

CHAPTER IX

HEALTH

1. CONSTITUTION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

New York, 22 July 1946

ENTRY INTO FORCE:
REGISTRATION:
STATUS:
TEXT:

7 April 1948, in accordance with article 80.
7 April 1948, No. 221.
Signatories: 59. Parties: 194.
United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 14, p. 185 (with regard to the text of subsequent amendments, see further under each series of amendments).

Note: The Constitution was drawn up by the International Health Conference, which had been convened pursuant to resolution I (I)¹ of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, adopted on 15 February 1946. The Conference was held at New York from 19 June to 22 July 1946. In addition to the Constitution, the Conference drew up the Final Act, the Arrangements for the Establishment of an Interim Commission of the World Health Organization and the Protocol concerning the *Office international d'hygiène publique*, for the text of which, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 9, p. 3.

<i>Participant</i> ^{2,3,4}	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Acceptance(A)</i>	<i>Participant</i> ^{2,3,4}	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Acceptance(A)</i>
Afghanistan.....		19 Apr 1948 A	Bulgaria	22 Jul 1946	9 Jun 1948 A
Albania.....	22 Jul 1946	26 May 1947 A	Burkina Faso.....		4 Oct 1960 A
Algeria		8 Nov 1962 A	Burundi		22 Oct 1962 A
Andorra.....		15 Jan 1997 A	Cabo Verde.....		5 Jan 1976 A
Angola		15 May 1976 A	Cambodia.....		17 May 1950 A
Antigua and Barbuda.....		12 Mar 1984 A	Cameroon.....		6 May 1960 A
Argentina	22 Jul 1946	22 Oct 1948 A	Canada	22 Jul 1946	29 Aug 1946 A
Armenia		4 May 1992 A	Central African Republic.....		20 Sep 1960 A
Australia.....	22 Jul 1946	2 Feb 1948 A	Chad.....		1 Jan 1961 A
Austria	22 Jul 1946	30 Jun 1947 A	Chile.....	22 Jul 1946	15 Oct 1948 A
Azerbaijan.....		2 Oct 1992 A	China ^{4,5,6}		22 Jul 1946 s
Bahamas.....		1 Apr 1974 A	Colombia	22 Jul 1946	14 May 1959 A
Bahrain.....		2 Nov 1971 A	Comoros.....		9 Dec 1975 A
Bangladesh.....		19 May 1972 A	Congo.....		26 Oct 1960 A
Barbados		25 Apr 1967 A	Cook Islands		9 May 1984 A
Belarus	22 Jul 1946	7 Apr 1948 A	Costa Rica.....	22 Jul 1946	17 Mar 1949 A
Belgium	22 Jul 1946	25 Jun 1948 A	Côte d'Ivoire		28 Oct 1960 A
Belize.....		23 Aug 1990 A	Croatia		11 Jun 1992 A
Benin.....		20 Sep 1960 A	Cuba.....	22 Jul 1946	9 May 1950 A
Bhutan.....		8 Mar 1982 A	Cyprus.....		16 Jan 1961 A
Bolivia (Plurinational State of).....	22 Jul 1946	23 Dec 1949 A	Czech Republic ⁷		22 Jan 1993 A
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....		10 Sep 1992 A	Democratic People's Republic of Korea....		19 May 1973 A
Botswana		26 Feb 1975 A	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		24 Feb 1961 A
Brazil	22 Jul 1946	2 Jun 1948 A	Denmark	22 Jul 1946	19 Apr 1948 A
Brunei Darussalam		25 Mar 1985 A			

