MALAYSIA'S WRITTEN CONTRIBUTION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PREVENTIVE MEASURES, MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, FINAL PROVISIONS AND PREAMBLE

FOR A UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON COUNTERING THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES FOR CRIMINAL PURPOSES

(*Disclaimer*) This contribution is without prejudice to any future contributions that Malaysia may make during the course of future discussions, including on the present chapters.

PREAMBLE

The States Parties to this Convention,

CONSIDERING UN General Assembly Resolution No. 74/274 of 27 December 2019, entitled "Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes", which established an open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental committee of experts to elaborate a comprehensive international convention on countering the use of information and communication technologies for criminal purposes,

RECOGNIZING the principles of sovereignty, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States,

REAFFIRMING our adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of United Nations and other international human rights instruments to which UN Member States are parties,

MINDFUL of the importance to ensure a proper balance between the interests of law enforcement and respect for fundamental human rights,

ACKNOWLEDGING the negative impact of cybercrime on peace and security, and convinced of the urgent need to strengthen cooperation to prevent and combat such crime more effectively at the national, regional and international levels,

CONVINCED that the availability of technical assistance can play an important role in enhancing the ability of States, including by strengthening capacity and by institution-building, to prevent and counter crimes committed using information and communications technologies effectively.

Have agreed as follows:

CHAPTER IV - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

General principles on international cooperation

- 1. States Parties shall cooperate in criminal matters in accordance with this Chapter of the Convention.
- 2. In matters of international cooperation, whenever dual criminality is considered a requirement, it shall be deemed fulfilled irrespective of whether the laws of the requested State Party place the offence within the same category of offence or denominate the offence by the same terminology as the requesting State Party, if the conduct underlying the offence for which assistance is sought is a criminal offence under the laws of both States Parties.

Extradition

- 1. This Article shall apply to the criminal offences established in accordance with this Convention where the person who is the subject of the request for extradition is present in the territory of the requested State Party, provided that the offence for which extradition is sought is punishable under the domestic law of both the requesting State Party and the requested State Party.
- 2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this Article, a State Party whose law so permits may grant the extradition of a person for any of the criminal offences established in accordance with this Convention that are not punishable under its own domestic law.
- 3. If the request for extradition includes several separate criminal offences, at least one of which is extraditable under this Article and some of which are not extraditable by reason of their period of imprisonment but are related to offences established in accordance with this Convention, the requested State Party may apply this Article also in respect of those offences.
- 4. Each of the criminal offences to which this Article applies is deemed to be included as an extraditable offence in any extradition treaty existing between States Parties. States Parties undertake to include such offences as extraditable offences in every extradition treaty to be concluded between them. A State Party whose law so permits, in case it uses this Convention as the basis for extradition, shall not consider any of the offences established in accordance with this Convention to be a political offence.
- 5. If a State Party that makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty receives a request for extradition from another State Party with which it has no

extradition treaty, it may consider this Convention the legal basis for extradition in respect of any criminal offence to which this Article applies.

- 6. A State Party that makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall:
 - (a) At the time of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations whether it will take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition with other States Parties to this Convention; and
 - (b) If it does not take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition, seek, where appropriate, to conclude treaties on extradition with other States Parties to this Convention in order to implement this Article.
- 7. States Parties that do not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall recognize criminal offences to which this Article applies as extraditable offences between themselves.
- 8. Extradition shall be subject to the conditions provided for by the domestic law of the requested State Party or by applicable extradition treaties, including, *inter alia*, conditions in relation to the minimum penalty requirement for the extradition and the grounds upon which the requested State Party may refuse extradition.
- 9. States Parties shall, subject to their domestic law, endeavour to expedite extradition procedures and to simplify evidentiary requirements relating thereto in respect of any criminal offence to which this Article applies.
- 10. Subject to its domestic law and its extradition treaties, the requested State Party may, upon being satisfied that the circumstances so warrant and are urgent and at the request of the requesting State Party, take a person whose extradition is sought and who is present in its territory into custody or take other appropriate measures to ensure his or her presence at extradition proceedings.
- 11. A State Party in whose territory an alleged offender is found, if it does not extradite such person in respect of a criminal offence to which this Article applies solely on the ground that he or she is one of its nationals, shall, at the request of the State Party seeking extradition, submit the case without undue delay to its competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution. Those authorities shall take their decision and conduct their proceedings in the same manner as in the case of any other criminal offence of a serious nature under the domestic law of that State Party. The States Parties concerned shall cooperate with each other, in

