



ANTARCTIC TREATY

Final Report of the Sixth Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting

Brussels, 7 October 1985

KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EXTERNAL TRADE
AND CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT

FINAL REPORT OF THE
SIXTH SPECIAL ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 7 OCTOBER 1985

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Representatives of the Consultative Parties (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America) met in Brussels on 7 October 1985.

Having regard to Part I of the Final Report of the 1st Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, the Meeting considered in Plenary Session the notifications received from the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay and decided as follows :

The Representatives of the Consultative Parties :

Recalling that the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay acceded to the Antarctic Treaty in accordance with Article XIII on 8 June 1983 and 11 January 1980 respectively;

Noting that on 31 July 1985, the People's Republic of China transmitted to the Government of the United States of America, as Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty :

- a notification that the People's Republic of China considered itself entitled to appoint Representatives in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Treaty to participate in the Meetings referred to in Article IX, paragraph 1, of the Treaty;

- a declaration that the People's Republic of China will abide by the Recommendations adopted by all the Consultative Parties at their previous Meetings and that it will give active consideration to Recommendations that have not yet become effective; and

- information relating to the contents and objectives of the Antarctic research activities of the People's Republic of China, its co-operation with the expeditions of Consultative Parties and the preliminary results of its scientific investigations;

Noting that on 15 April 1985, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay transmitted to the Government of the United States of America, as Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty :

- a notification that the Oriental Republic of Uruguay considered itself entitled to appoint Representatives in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Treaty to participate in the Meetings referred to in Article IX, paragraph 1, of the Treaty;

- a declaration that it will abide by the Recommendations adopted at Consultative Meetings and approved by all the Contracting Parties entitled to attend the Meetings at which they were adopted, while examining them in accordance with its constitutional procedures with a view to approving them in due course, and that it intends to accord appropriate consideration to Recommendations that have not yet become effective with a view to approving them in due course; and

- information relating to its historical connections with Antarctic exploration arising from its proximity to the Antarctic, its cooperation with the expeditions of Consultative Parties, the organization and co-ordination of its Antarctic activities, its scientific programmes and activities in Antarctica and its future planned activities;

Noting moreover that on 29 August 1985, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay resubmitted this material in expanded form to the Government of the United States of America as Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty;

Noting that the People's Republic of China had established on 20 February 1985 "The Great Wall Station" on Fildes Peninsula, King George Island, South Shetland Islands, latitude 62°13'S, longitude 58°58'W, that the station had a summer complement of 54 and an overwintering complement of 8; that meteorological, aeronomy, geophysical, seismological, geological and biological programmes had been undertaken; that physical and biological oceanography programmes had been undertaken using two ships in the 1984-85 season;

Noting that on 14 December 1984 the Oriental Republic of Uruguay had established the Scientific Antarctic Base "Artigas" on Fildes Peninsula, King George Island, South Shetland Islands, latitude 62°10'S, longitude 58°50'W, that the station had a summer complement of 23; that it has firm plans to initiate permanent occupation of the station in the 1985-86 season; that meteorological, inshore and littoral biological, krill study and penguin population programmes were undertaken;

Noting that the People's Republic of China intends to continue meteorological, geophysical, upperatmosphere physics, ecological, marine biological and geological programmes from its "Great Wall Station" which will continue to be manned on a permanent basis;

Noting that the Oriental Republic of Uruguay intends to continue meteorological and marine biological programmes; that it intends to purchase a suitable vessel for Antarctic work; that it plans to establish a second station, on the siting of which it intends to consult Consultative Parties with longer experience in the area, and that its future scientific programmes, in addition to those already begun, will include geophysical, human and medical programmes;

Recognizing that the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, on the basis of the scientific programmes they have undertaken, the stations they have established and their future intentions, thereby demonstrate their interest in Antarctica in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Antarctic Treaty;

Having ascertained in accordance with Article X of the Antarctic Treaty, on the basis of the information provided about scientific expeditions and investigations being carried out at their stations, that the activities of the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay are in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Treaty;

Record their acknowledgement that the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay have fulfilled the requirements established in Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Antarctic Treaty and that, as a consequence, they are entitled during such time as they continue in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Treaty to demonstrate that interest, to appoint Representatives to participate in the Consultative Meetings provided for in Article IX, paragraph 1, of the Treaty; and hereby warmly welcome the People's Republic of China and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay as participants in such Meetings.

PEOPLE 'S REPUBLIC OF CHINANOTIFICATION

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America presents its compliments to the State Department of the United States of America whose Government is the Depositary for the Antarctic Treaty and, on the instructions of the Chinese Government, wishes to state as follows :

The Government of the People's Republic of China considers itself entitled to appoint Representatives in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Antarctic Treaty to participate in the Meetings referred to in Article IX, paragraph 1, of the said Treaty.