<i>Participant</i> ^{2,3,4}	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Acceptance(A)</i>	<i>Participant</i> ^{2,3,4}	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Definitive signature(s), Acceptance(A)</i>
Djibouti		10 Mar 1978 A	Lao People's Democratic Republic		17 May 1950 A
Dominica		13 Aug 1981 A	Latvia		4 Dec 1991 A
Dominican Republic	22 Jul 1946	21 Jun 1948 A	Lebanon	22 Jul 1946	19 Jan 1949 A
Ecuador	22 Jul 1946	1 Mar 1949 A	Lesotho		7 Jul 1967 A
Egypt	22 Jul 1946	16 Dec 1947 A	Liberia	22 Jul 1946	14 Mar 1947 A
El Salvador	22 Jul 1946	22 Jun 1948 A	Libya		16 May 1952 A
Equatorial Guinea		5 May 1980 A	Lithuania		25 Nov 1991 A
Eritrea		24 Jul 1993 A	Luxembourg	22 Jul 1946	3 Jun 1949 A
Estonia		31 Mar 1993 A	Madagascar		16 Jan 1961 A
Ethiopia	22 Jul 1946	11 Apr 1947 A	Malawi		9 Apr 1965 A
Fiji		1 Jan 1972 A	Malaysia		24 Apr 1958 A
Finland	22 Jul 1946	7 Oct 1947 A	Maldives		5 Nov 1965 A
France	22 Jul 1946	16 Jun 1948 A	Mali		17 Oct 1960 A
Gabon		21 Nov 1960 A	Malta		1 Feb 1965 A
Gambia		26 Apr 1971 A	Marshall Islands		5 Jun 1991 A
Georgia		26 May 1992 A	Mauritania		7 Mar 1961 A
Germany ^{8,9}		29 May 1951 A	Mauritius		9 Dec 1968 A
Ghana		8 Apr 1957 A	Mexico	22 Jul 1946	7 Apr 1948 A
Greece	22 Jul 1946	12 Mar 1948 A	Micronesia (Federated States of)		14 Aug 1991 A
Grenada		4 Dec 1974 A	Monaco		8 Jul 1948 A
Guatemala	22 Jul 1946	26 Aug 1949 A	Mongolia		18 Apr 1962 A
Guinea		19 May 1959 A	Montenegro		29 Aug 2006 A
Guinea-Bissau		29 Jul 1974 A	Morocco		14 May 1956 A
Guyana		27 Sep 1966 A	Mozambique		11 Sep 1975 A
Haiti	22 Jul 1946	12 Aug 1947 A	Myanmar		1 Jul 1948 A
Honduras	22 Jul 1946	8 Apr 1949 A	Namibia		23 Apr 1990 A
Hungary	19 Feb 1947	17 Jun 1948 A	Nauru		9 May 1994 A
Iceland		17 Jun 1948 A	Nepal		2 Sep 1953 A
India	22 Jul 1946	12 Jan 1948 A	Netherlands	22 Jul 1946	25 Apr 1947 A
Indonesia		23 May 1950 A	New Zealand ¹⁰	22 Jul 1946	10 Dec 1946 A
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	22 Jul 1946	23 Nov 1946 A	Nicaragua	22 Jul 1946	24 Apr 1950 A
Iraq	22 Jul 1946	23 Sep 1947 A	Niger		5 Oct 1960 A
Ireland	22 Jul 1946	20 Oct 1947 A	Nigeria		25 Nov 1960 A
Israel		21 Jun 1949 A	Niue		5 May 1994 A
Italy	22 Jul 1946	11 Apr 1947 A	Norway	22 Jul 1946	18 Aug 1947 A
Jamaica		21 Mar 1963 A	Oman		28 May 1971 A
Japan		16 May 1951 A	Pakistan		23 Jun 1948 A
Jordan	22 Jul 1946	7 Apr 1947 A	Palau		9 Mar 1995 A
Kazakhstan		19 Aug 1992 A	Panama	22 Jul 1946	20 Feb 1951 A
Kenya		27 Jan 1964 A	Papua New Guinea		29 Apr 1976 A
Kiribati		26 Jul 1984 A	Paraguay	22 Jul 1946	4 Jan 1949 A
Kuwait		9 May 1960 A	Peru	22 Jul 1946	11 Nov 1949 A
Kyrgyzstan		29 Apr 1992 A			

