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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions  
affecting Transport

Informal ad-hoc expert group on Customs

Rail Transit based on the SMGS

Consignment Note

(11 February 2002)

**DRAFT CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS TRANSIT PROCEDURES  
FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY RAIL UNDER COVER OF SMGS  
CONSIGNMENT NOTES**

**Overview of Comments received to the draft**

**Note by the secretariat**<sup>1/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> The document containing the original comments submitted by Contracting Parties will be contained in Informal document No. 4 (2002) and will be distributed at the meeting.

The present document has been prepared by the UNECE secretariat in order to provide an overview of the comments received by the secretariat in reply to the letter of the Executive Secretary of the UNECE, dated 30 May 2001, requesting Contracting States to the COTIF Convention and the SMGS Agreement to provide proposals or comments to the two draft Conventions on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail contained in document TRANS/2001/10.

The objective of the document is to provide a basis for discussion.

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**COMMENTS TO TRANS/2001/10, SECTION C**  
**DRAFT CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS TRANSIT PROCEDURES FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY RAIL**  
**UNDER COVER OF CIM CONSIGNMENT NOTES**

| Article                   | Text of draft Conventions   | Comments received  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Article 8 4               | 4. In accordance with the responsibilities stipulated in paragraphs 1 to 3, the railway companies (railways) shall be liable to the competent authorities of their country, in accordance with their national legislation, for any Customs payments which may become due as a result of an infringement or irregularity committed in the course of or in connection with the underlying transit operation | <u>TURKEY</u><br><i>[DELETE]</i>   |
| Article 11 1. and Annex 1 | 1. Railway companies shall ensure that consignments carried by rail under the international Customs transit procedure carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Convention are identified by a label bearing a pictogramme, a specimen of which is given in Annex 1   | <u>TURKEY</u><br>The model label is considered to small and thus not suitable to be affixed to railway wagons.   |
| Article 11 2.             | 2. The labels shall be affixed to the Consignment Note and the relevant railway wagon in the case of a full wagon load or to the package or packages in other cases   | <u>TURKEY</u><br><i>[DELETE]</i>   |
| Article 16 2.             | 2. The office of destination shall forthwith return sheet 2 to the railway company after stamping it and shall retain sheet 3.  | <u>TURKEY</u><br><i>2. The Customs office of destination shall forthwith return the consignment note to the railway company after stamping sheet 3 and shall retain sheet 2 of the freight bill.</i> |

**COMMENTS TO TRANS/2001/10, SECTION D**  
**DRAFT CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS TRANSIT PROCEDURES FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY RAIL**  
**UNDER COVER OF SMGS CONSIGNMENT NOTES**