China set up its National Committee for Antarctic Research in May 1980 and sent scientists on many occasions to participate in the Antarctic research activities. Towards the end of 1984, China despatched its first scientific expedition to carry out research in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean and established a permanent scientific station, "Great Wall Station", on King George Island. By conducting the above-mentioned activities the People's Republic of China has demonstrated its interest in Antarctica. Attached herewith is a copy of the report, "Chinese Antarctic Research Activities", which gives a detailed account of China's research plan and its implementation in Antarctica, the scientific research work carried out in the Antarctic area and its main results, the domestic institutions in charge of the Antarctic research, the organizational work, the composition of the scientific expeditions, logistic facilities, etc.

The Government of the People's Republic of China will abide by the Recommendations adopted by all the Consultative Parties at its previous Consultative Meetings. In addition, the Chinese Government will give active consideration to Recommendations that have not yet become effective.

The Government of the People's Republic of China will be most grateful if the Government of the United States of America is kind enough to forward copies of this note and the attached report to the Governments of the Consultative Parties of the Antarctic Treaty in time.

The Chinese Embassy in the United States avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the U.S. State Department the assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., 31 July 1985.

ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY

NOTE

The Embassy of Uruguay presents its compliments to the Department of State and has the honor to convey herewith to the Government of the United States of America, Depository of the Antarctic Treaty, signed in Washington in 1959, the attached notification from the Government of Uruguay, in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of said Treaty.

The Embassy of Uruguay respectfully requests the Government of the United States of America to remit copies of the enclosed notification and its attachments to all the Consultative Members of the Antarctic Treaty.

The Embassy of Uruguay avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., 15 April 1985.

ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY
NOTIFICATION

The Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay hereby notifies the Government of the United States of America, Depositary Government of the Antarctic Treaty signed in Washington in 1959, that it considers itself with the right to appoint Representatives to said Treaty, in accordance to Article IX, paragraph 2, which will allow it to participate in the Meetings as referred to in said Article, paragraph 1.

This petition is based in the following considerations :

1. On August 28, 1975, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, by Law Nr. 14.416, Article 103 established the Uruguayan Antarctic Institute as the official organization charged with the formulation of a national policy on Antarctica.

2. On January 11, 1980, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay acceded to the Antarctic Treaty signed in Washington on December 1, 1959, corresponding access note submitted at that time. The Oriental Republic of Uruguay presented a declaration fundamenting such international act not only on the interest that Uruguay has in the Antarctic, as every member of the International Community, but also on special interest, direct and substantial, derived from its geographical position, the fact that the Atlantic coast faces the Antarctic continent influencing its climate, its ecology and its marine biology, as well as on the historical ties linking Uruguay to such continent and its waters.

3. Since its accession to said Treaty, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay has clearly shown its sincere interest in and willingness to comply with the essential principles of said Treaty, especially in regard to the utilization of said continent exclusively for peaceful purposes and for scientific research within a framework of international cooperation, it having initiated the development of positive activities of that character, now and for the future.

4. To that end, on December of 1984, in accordance with the Treaty, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay installed an Antarctic Scientific Base called "Antarctic Scientific Base Artigas" on the South Shetland Islands' Archipelago, King George Island, Maxwell Bay, Colling Cove, latitude 62°10'S, longitude 58°50'W, which houses scientists who are developing a program of activities, as specified in the attachment, and logistic facilities.

5. To complement the preceding item, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, given its unimprovable geographical situation which has related the harbor of Montevideo to the Antarctic continent since the dawn of nationhood, has implemented an instrument through which the harbor of Montevideo will provide a preferential administrative system for vessels from the Treaty's member countries travelling to and from the Antarctic continent for scientific purposes, logistic support, or for the development of research programs related to the Treaty; such mechanism will permit the hastening of established protocol transactions, meanwhile the improvement of other facilities is being studied, the results of which will be transmitted to the member countries.

6. The Oriental Republic of Uruguay has also approved the Treaty on Antarctic Marine Living Resources by Law Nr. 15.693 dated December 18, 1984, having proceeded to deposit the access document on March 22, 1985 in Canberra, Australia. Consequently, in accordance with the provisions of Article XXVIII, Nr.2, said agreement will be in force for Uruguay on April 22, 1985.

7. The Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay expresses its intention to approve, with its internal mechanisms, the Recommendations adopted in the Consultative Meetings established by the Treaty, which had been approved by all Contracting Parties authorized to send Representatives to the Consultative Meetings.

8. The Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay also wishes to inform the Depositary Government of the Treaty, and through it the other member countries, that it will also give due legislative consideration to Recommendations which have not yet been enforced, with a view toward their approval in due time.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

1. In accordance with the procedural rules of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Oriental Republic of Uruguay will request the admittance of its Antarctic Organization as a member.