- particular on procedural and evidentiary aspects, to ensure the efficiency of such prosecution.
- 12. Whenever a State Party is permitted under its domestic law to extradite or otherwise surrender one of its nationals only upon the condition that the person will be returned to that State Party to serve the sentence imposed as a result of the trial or proceedings for which the extradition or surrender of the person was sought and the requested State Party and the requesting State Party agree with this option and other terms that the States Parties may deem appropriate, such conditional extradition or surrender shall be sufficient to discharge the obligation set forth in paragraph 11 of this Article.
- 13. If extradition, sought for purpose of enforcing a sentence, is refused because the person sought is a national of the requested State Party, the requested State Party shall, if its domestic law so permits and in conformity with the requirement of such law, upon application of the requesting State Party, consider the enforcement of the sentence imposed under the domestic law of the requesting State Party or the remainder thereof.
- 14. A person against whom proceedings are being taken in connection with any of the criminal offences to which this Article applies shall be guaranteed fair treatment at all stages of the proceedings, including enjoyment of all the rights and guarantees provided by the domestic law of the State Party in the territory of which that person is present.
- 15. Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as imposing an obligation to extradite if the requested State Party has substantial grounds for believing that the request has been made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing a person on account of that person's sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin or political opinions or that compliance with the request would cause prejudice to that person's position for any one of these reasons.
- 16. A State Party may not refuse a request for extradition on the sole ground that the offence is also considered to involve fiscal matters.
- 17. Before refusing extradition, the requested State Party shall, where appropriate, consult with the requesting State Party to provide it with ample opportunity to present its opinions and to provide information relevant to its allegation.
- 18. States Parties shall seek to conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements to carry out or to enhance the effectiveness of extradition.

Transfer of Sentenced Persons

States Parties may consider entering into bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangement on the transfer to their territory of persons sentenced to imprisonment or other forms of deprivation of liberty for criminal offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order that they may complete their sentences there.

MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

- 1. States Parties shall afford one another the widest measure of mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the criminal offences established in accordance with this Convention.
- 2. Mutual legal assistance shall be afforded to the fullest extent possible under relevant laws, treaties, agreements and arrangements of the requested State Party with respect to investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the offences for which a legal person may be held liable in accordance with (Criminal Liability of Legal Persons) of this Convention in the requesting State Party.
- 3. Mutual legal assistance to be afforded in accordance with this Article may be requested for any of the following purposes:
 - a) Taking evidence or statements from persons;
 - b) Effecting service of documents in court proceedings;
 - c) Executing searches and seizures, and freezing;
 - d) Examining electronic information/ data, objects and sites;
 - e) Providing information, evidentiary items to include electronic information, and expert evaluation;
 - f) Providing originals or certified copies of relevant documents and records, including government, bank, financial, corporate or business records;
 - g) Identifying or tracing proceeds of crime, property, instrumentalities or other things for evidentiary purposes;

- h) Facilitating the voluntary appearance of persons in the requesting State Party;
- i) Any other type of assistance that is not contrary to the domestic law of the requested State Party;
- j) Identifying, freezing and tracing proceeds of crime in accordance with (Chapter Asset Recover) of this Convention;
- k) The recovery of assets, in accordance with (Chapter Asset Recovery) of this Convention.
- 4. Without prejudice to its domestic law, the competent authorities of a State Party may, without prior request, transmit information relating to criminal matters to a competent authority in another State Party where they believe that such information could assist the authority in undertaking or successfully concluding inquiries and criminal proceedings or could result in a request formulated by the latter State Party pursuant to this Convention.
- 5. The transmission of information pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Article shall be without prejudice to inquiries and criminal proceedings in the State Party of the competent authorities providing the information. The competent authorities receiving the information shall comply with a request that the said information shall remain confidential, even temporarily, or with restrictions on its use. However, this shall not prevent the receiving State Party from disclosing in its proceedings information that is exculpatory to an accused person. In such a case, the receiving State Party shall notify the transmitting State Party prior to the disclosure and, if so requested, consult with the transmitting State Party. If, in an exceptional case, advance notice is not possible, the receiving State Party shall inform the transmitting State Party of the disclosure without delay.
- 6. This Article shall not affect the obligations under any other treaty, bilateral or multilateral, that governs or will govern, in whole or in part, mutual legal assistance.
- 7. Paragraphs 9 to 29 of this Article shall apply to a request made pursuant to this Article if the States Parties in question are not bound by a treaty of mutual legal assistance. Where States Parties are bound by such a treaty, the corresponding provisions of that treaty shall apply, unless the States Parties agree to apply paragraphs 9 to 29 of this Article instead of the treaty.
- 8. States Parties shall not decline to render mutual legal assistance pursuant to this Article on the ground of bank secrecy.