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
|---------------|--|--|
| Article 1 (a) | (a) The term “international Customs transit” shall mean a Customs procedure under which goods are carried across one or more frontiers under Customs controls from a Customs office of departure to a Customs office of destination; | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(a) The term “international Customs transit” shall mean a procedure under which goods are carried across <i>the frontiers of one or more States</i> under Customs controls from a Customs office of departure to a Customs office of destination; |
| Article 1 (b) | (b) The term “SMGS Agreement” shall mean the Agreement on International Goods Transport by Rail which entered into force on 1 November 1951;   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(b) The term “SMGS Agreement” shall mean the Agreement on International Goods Transport by Rail <i>of</i> 1 November 1951;  |
| Article 1 (c) | (c) The term “Consignment Note” shall mean an SMGS Consignment Note subject to the Agreement on International Goods Transport by Rail; the Consignment Note may consist of a system of electronic exchanges of data;                 | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(c) The term “Consignment Note” shall mean an SMGS Consignment Note <i>as provided for by</i> the <i>SMGS</i> ; the Consignment Note may consist of a system of electronic exchanges of data;   |
| Article 1 (f) | (f) The term “country” shall mean any State which is a Contracting Party to this Convention;   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(f) The term “ <i>third</i> country” shall mean <i>a</i> State which is <i>not</i> a Contracting Party to this Convention;  |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions   | Comments received  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Article 1 (g) | (g) The term “competent authorities” shall mean the Customs authority or any other authority responsible for applying this Convention   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(g) The term “competent authorities” shall mean the Customs authority or any other authority <i>designated by a Party to monitor the implementation of</i> this Convention;   |
| Article 1 (i) | (i) The term “Customs office of destination” shall mean any Customs office in a country where an international Customs transit operation ends in respect of all or part of a consignment;                 | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(i) The term “Customs office of destination” shall mean <i>a</i> Customs office in a country where an international Customs transit operation ends in respect of all or part of a consignment;  |
| Article 1 (j) | (j) The term “Customs office of transit” shall mean a Customs office through which a consignment enters or leaves the territory of a Contracting Party during an international Customs transit operation. | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(j) The term “Customs office of transit” shall mean a Customs office through which a consignment enters or leaves the territory of a Contracting Party during an international Customs transit operation. <i>The Customs office of transit may be the same as the Customs office of destination or the Customs office of departure;</i> |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
|---------------|--|--|
| Article 1 (k) | (k) The term “Customs payments” shall mean Customs duties and all other duties, taxes, fees and other charges which are collected on, or in connection with, the importation or exportation of goods, but not including fees and charges limited in amount to the approximate cost of services rendered; | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(k) The term “payments” shall mean Customs duties and all other duties, taxes, fees and other charges which are collected on, or in connection with, the importation or exportation of goods, <i>with the exception of fees payable for specific categories of services</i> ; |
| Article 1 (l) | (l) The term “principal” shall mean a which, if need be by means of an authorized representative, manifests through a declaration designed for this purpose a willingness to carry out an international Customs transit operation;   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>(l) The term “principal” shall mean a <i>private individual or legal entity</i> which, if need be by means of an authorized representative <i>undertakes to carry out</i> an international Customs transit operation;   |
| Article 2     |  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br><b>[Editorial change only]</b>  |
| Article 3     | <b>SCOPE</b><br>Each Contracting Party shall accept the Consignment Note used in accordance with the provisions of this Convention as a Customs transit document.  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br><b>SCOPE</b><br><b>This Convention shall apply to the carriage of goods under cover of a Consignment Note accepted by each Contracting Party and used in accordance with the provisions of this Convention as a Customs transit document.</b>                                 |

| Article      | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
|--------------|--|--|
| Article 5    | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LEGAL VALUE</b></p> <p>1. A Consignment Note used in accordance with this Convention and identification measures taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting Party shall have the same legal effect in the other Contracting Parties as a Consignment Note used in accordance with the rules and identification measures taken by each Contracting Party's own competent authorities.</p> <p>2. Findings of the competent authorities of one Contracting Party made when inspections are carried out under this Convention shall have the same probative force in the other Contracting Parties as findings of each Contracting Party's own competent authorities.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LEGAL VALUE</b></p> <p>1. A Consignment Note used in accordance with this Convention and identification measures taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting Party shall have the same legal effect in the other Contracting Parties as a Consignment Note used in accordance with the rules and identification measures taken by each Contracting Party's own competent authorities.</p> |
| Article 6 1. | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUTUAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>1. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall communicate to one another, as far as their laws, all information available to them which might contribute to the satisfactory application of this Convention.</p>  | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUTUAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>1. The competent authorities of the [editorial change in <b>Russian only</b>] Contracting Parties shall communicate to one another, <i>in accordance with their legislation</i>, all information available to them which might contribute to the satisfactory application of this Convention.</p>  |

| Article      | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
|--------------|--|--|
| Article 6 2. | <p>2. Where necessary, the competent authorities shall communicate to one another all findings, documents, reports, records of proceedings and information relating to transit operations carried out under the cover of a Consignment Note, and to infringements and irregularities which have occurred in the course of or in connection with such operations.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>2. Where necessary, the competent authorities <i>of the Contracting Parties</i> shall communicate to one another all findings, documents, reports, records of proceedings and information relating to transit operations carried out under the cover of a Consignment Note, and to infringements and irregularities which have occurred in the course of or in connection with such operations.</p>  |
| Article 7 1. | <p>1. The railway companies (railways) of each Contracting Party shall for control purposes supply the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties in which they are established with copies of the transport documents which they have at their disposal.</p>  | <p><u>REPUBLIC OF BELARUS</u></p> <p>1. <b>Transport documents (consignment notes) shall contain at least goods' particulars necessary for purposes of control by competent authorities.</b> The railway companies (railways) of each Contracting Party shall for control purposes supply the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties in which they are established with copies of the transport documents which they have at their disposal.</p> <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>1. The railway companies (railways) of each Contracting Party shall for control purposes supply the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties in which they are established with copies of the transport documents which they have at their disposal <i>and the required number of additional copies of freight bills as documentation enabling the competent authorities to control the proper conduct of international Customs transit operations.</i></p> |