2. The Oriental Republic of Uruguay establishes its firm intention to expand its Antarctic Scientific Base to convert it into a permanent base, to give continuity and development to the scientific programs already initiated.

3. To implement the necessary logistic mechanisms in order to double the present area of the Antarctic Scientific Base Artigas, during the 1985-86 season.

4. To establish another scientific base in the Antarctic Peninsula during the 1985-86 or 1986-87 season, for which intense negotiations are underway with other member countries of the Antarctic Treaty.

Therefore,

A) The above indicates the scientific character of the research program of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay which was submitted for approval and assessment at the last meeting of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) held in Bremerhaven (eighteenth) from September 24 to October 5, 1984. On this occasion the above mentioned projects were duly analyzed, authorized and qualified. The installation of the scientific base and the future activities demonstrate the investment that the Oriental Republic of Uruguay has made and will continue to make in the Antarctic region in accordance with the statutes of the Antarctic Treaty; this task is being actively and organically undertaken by official and private agencies such as the University of the Republic and its different colleges, research centers, the National Meteorological Directorate, etc., with pertinent authorization at the national level by the National Council on Scientific and Technical Research.

B) By virtue of the above, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay considers that it has a right to appoint Representatives to the Consultative Meetings in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the referred Antarctic Treaty of Washington, expressly declaring, in that sense, that it is willing, and commits itself, to comply with the resolutions emanating from and which will emanate from the above mentioned Consultative Meetings held in accordance with said International Agreement.

C) Therefore it is herewith requested that, having fulfilled the necessary formalities, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay be declared as having full rights in accordance with the contents of the previous paragraph.

D) The Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay avails itself of this opportunity to thank the Government of the United States of America for its actions and endeavors made as Depositary of the Treaty, and to reiterate the assurances of its highest consideration.

Montevideo, 15 April 1985.

ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAYNOTE

The Embassy of Uruguay presents its compliments to the Department of State and has the honor to refer to its note N° 170/85/RV dated April 15, 1985, under the cover of which was conveyed to the Government of the United States of America, in its capacity as Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty, a notification as to the grounds upon which the Government of Uruguay considered itself entitled to appoint Representatives in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Antarctic Treaty.

The Embassy of Uruguay is grateful to the Department of State for the steps it took to communicate the notification and its attachments informally to the Consultative Parties at the Preparatory Meeting for the XIIIth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting held in Brussels from 22 to 26 April 1985. As the Department of State will be aware, the President of the Uruguayan Antarctic Institute was present at that meeting as an observer and was able informally to consult a number of Consultative Party delegations about the Uruguayan notification.

As a result of these consultations the Government of Uruguay has concluded that it would assist the Consultative Parties in their consideration on Uruguay's view of its entitlement to appoint Representatives to attend Consultative Meetings if the Government of Uruguay were to resubmit its notification in an expanded form.

The resulting document is attached to the note. The Embassy of Uruguay respectfully requests the Government of the United States of America to communicate copies of the attached document to all the Consultative Parties of the Antarctic Treaty for their consideration.

The Embassy of Uruguay avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., 29 August 1985.

ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY
NOTIFICATION

1. The Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay hereby notifies the Government of the United States of America, Depositary Government for the Antarctic Treaty signed in Washington in 1959, that it considers itself entitled to appoint Representatives to attend Consultative Meetings of the said Treaty in accordance to Article IX, paragraph 2.

2. The Government of Uruguay requests the Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty to accord favorable consideration to the activities of Uruguay in the Antarctic as set out in the attached Memorandum describing those activities and future intentions with a view to acknowledging that Uruguay has fulfilled the requirements established in Article IX, paragraph 2, of the Antarctic Treaty.

3. In the light of operative paragraph 2 of Part I of the Final Report of the First Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, the Government of Uruguay declares that it will abide by the Recommendations adopted at Consultative Meetings and approved by all the Contracting Parties entitled to attend the Meetings at which they were adopted, while examining them in accordance with its consitutional procedures with a view to approving them in due course. The Government of Uruguay further declares its intention to accord appropriate consideration to Recommendations that have not yet become effective with a view to approving them in due course.

4. In considering the attached Memorandum the Government of Uruguay asks that the Consultative Parties should particularly bear in mind that :

- (a) it has established a station in Antarctica;
- (b) that it has firm plans to occupy that station permanently on a year-round basis from the 1985-86 season;
- (c) that it plans to establish a further station for the purpose of developing and extending its scientific research activities while bearing in mind the environmental implications thereof;
- (d) it has embarked upon relevant scientific research programs in life sciences and atmospheric sciences which it intends to pursue and develop further in the future; and that
- (e) it intends to embark on scientific research programs in earth sciences and in environmental sciences of particular relevance to the high concentration of human activity in the area in which it has established its station.

Washington, D.C., 29 August 1985.