- 9. A requested State Party, in responding to a request for assistance pursuant to this Article in the absence of a dual criminality, shall take into account the purposes of this Convention, as set forth in Article 1.
- 10. States Parties may decline to render assistance pursuant to this Article on the ground of absence of dual criminality. However, a requested State Party shall, where consistent with the basic concepts of its legal system, render assistance that does not involve coercive action, but such assistance may be refused when requests involve matters of a *de minimis* nature or matters for which the cooperation or assistance sought is available under other Articles of this Convention.
- 11. Each State Party may consider adopting such measures as may be necessary to enable it to provide a wider scope of assistance pursuant to this Article in the absence of dual criminality.
- 12. A person who is being detained or serving a sentence in the territory of one State Party whose presence in another State Party is requested for purposes of identification, testimony or otherwise providing assistance in obtaining evidence for investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings in relation to criminal offences established in accordance with this Convention may be transferred if the following conditions are met:
 - (a) The person freely gives his or her informed consent;
 - (b) The competent authorities of both States Parties agree, subject to such conditions as those States Parties may deem appropriate, to the transfer.
- 13. For the purposes of paragraph 12 of this Article:
 - (a) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall have the authority and obligation to keep the person transferred in custody, unless otherwise requested or authorized by the State Party from which the person was transferred;
 - (b) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall without delay implement its obligation to return the person to custody of the State Party from which the person was transferred as agreed beforehand, or as otherwise agreed, by the competent authorities of both States Parties;

- (c) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall not require the State Party from which the person was transferred to initiate extradition proceedings for the return of the person;
- (d) The person transferred shall receive credit for service of the sentence being served in the State from which he or she was transferred for time spent in custody of the State Party to which he or she was transferred.
- 14. Unless the State Party from which a person is to be transferred in accordance with paragraphs 12 and 13 of this Article so agrees, that person, whatever his or her nationality, shall be prosecuted, detained, punished or subjected to any other restriction of his or her personal liberty in the territory of the State Party to which that person is transferred in respect of acts, omissions or convictions prior to his or her departure from the territory of the State from which he or she was transferred.
- 15. Each State Party shall designate a central authority that shall have the responsibility and power to receive requests for mutual legal assistance and either to execute them or to transmit them to the competent authorities for execution. Where a State Party has a special region or territory with a separate system of mutual legal assistance, it may designate a distinct central authority that shall have the same function for that region or territory. Central authorities shall ensure the speedy and proper execution or transmission of the requests received. Where the central authority transmits the request to a competent authority for execution, it shall encourage the speedy and proper execution of the request by the competent authority.
- 16. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be notified of the central authority designated for the purpose of paragraph 15 at the time each State Party deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention.
- 17. Requests for mutual legal assistance and any communication related to such assistance shall be transmitted to the central authorities designated by the States Parties. This requirement shall be without prejudice to the right of a State Party to require that such requests and communications be addressed to it through diplomatic channels and, in urgent circumstances, where the States Parties agree, through the International Criminal Police Organization, if possible.
- 18. Requests under paragraph 17 shall be made in writing or, where possible, by any means capable of producing a written record, in a language acceptable to the requested State Party, under conditions allowing that State Party to establish authenticity. The SecretaryGeneral of the United Nations shall be

notified of the language or languages acceptable to each State Party at the time it deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention. In urgent circumstances and where agreed by the States Parties, requests may be made orally but shall be confirmed in writing forthwith.