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Philippines	22 Jul 1946	9 Jul 1948 A	Sweden.....	13 Jan 1947	28 Aug 1947 A
Poland	22 Jul 1946	6 May 1948 A	Switzerland	22 Jul 1946	26 Mar 1947 A
Portugal.....	22 Jul 1946	13 Feb 1948 A	Syrian Arab Republic	22 Jul 1946	18 Dec 1946 A
Qatar		11 May 1972 A	Tajikistan		4 May 1992 A
Republic of Korea.....		17 Aug 1949 A	Thailand	22 Jul 1946	26 Sep 1947 A
Republic of Moldova.....		4 May 1992 A	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....		22 Apr 1993 A
Romania.....		8 Jun 1948 A	Timor-Leste		27 Sep 2002 A
Russian Federation	22 Jul 1946	24 Mar 1948 A	Togo.....		13 May 1960 A
Rwanda		7 Nov 1962 A	Tonga.....		14 Aug 1975 A
Samoa		16 May 1962 A	Trinidad and Tobago		3 Jan 1963 A
San Marino		12 May 1980 A	Tunisia		14 May 1956 A
Sao Tome and Principe..		23 Mar 1976 A	Turkey.....	22 Jul 1946	2 Jan 1948 A
Saudi Arabia	22 Jul 1946	26 May 1947 A	Turkmenistan		2 Jul 1992 A
Senegal.....		31 Oct 1960 A	Tuvalu.....		7 May 1993 A
Serbia.....		28 Nov 2000 A	Uganda.....		7 Mar 1963 A
Seychelles		11 Sep 1979 A	Ukraine	22 Jul 1946	3 Apr 1948 A
Sierra Leone.....		20 Oct 1961 A	United Arab Emirates		30 Mar 1972 A
Singapore.....		25 Feb 1966 A	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....		22 Jul 1946 s
Slovakia ⁷		4 Feb 1993 A	United Republic of Tanzania.....		15 Mar 1962 A
Slovenia		7 May 1992 A	United States of America ¹¹	22 Jul 1946	21 Jun 1948 A
Solomon Islands		4 Apr 1983 A	Uruguay	22 Jul 1946	22 Apr 1949 A
Somalia		26 Jan 1961 A	Uzbekistan		22 May 1992 A
South Africa.....	22 Jul 1946	7 Aug 1947 A	Vanuatu.....		7 Mar 1983 A
South Sudan.....		27 Sep 2011 A	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	22 Jul 1946	7 Jul 1948 A
Spain		28 May 1951 A	Viet Nam ¹²		17 May 1950 A
Sri Lanka.....		7 Jul 1948 A	Yemen ¹³		6 May 1968 A
St. Kitts and Nevis.....		3 Dec 1984 A	Zambia.....		2 Feb 1965 s
St. Lucia.....		11 Nov 1980 A	Zimbabwe.....		16 May 1980 A
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		1 Sep 1983 A			
Sudan		14 May 1956 A			
Suriname.....		25 Mar 1976 A			
Swaziland.....		16 Apr 1973 A			

Notes:

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, First Session, Supplement No. 1*, p. 86.

² The former Yugoslavia had signed and accepted the Constitution on 22 July 1946 and 19 November 1947, respectively. See also note 1 under "Bosnia and Herzegovina", "Croatia", "former Yugoslavia", "Slovenia", "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and "Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

³ Accepted for Tanganyika on 15 March 1962 and for Zanzibar on 29 February 1964. See also note 1 under "United Republic of Tanzania" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁴ See note concerning signatures, ratifications, accessions, etc., on behalf of China (note 1 under "China" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume).

⁵ See note 3 under "China" regarding Macao in the

“Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁶ See note 2 under “China” regarding Hong Kong in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁷ Czechoslovakia had signed and accepted the Convention on 22 July 1946 and 1 March 1948, respectively. See also note 1 under “Czech Republic” and note 1 under “Slovakia” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁸ See note 1 under “Germany” regarding Berlin (West) in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁹ The German Democratic Republic had accepted the Constitution on 8 May 1973. See also note 2 under “Germany” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

¹⁰ See note 1 under “New Zealand” regarding Tokelau in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

¹¹ Accepted subject to the provisions of the joint resolution of the Congress of the United States of America approved 14 June 1948 (Public Law 643, 80th Congress), section 4 of which reads as follows: "In adopting this joint resolution the Congress does so with the understanding that, in the absence of any provision in the World Health Organization Constitution for withdrawal from the organization, the United States reserves its right to withdraw from the organization on a one-year notice, provided, however, that the financial obligations of the United States to the organization shall be met in full for the organization's current fiscal year."

"The World Health Assembly adopted unanimously on 2 July 1948 the following resolution: "The Assembly recognized the validity of the ratification by the United States of America and resolved that the Secretary-General of the United Nations be advised of this decision."

¹² By a letter dated at Hanoi on 12 July 1976, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet-Nam notified the Director-General of the World Health Organization that the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the Republic of South Viet-Nam had united to form the Socialist Republic of Viet-Nam, and that the latter would continue to exercise the official membership in the World Health Organization of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the Republic of South Viet-Nam. The above-mentioned communication from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet-Nam was brought to the attention of the Member States of the World Health Organization by a circular letter from the Director-General of that Organization dated 30 August 1976. The Thirtieth World Health Assembly took note of the said notification in its resolution WHA 30.13 dated 10 May 1977. The Constitution of the World Health Organization had been accepted on behalf of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam on 22 October 1975 and on behalf of the Republic of Viet-Nam (later replaced by the Republic of South Viet-Nam) on 17 May 1950.

¹³ Democratic Yemen had accepted the Constitution on 6 May 1968. See also note 1 under “Yemen” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