| Article      | Text of draft Conventions   | Comments received   |
|--------------|---|---|
| Article 7.2  | 2. Railway companies (railways) must arrange to keep the transport documents which they have at their disposal for at least three years.  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>2. Railway companies (railways) must arrange to keep the transport documents which they have at their disposal for at least <i>five</i> years.   |
| Article 8 1. | 1. A railway company (railway) which accepts goods for carriage under international Customs transit procedures shall be a principal and shall as such be responsible to the competent authorities of the Contracting Party whose territory is entered in the course of such carriage for the proper conduct of the international Customs transit operation.   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>1. A railway company (railway) which accepts goods for carriage <i>at a point of departure</i> under international Customs transit procedures shall be a principal and shall as such be responsible to the competent authorities of the Contracting Party whose territory is entered in the course of such carriage for the proper conduct of the international Customs transit operation.   |
| Article 8 2. | 2. Where a consignment is accepted for carriage from a railway company (railway) of a third country, the railway company (railway) which takes over the consignment under international Customs transit procedures shall when that consignment enters the territory of the Contracting Parties become a principal and be responsible to the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties whose territory is entered in the course of such carriage for the proper conduct of the international Customs transit operation. | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>2. Where a consignment is accepted for carriage from a railway company (railway) of a third country, the <i>first</i> railway company (railway) <i>of the Contracting Party</i> which <i>subsequently</i> takes over the consignment under international Customs transit procedures shall when that consignment enters the territory of the Contracting Parties become a principal and be responsible to the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties whose territory is entered in the course of such carriage for the proper conduct of the international Customs transit operation. |

| Article      | Text of draft Conventions   | Comments received  |
|--------------|---|--|
| Article 8 3. | <p>3. The railway companies (railways) of the Contracting Parties shall be jointly and severally responsible with the railway companies (railways) referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 to the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties for the proper conduct of international Customs transit operations entering the territories of the said Contracting Parties.</p>                                     | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>3. The railway companies (railways) of the Contracting Parties shall be jointly and severally responsible with the railway companies (railways) referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 <i>of this article</i> to the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties for the proper conduct of international Customs transit operations entering the territories of the said Contracting Parties.</p>  |
| Article 8 4. | <p>4. In accordance with the responsibilities stipulated in paragraphs 1 to 3, the railway companies (railways) shall be liable to the competent authorities of their country, in accordance with their national legislation, for any Customs payments which may become due as a result of an infringement or irregularity committed in the course of or in connection with the underlying transit operation.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>4. In accordance with paragraphs 1 to 3 <i>of this article</i>, the railway companies (railways) shall be liable to the competent authorities of their country, in accordance with their national legislation, for any Customs payments which may become due as a result of an infringement or irregularity committed in the course of or in connection with the underlying transit operation.</p> |

| Article    | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
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| Article 9  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXEMPTION FROM DUTIES AND TAXES</b></p> <p>A railway company (railway) responsible for the proper conduct of an international Customs transit operation in accordance with the provisions of this Convention shall be exempted from Customs payments in relation to goods which:</p> <p>(a) Have been destroyed as a result of <u>force majeure</u> or unforeseeable circumstances, duly established;</p> <p>(b) Are recognized as missing for reasons deriving from their nature and characteristics, including natural wear or shrinkage under normal conditions of transport.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXEMPTION FROM DUTIES AND TAXES</b></p> <p>A railway company (railway) responsible for the proper conduct of an international Customs transit operation in accordance with the provisions of this Convention shall be exempted from liability, including Customs payments <i>in the event of the loss or destruction of goods in carriage as a result of <u>force majeure</u> or unforeseeable circumstances, duly established, and natural wear or shrinkage under normal conditions of transport and storage.</i></p> |
| Article 10 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GUARANTEE WAIVER</b></p> <p>For the purposes of applying this Convention, the railway companies (railways) of the Contracting Parties shall be exempted from the obligation to furnish a guarantee.</p>  | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GUARANTEE WAIVER</b></p> <p>For the purposes of applying this Convention, the railway companies (railways) of the Contracting Parties shall be exempted from the obligation to furnish a guarantee <i>to the competent authorities, unless otherwise provided for by the national legislation of the Contracting Parties.</i></p>   |