- 19. The requested State Party shall accept a request in electronic form. A State Party may also accept a request transmitted orally and may require confirmation in electronic form. It may require appropriate levels of security and authentication before accepting the request.
- 20. A request for mutual legal assistance shall contain:
 - a) The identity of the authority making the request;
 - The subject matter and nature of the investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding to which the request relates and the name and function of the authority conducting the investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding;
 - A summary of the relevant facts, except in relation to requests for the purpose of service of judicial documents;
 - d) A description of the assistance sought and details of any particular procedure that the requesting State Party wishes to be followed;
 - e) Where possible, the identity, location and nationality of any person concerned; and
 - f) The purpose of which the evidence, information or action is sought.
- 21. The requested State Party may request additional information when it appears necessary for the execution of the request in accordance with its domestic law or when it facilitates such execution.
- 22. A request shall be executed in accordance with the domestic law of the requested State Party and, to the extent not contrary to the domestic law of the requested State Party and where possible, in accordance with the procedures specified in the request.
- 23. Wherever possible and consistent with its domestic law, when a person is in the territory of a State Party and has to be heard as a witness or expert by the judicial authorities of another State Party, the first State Party may, at the

request of the other, permit the hearing to take place by video conference if it is not possible or desirable for the person in question to appear in person in the territory of the requesting State Party. States Parties may agree that the hearing shall be conducted by a judicial authority of the requesting State Party and attended by a judicial authority of the requested State Party.

- 24. The requesting State Party shall not transmit or use information or evidence furnished by the requested State Party for investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings other than those stated in the request without the prior consent of the requested State Party. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the requesting State Party from disclosing in its proceedings information or evidence that is exculpatory to an accused person. In the latter case, the requesting State Party shall notify the requested State Party prior to the disclosure and, if so requested, consult with the requested State Party. If, in an exceptional case, advance notice is not possible, the requesting State Party shall inform the requested State Party of the disclosure without delay.
- 25. The requesting State Party may require that the requested State Party keep confidential the fact and substance of the request, except to the extent necessary to execute the request. If the requested State Party cannot comply with the requirement of confidentiality, it shall promptly inform the requesting State Party.
- 26. Mutual legal assistance may be refused:
 - (a) If the request is not made in conformity with this Article;
 - (b) If the requested State Party considers that execution of the request is likely to prejudice its sovereignty, security, *ordre public* or other essential interests;
 - (c) If the authorities of the requested State Party would be prohibited by its domestic law from carrying out the action requested with regard to any similar offence, had it been subjected to investigation, prosecution or judicial proceedings under their own jurisdiction;
 - (d) If it would be contrary to the legal system of the requested State

 Party relating to mutual legal assistance for the request to be granted.
- 27. States Parties may not refuse a request for mutual legal assistance on the sole ground that the offence is also considered to involve fiscal matter.

- 28. Reasons shall be given for refusal of mutual legal assistance.
- 29. The requested State Party shall execute the request for mutual legal assistance as soon as possible and shall take full account as possible of any deadlines suggested by the requesting State Party and for which reasons are given, preferably in the request. The requesting State Party may make reasonable requests for information on the status and progress of measures taken by the requested State Party to satisfy its request. The requested State Party shall respond to reasonable requests by the requesting State Party on the status, and progress in its handling, of the request. The requesting State Party shall promptly inform the requested State Party when the assistance sought is no longer required.
- 30. Mutual legal assistance may be postponed by the requested State Party on the ground that it interferes with an ongoing investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding.
- 31. Before refusing a request pursuant to paragraph 26 of this Article or postponing its execution pursuant to paragraph 30 of this Article, the requested State Party shall consult with the requesting State Party to consider whether assistance may be granted subject to such terms and conditions as it deems necessary. If the requesting State Party accepts assistance subject to those conditions, it shall comply with the conditions.
- 32. Without prejudice to the application of paragraph 12 of this Article, a witness, expert or other person who, at the request of the requesting State Party, consents to give evidence in a proceeding or to assist in an investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding in the territory of the requesting State Party shall not be prosecuted, detained, punished or subjected to any other restriction of his or her personal liberty in that territory in respect of acts, omissions or convictions prior to his or her departure from the territory of the requested State Party. Such safe conduct shall cease when the witness, expert or other person having had, for a period of fifteen consecutive days or for any period agreed upon by the States Parties from the date on which he or she have been officially informed that his or her presence is no longer required by the judicial authorities, an opportunity of leaving, has nevertheless remained voluntarily in the territory of the requesting State Party or, having left it, has returned of his or her own free will.
- 33. The ordinary costs of executing a request shall be borne by the requested State Party, unless otherwise agreed by the States Parties concerned. If expenses of a substantial or extraordinary nature are or will be required to fulfil the request, the States Parties shall consult to determine the terms and conditions under

which the request will be executed, as well as the manner in which the costs shall be borne.

