

No. 6119

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**Convention for the establishment of the International Com-
putation Centre (with annex). Signed at Paris, on
6 December 1951**

Official texts: English and French.

*Registered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on
13 April 1962.*

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR
L'ÉDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE**

**Convention instituant le Centre international de calcul
(avec annexe). Signée à Paris, le 6 décembre 1951**

Textes officiels anglais et français.

*Enregistrée par l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture
le 13 avril 1962.*

No. 6119. CONVENTION¹ FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMPUTATION CENTRE. SIGNED AT PARIS, ON 6 DECEMBER 1951

The Contracting Parties,

In view of resolutions 22 (III) of 3 October 1946,² 160 (VII) of 10 August 1948,³ 318 (XI) of 14 August 1950⁴ and 394 (XIII) of 24 August 1951,⁵ adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations ;

In view of resolution 2. 24 adopted at its Sixth Session by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ;

Convinced that all human progress in the economic and social fields is necessarily dependent upon the development of scientific research and discovery ;

Considering :

that much scientific research would yield far more valuable results if carried out internationally ;

that there are mathematical problems at the present time in many branches of science which involve extremely complicated calculations ;

¹ In accordance with article XIV (3), the Convention entered into force on 28 November 1961, ten States having by that date become parties to the Convention pursuant to paragraph 2 of the said article, either by signature with reservation as to acceptance followed by acceptance or by unconditional acceptance (a). The instruments of acceptance were deposited with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as follows :

Japan	10 June	1952
Belgium	21 July	1953
Ceylon	16 March	1954 (a)
Italy	12 April	1954
Mexico	16 March	1956
France	18 November	1958 (a)
United Arab Republic*	19 May	1960 (a)
Libya	16 February	1961 (a)
Israel	7 August	1961
Argentina	28 November	1961 (a)

The Convention came into force subsequently for Cuba on 27 March 1962 by signature without reservation as to acceptance.

* The instrument of acceptance stated that the United Arab Republic acted as a non-signatory State. The Convention has been signed on behalf of Egypt on 6 December 1951. The instrument deposited was considered to be an instrument of unconditional acceptance.

² United Nations, *Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its Third Session* (E/245/Rev. 1, p. 49).

³ United Nations, *Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its Seventh Session* (E/1065, p. 50).

⁴ United Nations, *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 1* (E/1849, p. 50).

⁵ United Nations, *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 1* (E/2152, p. 50).

that future progress in several branches of science depends to a large extent on the solution of such problems ;

that recent progress in the field of computing machines now makes it possible to perform certain numerical calculations which would have been practically impossible in the past ;

that it is thus highly desirable to establish an international institution with the task of promoting and applying modern computing devices and of carrying out systematic and continuous research with a view to improving those devices ;

Agree as follows :

Article I

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE

An International Computation Centre, hereinafter called the Centre, is hereby established. Its seat is at Rome.

Article II

FUNCTIONS

The Centre has a triple function :

1. Scientific research
2. Education
3. Consultative and Computation service.

These three complementary and essential functions are of equal importance.

In order the better to carry out the *first* of its functions, the Centre shall :

establish and put into operation one or more laboratories equipped with various types of calculating machines ;

conduct scientific research on questions relating to the use and improvement of computing devices ;

work out a programme for the study, on an international level, of pure science problems, in so far as these problems concern computation ;

endeavour to promote collaboration among computation institutes throughout the world, to assist the co-ordination of their work and encourage their activities ;

provide for the publication and distribution of the results of its research and, in addition, endeavour to provide for the publication of other work of a similar character.

In order the better to carry out the *second* of its functions, the Centre shall prepare and carry out a plan for the professional education and advanced training of specialists in the field of computation.

In order the better to carry out the *third* of its functions the Centre shall :
provide a consultative service ;
establish and maintain a computation service.

In carrying out the functions set out above the Centre shall endeavour primarily to meet the needs of its Member States, and especially the needs of those which may have limited resources.

It shall, at all times, act in conformity with the objectives of international peace and the common welfare of mankind, for which the United Nations Organization was established, and which its Charter proclaims.

Article III

MEMBERSHIP

States which are members either of the United Nations, or of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, or of one of the other Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and which become parties to the present Convention, shall be members of the Centre.

Article IV

ORGANS

The Centre shall comprise :

1. A General Assembly
2. An Executive Council
3. A scientific and administrative staff, headed by a Director.

Article V

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly shall consist of one representative, preferably with scientific qualifications, of each Member State of the Centre and of a representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Each of the representatives may be assisted by a deputy.

2. The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Centre. It shall make regulations and take all decisions relating to the operation of the Centre. In particular, it shall decide on the establishment of the laboratories referred to in Article II, taking into account, in selecting the sites, the necessity of an equitable geographical distribution of the activities of the Centre. It shall settle, at each of its ordinary sessions, the outlines of the programme of the Centre and the basis of its budget for the two succeeding years. It shall examine the biennial report of activities presented by the Director of the Centre, which shall be accompanied by the comments of the

Executive Council. It shall elect the persons to hold office on the Executive Council, in accordance with Article VI ; it shall appoint the Director of the Centre in accordance with Article VII.

3. The General Assembly shall elect its officers and make its own rules of procedure. Its decisions shall be made by a majority of members present and voting, unless otherwise provided in this Convention.

4. The General Assembly shall meet in ordinary session every two years. It shall meet in extraordinary session on the summons of the Chairman of the Executive Council, at the request of a majority of Members States, or upon the decision of the Executive Council.

5. The Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization shall convoke the first session of the General Assembly of the Centre within three months from the entry into force of the present Convention. He shall make all necessary arrangements for drawing up a provisional agenda and for the preparation of the first session.

Article VI

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. The Executive Council shall consist of six persons elected by the General Assembly from candidates presented by Member States, according to the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article, and of the representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

2. Each Member State shall present two candidates to the General Assembly, one being chosen for his scientific qualifications and the other for his administrative experience. In electing the members of the Executive Council, the General Assembly shall preserve an equitable geographical distribution. No one of the elected members of the Council shall be of the same nationality as any other.

3. Each elected member of the Council shall have, as deputy, the candidate presented with him by the same Member State.

4. The term of office of members of the Executive Council elected by the General Assembly shall run from the end of the ordinary session of the General Assembly which elected them until the end of the second ordinary session thereafter. Persons elected to the Executive Council are not immediately eligible for re-election. The General Assembly shall, at its first session, select, by lot, three elected members of the Executive Council for a term of office to expire at the end of the next ordinary session. The term of office of members of the Executive Council elected at the first session of the General Assembly shall run from the day of their election.