| Article    | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|------------|--|---|
| Article 12 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AMENDMENT OF THE CARRIAGE CONTRACT</b></p> <p>Railway companies (railways) shall not be permitted to modify a carriage contract without prior agreement from Customs at the point where the contract is modified.</p>  | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AMENDMENT OF THE CARRIAGE CONTRACT</b></p> <p>Railway companies (railways) shall not be permitted to modify a carriage contract without prior agreement from Customs at the point where the contract is modified.</p> <p><i>Customs at the point where the contract is modified means the Customs office in whose jurisdiction the railway station where the movement of goods has been interrupted with a view to modifying the carriage contract is located.</i></p> |
| Article 13 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORMALITIES AT THE CUSTOMS OFFICE OF DEPARTURE</b></p> <p>At the start of a transport operation the Consignment Note shall be presented to Customs at the office of departure together with the documents required for the purpose of completing formalities and controls.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORMALITIES AT THE CUSTOMS OFFICE OF DEPARTURE</b></p> <p>At the start of a transport operation the Consignment Note shall be presented to Customs at the office of departure together with the documents required for the purpose of completing formalities and controls <i>in accordance with national legislation.</i></p>  |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Article 14    | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IDENTIFICATION MEASURES</b></p> <p>As a general rule, and having regard to identification measures applied by the railway company (railway), customs at the office of departure shall not seal the wagons or the packages.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IDENTIFICATION MEANS</b></p> <p>As a general rule, and having regard to identification <i>means</i> applied by the railway company (railway), Customs at the office of departure <i>may</i> not seal the wagons or the packages.</p>   |
| Article 15 1. | <p>1. Pursuant to this Convention, no formalities shall be carried out at Customs offices of transit.</p>  | <p><u>REPUBLIC OF BELARUS</u></p> <p>1. <b>Goods carried under the Convention shall not as a general rule be subject to examination at Customs offices <u>en route</u>. However, to prevent abuse, competent authorities of countries <u>en route</u> may in exceptional cases, and particularly when irregularity is suspected, carry out examination of the goods.</b></p> <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>Pursuant to this Convention, <i>a Consignment Note shall be used as a Customs transit document for the processing of goods at a Customs office of transit.</i></p> |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Article 15 2. | 2. The transport documents provided for in article 7 shall be treated by the competent authorities as documents enabling them to check the proper conduct of transit operations.                                       | <p><u>REPUBLIC OF BELARUS</u></p> <p>2. The transport documents provided for in article 7 shall be <i>considered</i> by the competent authorities as documents enabling them to check the proper conduct of transit operations.</p> <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>[Delete]</p>              |
| Article 16 1  | 1. The railway company (railway) carrying out the transport operation in the country of destination shall submit to the Customs office of destination the Consignment Note and an additional copy of the freight bill. | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p><i>1. Upon completion of the international Customs transit procedure, the goods and vehicles shall be submitted by the railway company (railway) to the Customs office of destination together with the Consignment Note and the transport documents.</i></p> |
| Article 16 2. | 2. The Customs office of destination shall forthwith return the Consignment Note to the railway company (railway) after stamping sheet 2 and shall retain the additional copy of the freight bill.                     | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>2. The Customs office of destination, <i>having duly completed the formalities of the international Customs transit procedure</i>, shall forthwith return the Consignment Note to the railway company (railway).</p>  |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions   | Comments received  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Article 17 1. | 1. Where an infringement or irregularity is committed in the course of or in connection with an international Customs transit procedure carried out under this Convention Customs payments, if any, must be made in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Contracting Party in the territory of which the infringement or irregularity was committed. | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>1. Where an infringement or irregularity is committed in the course of or in connection with an international Customs transit procedure carried out under this Convention, <i>any</i> Customs payments <i>due</i> , must be made in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Contracting Party in the territory of which the infringement or irregularity was committed. |
| Article 17 2. | 2. Where it is not possible to determine the territory in which an infringement or irregularity has been committed, it shall be deemed to have been committed in the territory of the Contracting Party where it was discovered.  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>2. Where it is not possible to determine the territory <i>of the country</i> in which an infringement or irregularity has been committed, it shall be deemed to have been committed in the territory of the Contracting Party where it was discovered.  |
| Article 18    | This Convention shall not prevent the application of additional facilities which Contracting Parties grant or may wish to grant either by unilateral provisions or by virtue of bilateral or multilateral agreements provided that such facilities do not impede the application of the provisions of this Convention.  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>This Convention shall not prevent the application of additional facilities which Contracting Parties grant or may wish to grant either by unilateral provisions or by virtue of bilateral or multilateral agreements provided that such facilities do not impede the <i>proper</i> application of the provisions of this Convention.  |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Article 19    | The provisions of this Convention may be adapted, by means of bilateral or multilateral agreements between Contracting Parties, to allow the use of a system of electronic exchanges of data instead of the Consignment Note, provided that the adaptations agreed upon do not impede the implementation of the provisions of this Convention. | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p><i>The Contracting Parties may, on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements designed to expedite Customs control at Customs offices of transit, organize electronic exchanges of the data contained in the Consignment Note and transport documents.</i></p>  |
| Article 20    | The Explanatory Notes set out in Annex 2 describe certain recommended practices and interpret certain provisions of this Convention. They constitute an integral part of the Convention. They do not modify the provisions of this Convention, but merely make their contents, meaning and scope more precise.                                 | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>The Explanatory Notes <i>to this Convention</i> describe certain recommended practices and interpret certain provisions of this Convention. They constitute an integral part of the Convention. They do not modify the provisions of this Convention, but merely make their contents, meaning and scope more precise.</p> |
| Article 22 1. |  | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p><b>[Editorial change only]</b></p>  |
| Article 22 2. | 2. This Convention shall enter into force for all additional States referred to in article 21, paragraphs 1 and 2, six months after the date of signature without reservations concerning ratification or of deposit of instruments of ratification or accession.  | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>2. This Convention shall enter into force for <i>the other</i> States referred to in article 21, paragraphs 1 and 2, six months after the date of signature without reservations concerning ratification or of deposit of instruments of ratification or accession.</p>   |



| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Article 23 1. | 1. Any Contracting Party may denounce this Convention by] so notifying the depositary.                                       | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>1. Any Contracting Party may <b>withdraw from</b> this Convention by [ <b>editorial change in Russian only</b> ] so notifying the depositary <i>no later than 15 months after the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of denunciation.</i>   |
| Article 23 2  | 2. Denunciation shall take effect 15 months after the date of receipt by the depositary of the notification of denunciation. | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br><b>[Delete]</b>  |
| Article 25 9. |  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>9. Proposals shall be put [ <b>editorial change in Russian only</b> ] to the vote. Each Contracting Party represented at the meeting shall have one vote. Proposals other than proposed amendments shall be adopted by the Committee by a majority of those present and voting. Proposed amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. |

| Article       | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Article 26 1. | 1. Any dispute between two or more Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention shall , insofar as possible, be settled by direct negotiation between them. | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>1. Any dispute between two or more Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention shall be settled by direct negotiation between them.  |
| Article 27 3. |  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>3. Except as provided for under article 28, any recommended amendment communicated in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article shall enter into force with respect to all Contracting Parties 3 months after the expiry of a period of 18 months following the date of communication of the recommended amendment if no objection to the recommended amendment has been notified during that period to the depositary by a <b>[editorial change in Russian only]</b> Contracting Party. |
| Article 29 1. | 1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated as the depositary of this Convention.   | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations <i>shall be</i> the depositary of this Convention.  |
| Article 29 2. |  | <u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u><br>2. The functions of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as <b>[editorial change in Russian only]</b> depositary shall be as set out in Part VII of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, concluded at Vienna on 23 May 1969.   |

| Article    | Text of draft Conventions  | Comments received  |
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| Article 30 | <p>In accordance with article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, this Convention shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations.</p> <p>IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.</p> <p>DONE at Geneva, this ....., in a single copy in the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, the six texts being equally authentic.</p> | <p><u>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</u></p> <p>In accordance with article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, this Convention shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations.</p> <p>DONE at Geneva, this ....., in a single copy in the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, <i>all</i> texts being equally authentic.</p> |