34. The requested State Party:

- a) Shall provide to the requesting State Party copies of government records, documents and information in its possession that under its domestic law are available to the general public;
- b) May provide to the requesting State Party in whole, in part or subject to such conditions as it deems appropriate, copies of any government records, documents or information in its possession that under its domestic law are not available to the general public.
- 35. States Parties shall consider, as may be necessary, the possibility of concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements that would serve the purposes of, give practical effect to or enhance this Article.

24 / 7 Network

- 1. Each State Party shall designate a 24/7 point of contact in order to ensure the provision of immediate assistance for the purpose of investigations or proceedings concerning criminal offenses related to computer systems and data, or for the collection of evidence in electronic form of a criminal offense.
- 2. With regard to communications between 24/7 contact points, State Parties may consider an effective use of networks based on existing international instruments and other frameworks.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Training and technical assistance

1. Each State Party shall, to the extent necessary, initiate, develop or improve specific training programmes for its personnel charged with the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the offences covered by this Convention. Such programmes may include secondments and exchanges of staff with other State Parties. Such programmes shall deal, in particular and to the extent permitted by domestic law, with the following:

- a) Methods and techniques used in the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the offences covered by this Convention;
- b) Building capacity in the development and planning of strategic policies and legislation to prevent and combat cybercrime;
- c) Methods used by persons suspected of involvement in offences covered by this Convention and appropriate countermeasures;
- d) Building capacity in the collection, preservation and sharing of electronic evidence including the use of evidence-gathering and investigative methods:
- e) Training competent authorities in the preparation of requests for mutual legal assistance and other means of cooperation that meet the requirements of this Convention and guidance provided by the UNODC, especially for the collection, preservation and sharing of electronic evidence;
- f) Modern law enforcement equipment and techniques and the use thereof;
- g) Methods used in the protection of victims;
- h) Training in national and international regulations and in languages.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Settlement of Disputes

- States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention through negotiation or any other peaceful means.
- 2. Any dispute between States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention that cannot be settled through negotiation or any other peaceful means within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.

- 3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this Article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this Article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.
- 4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval and Accession

- 1. This Convention shall be open to all States Parties for signature from [date] to [date] in [city], [country], and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until [Z].
- 2. This Convention shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations.
- 3. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Convention. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification of the extent of its competence.
- 4. This Convention is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Convention. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.
- 5. References to "States Parties" in this Convention shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to such regional economic integration organizations that concluded the Convention in accordance with paragraph 3 or acceded thereto in accordance with paragraph 4 of this article.

Relation with Protocols

- 1. This Convention may be supplemented by one or more protocols.
- 2. Such protocols shall be negotiated and adopted following the same procedural and organizational rules followed for the negotiation and adoption of this Convention.
- 3. A State Party to this Convention is not bound by a protocol unless it becomes a Party to the protocol in accordance with the provisions thereof.
- 4. Any protocol to this Convention shall be interpreted together with this Convention, taking into account the purpose of that protocol.

Entry into Force

- 1. This Convention shall enter into force on the [ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification], acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of the organization.
- For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument.

Reservations

- 1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall receive and circulate to all States the text of reservations made by States at the time of ratification or accession.
- 2. A reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the present Convention shall not be permitted.

 Reservations may be withdrawn at any time by notification to this effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall then inform all States thereof. Such notification shall take effect on the date on which it is received.

Amendment

- 1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Convention, a State Party may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Convention. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.
- 3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.
- 4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the Secretary- General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.
- 5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Convention and any other amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

Denunciation

- 1. A State Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.
- 2. Denunciation of this Convention in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall entail the denunciation of any protocols thereto.

Depository and Languages

- 1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Convention.
- 2. The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.