

**No. 23144**

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**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
and  
ECUADOR**

**Consular Convention. Signed at Quito on 10 December 1982**

*Authentic texts: Russian and Spanish.*

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 19 November 1984.*

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**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES  
et  
ÉQUATEUR**

**Convention consulaire. Signée à Quito le 10 décembre 1982**

*Textes authentiques : russe et espagnol.*

*Enregistrée par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 19 novembre 1984.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONSULAR CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET  
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Ecuador,  
Guided by the desire to regulate their consular relations and thus to contribute to the  
further development of the friendly relations between the two States,  
Have decided to conclude this Consular Convention:

## SECTION I. DEFINITIONS

*Article 1.* In this Convention the terms mentioned hereunder shall have the following meaning:

1. The term “consular post” means a consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency;
2. The term “consular district” means the territory within which a consular post is authorized to perform its consular functions;
3. The term “head of consular post” means the person responsible for performing that function;
4. The term “consular officer” means any person, including a head of consular post, entrusted with the performance of consular functions;
5. The term “consular employee” means any person performing administrative or technical functions in a consular post;
6. The term “member of the service staff” means any person employed in the domestic service of a consular post;
7. The term “member of a consular post” means consular officers, consular employees and members of the service staff;
8. The term “member of the family” means the spouse of a member of a consular post, his children and parents and those of his spouse, provided that such persons are members of the household of the member of the consular post and are maintained by him;
9. The term “consular premises” means buildings or parts of buildings and adjacent land which, whatever their ownership, are used exclusively for consular purposes;
10. The term “consular archives” means any official correspondence, ciphers and codes, documents, books and technical equipment of a consular post, as well as furniture for their storage and protection;
11. The term “ship of the sending State” means any ship legally flying the flag of that State, except for warships;
12. The term “aircraft of the sending State” means any civil aircraft which legally bears the national identification mark and registration number of that State;
13. The term “nationals” means natural or juridical persons of the sending State.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 2 July 1984, i.e., 30 days after the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Moscow on 1 June 1984, in accordance with article 46 (1).

SECTION II. OPENING OF CONSULAR POSTS, AND APPOINTMENT  
AND RECALL OF MEMBERS OF A CONSULAR POST

*Article 2.* 1. A consular post may be opened in the territory of the receiving State only with that State's consent.

2. The seat of a consular post, its classification and consular district shall be determined by agreement between the sending State and the receiving State.

3. The sending State may not change the seat of a consular post, its classification or consular district without the prior consent of the receiving State.

*Article 3.* 1. Before appointing the head of the consular post, the sending State shall obtain through the diplomatic channel the consent of the receiving State to such appointment.

2. Once such consent has been given, the sending State shall send to the receiving State through the diplomatic channel the commission of appointment or other document testifying to the appointment of the head of the consular post, which shall mention his full name and his classification, the seat of the consular post and the consular district.

3. The head of the consular post may not begin to perform his duties until the receiving State has issued to him an exequatur or other authorization. The exequatur must be issued promptly. In the meantime, the receiving State may admit the head of the consular post to the exercise of his functions on a provisional basis.

*Article 4.* 1. If for any reason the head of a consular post is unable to perform his functions, temporarily or permanently, the sending State may authorize a consular officer of the consular post in question or of another of its consular posts in the receiving State or a member of the diplomatic staff of its diplomatic mission in the receiving State to take temporary charge of the consular post, and it shall give the receiving State prior notice of such authorization through the diplomatic channel.

2. The person authorized to take charge of the consular post on a provisional basis shall perform the relevant functions of the head of the consular post whose place he is taking and he shall enjoy the same rights, facilities, privileges and immunities as apply to the head of a consular post in accordance with this Convention. He shall continue to enjoy the exemptions from customs duties applicable to his own classification.

3. When a member of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State is appointed on a provisional basis to the position of head of a consular post, his diplomatic privileges and immunities shall not be affected.

*Article 5.* 1. The sending State shall inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving State in advance through the diplomatic channel of the full name and classification of any consular officer who is not the head of a consular post.

2. The sending State shall inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving State in advance through the diplomatic channel of the date of the arrival and final departure of a member of a consular post and of members of his family.

