

(c) The right to use codes and to receive papers or correspond
ence by courier or in sealed bags;

(d) Exemption in respect of themselves and their spouses from immigration restrictions, aliens registration or national service obliga tions in the state they are visiting or through which they are passing
in the exercise of their functions;

(e) The same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restric tions as are accorded to representatives of foreign governments on tem porary official missions;
(/) The same immunities and facilities in respect of their per sonal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys, and also;

(g) Such other privileges, immunities and facilities not incon
sistent with the foregoing as diplomatic envoys enjoy, except that they shall have no right to claim exemption from customs duties on goods imported (otherwise than as part of their personal baggage) or from excise duties or sales taxes.

SECTION 12. In order to secure, for the representatives of Members to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and to conferences convened by the United Nations, complete freedom of speech and ind pendance in the discharge of their duties, the immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in discharg ing their duties shall continue to be accorded, notwithstanding that the per sons concerned are no longer the representatives of Members.

SECTION 13. Where the incidence of any form of taxation depends upon residence, periods during which the representatives of Members to the prin cipal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and to conferences con vened by the United Nations are present in a state for the discharge of their duties shall not be considered as periods of residence.

SECTION 14. Privileges and immunities are accorded to the representa tives of Members not for the personal benefit of the irdividuals themselves, but in order to safeguard the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the United Nations. Consequently a Member not only has the right but is under a duty to waive the immunity of its representative in any case where in the opinion of the Member the immunity would impede the course of justice, and it can be waived without prejudice to the purpose for which the immunity is accorded.
No. 4

24 United Nations — Treaty Series 1946-1947

SECTION 15. The provisions of Sections n, 12 and 13 are not applicable as between a representative and the authorities o£ the state of which he is a national or of which he is or has been the representative.

SECTION 16. In this article the expression "representatives" shall be deemed to include all delegates, deputy delegates, advisers, technical experts and secretaries of delegations.

Article V

OFFICIALS

SECTION 17. The Secretary-General will specify the categories of officials to which the provisions of this Article and Article VII shall apply. He shall submit these categories to the General Assembly. Thereafter these cate gories shall be communicated to the Governments of all Members. The names of the officials included in these categories shall from time to time be made known to the Governments of Members.

SECTION 18. Officials of the United Nations shall:

(a) Be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or
written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity;
(6) Be exempt from taxation on the salaries and emoluments
paid to them by the United Nations;
(c) Be immune from national service obligations;
(d) Be immune, together with their spouses and relatives depend
ent on them, from immigration restrictions and alien registration;

(e) Be accorded the same privileges in respect of exchange facili
ties as are accorded to the officials of comparable ranks forming part of diplomatic missions to the Government concerned;

(/) Be given, together with their spouses and relatives dependent
on them, the, same repatriation facilities in time of international crisis
as diplomatic envoys;
(g) Have the right to import free of duty their furniture and
effects at the time of first taking up their post in the' country in question.

SECTION 19. In addition to the immunities and privileges specified in Section 18, th 'Secretary-General and all Assistant Secretaries-General shall be accorded in respect of themselves, their spouses and minor children, the
No. 4

28 United Nations — Treaty Series 1946-1947

(e) The Same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restric
tions as are accorded to representatives of foreign governments on tem porary official missions;
(/) The same immunities and facilities in respect of their per
sonal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys.

SECTION 23. Privileges and immunities are granted to experts in the interests of the United Nations and not for the personal benefit of the indi viduals themselves. The Secretary-General shall have the right and the duty to waive the immunity of any expert in any case where, in his opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice and it can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the United Nations.

Article VII

UNITED NATIONS LAISSEZ-PASSER

SECTION 24. The United Nations may issue United Nations laissez-passer to its officials. These laissez-passer shall be recognized and accepted as valid travel documents by the authorities of Members, taking into account the provisions of Section 25.

SECTION 25. Applications for visas (where required) from the holders of United Nations laissez-passer, when accompanied by a certificate that they are travelling on the business of the United Nations, shall be dealt with as speedily as possible. In addition, such persons shall be granted facilities for speedy travel.

SECTION 26. Similar facilities to those specified in Section 25 shall be accorded to experts and other persons who, though not the holders of United Nations laissez-passer, have a certificate that they are travelling on the busi ness of the United Nations.

SECTION 27. The Secretary-General, Assistant Secretaries*General and Directors travelling on United Nations laissez-passer on the business of the United Nations shall be granted the same facilities as are accorded to diplo matic envoys.

SECTION 28. The provisions of this article may be applied to the com parable officials of specialized agencies if the agreements for relationship made under Article 63 of the Charter so provide.

No. 4

go United Nations — Treaty Series 1946-1947

Article

g2 United Nations — Treaty Series 1946-1947

Nations, or until a revised general convention has been approved by the General Assembly and that Member has become a party to this revised convention.

SECTION 36. The Secretary-General may conclude with any Member or Members supplementary agreements adjusting the provisions of this conven 36(the) to. Tr 99.5 Tz (Mr 103280a44(this) Tj 0 Td 96.8 Tz (the103280a44 93280

No. 4

UNITED NATIONS and LEAGUE OF NATIONS