*Article 6.* 1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall issue, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State, to all members of a consular post who are not nationals of the receiving State a suitable document certifying their identity and status as members of a consular post.

2. Paragraph 1 shall likewise apply to members of the family of members of a consular post.

*Article 7.* Only nationals of the sending State who are not domiciled in the receiving State may be appointed as consular officers.

*Article 8.* 1. The receiving State may notify the sending State at any time through the diplomatic channel, without having to explain its decision, that a consular officer is *persona non grata* or that any other member of a consular post is no longer acceptable. The sending State shall thereupon recall the person concerned or terminate his functions in the consular post, as appropriate.

2. If the sending State refuses to fulfill or does not within a reasonable period of time fulfill its obligations under the provisions of paragraph 1, the receiving State may withdraw the exequatur of the head of the consular post and cease to recognize the members of the post as such.

### SECTION III. FACILITIES, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

*Article 9.* 1. The receiving State shall treat with due respect the members of a consular post and members of their family who are not nationals of the receiving State. It shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that the members of a consular post can perform their functions efficiently.

2. The receiving State shall ensure that the members of a consular post can enjoy the rights, facilities, privileges and immunities provided in this Convention.

*Article 10.* 1. The receiving State shall help and assist the sending State to obtain consular premises, a residence for the head of a consular post and living quarters for its members.

2. In accordance with the laws of the receiving State, the sending State may acquire or lease consular premises, a residence for the head of a consular post and living quarters for its members, provided that they are nationals of the sending State and are not domiciled in the receiving State.

*Article 11.* 1. The national coat of arms and the name-plate of a consular post, in the language of the sending State and of the receiving State, may be displayed on the building in which the consular post is located and on the residence of the head of the consular post.

2. The national flag of the sending State may be flown from the building in which the consular post is located and from the residence of the head of the consular post.

3. The head of the consular post may also display the national flag of the sending State on the means of transport used by him for official purposes.

*Article 12.* 1. The receiving State shall ensure the protection of consular premises, which may be used only for consular purposes.

2. Consular premises, the residence of a head of a consular post and the living quarters of consular officers shall be inviolable. The authorities of the receiving State may not enter consular premises, the residence of the head of a consular post or the living quarters of consular officers without the permission of the head of the consular post or of the head of the diplomatic mission of the sending State or of a member of the staff of the diplomatic mission or consular post who grants such permission.

*Article 13.* Consular archives shall be inviolable at all times and in all places.

*Article 14.* 1. Consular posts shall have the right to communicate with the Government, the diplomatic missions and other consular posts of the sending State, wherever they may be located. Consular posts may use all normal means of communication, including diplomatic and consular couriers, diplomatic and consular bags, and cipher and code. The installation and use of a radio transmitter shall require the permission of the receiving State. If public means of communication are used, consular posts shall be charged the same rates as diplomatic missions.

2. The official correspondence of a consular post and the consular bag shall be inviolable and shall not be opened or detained by the authorities of the receiving State. The consular bag must bear external visible marks indicating its character and may contain only official documents or articles intended for official use.

3. The receiving State shall accord to a consular courier carrying an official document certifying his status as such and indicating the number of mail bags entrusted to him the same rights, privileges and immunities as it affords to a diplomatic courier of the sending State. The same shall apply to *ad hoc* consular couriers, but their rights, privileges and immunities as couriers shall cease once they have delivered the consular bag to the addressee.

4. A consular bag may also be entrusted to the captain of an aircraft or of a ship. He must carry an official document indicating the number of packages of mail entrusted to him but he shall not be considered a consular courier. A consular post may authorize one of its members to take possession of a consular bag directly from the hands of the captain of an aircraft or a ship of the sending State or hand a bag over to him, in accordance with the relevant safety regulations.

*Article 15.* 1. Consular officers and members of their family shall enjoy immunity from the criminal, civil and administrative jurisdiction of the receiving State and shall not be subjected to any coercive measures by it.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall not apply in the following cases of civil actions brought against consular officers or members of their families:

- a) With respect to private immovable property located in the receiving State which is not used for consular purposes on behalf of the sending State;
- b) With respect to inheritance, when they act privately and not on behalf of the sending State as executors, administrators, testators or legatees;
- c) With respect to professional or commercial activities which they carry on in the receiving State independently of their official functions;
- d) Actions which result from a contract which the consular officer has not concluded, explicitly or implicitly, as the agent of the sending State;
- e) Actions brought by a third party in respect of damage resulting from an accident caused by means of transport in the receiving State.

3. Consular employees and members of the service staff of a consular post, provided that they are not nationals of the receiving State and do not have their domicile therein, shall enjoy immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State. They shall also enjoy immunity from its civil and administrative jurisdiction and shall not be subjected to coercive measures by the receiving State, provided that the acts in question are performed by them in the exercise of their official functions.

4. The provisions of paragraph 3 shall not apply in the case of the civil actions referred to in paragraph 2.

5. Members of the family of a consular employee or of a member of the service staff of a consular post shall enjoy immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State, provided that they are not nationals of the receiving State and do not have their domicile therein.

6. The persons referred to in paragraphs 1 and 3 shall be amenable to measures of compulsion only in the cases referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 and only if such measures can be carried out without prejudice to their personal inviolability and the provisions of article 12, paragraph 2.

*Article 16.* 1. Members of a consular post may be called to attend as witnesses by the courts or other competent authorities of the receiving State. However, they shall not be obliged to give evidence in matters relating to the performance of their official functions or to produce official documents or any other documents relating thereto. They may also decline to give evidence as experts concerning the laws of the sending State.

2. If a member of a consular post declines to appear or to give evidence as a witness, no coercive measure or penalty may be applied to him.

3. The courts or other competent authorities of the receiving State requiring the evidence of a member of a consular post shall make arrangements to avoid interference in the performance of his functions. His evidence may be taken orally or in writing, at the consular post or at the home of a member of the consular post.

4. The foregoing paragraphs shall apply equally to members of the family of members of a consular post.

*Article 17.* 1. The sending State may waive any of the privileges or immunities established in articles 15 and 16. In each individual case the waiver must be made expressly in writing to the receiving State.

2. If a member of a consular post or a member of his family enjoying immunity from jurisdiction under article 15 of this Convention brings a court action, he may not invoke such immunity with respect to any counter-action related directly to the principal action.

3. Waiver of immunity with respect to a court action shall not entail waiver of immunity with respect to the execution of the court's decision; in that case a specific waiver must be made.

*Article 18.* Members of a consular post and members of their family who are not nationals of the receiving State and do not have their domicile therein shall be exempt in the receiving State from all compulsory public and personal service.

*Article 19.* Members of a consular post and members of their family shall be exempt from all the obligations established in the laws of the receiving State concerning the registration of persons who are not nationals of the receiving State and concerning residence permits.

*Article 20.* 1. The receiving State shall not require the payment of national, regional or municipal taxes and other charges in respect of:

- a) Consular premises, the residence of a head of a consular post, or the living quarters of members of a consular post, provided that they have been acquired by the sending State or leased in its name. The same shall apply to the acquisition of such immovable property, provided that the sending State has acquired it exclusively for consular purposes;
- b) The acquisition, ownership, possession or use of movable property by the sending State exclusively for consular purposes.

2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply to payment for services rendered.

*Article 21.* 1. Members of a consular post shall be exempt in the receiving State from payment of any form of taxes or dues on their incomes, salaries or wages, or on other remuneration for their services made by the sending State.

2. Members of a consular post and members of their family shall be exempt from payment of all national, regional and municipal taxes and other dues, except for:

- a) Indirect taxes and dues which are normally incorporated in the price of goods or services;
- b) Taxes and other dues on private immovable property situated in the receiving State;
- c) Inheritance duties and duties on transfer of property in respect of property situated in the receiving State;

- d) Taxes and other dues on private income originating in the receiving State and on property situated in that State;
- e) Taxes, duties and other charges levied for specific services rendered;
- f) Registration or court fees, certification and legalization charges, mortgage dues and stamp duties.

3. The payment of national, regional or municipal taxes and other dues on transfer of movable property shall not be required in respect of the movable property of a deceased member of a consular post or of a member of his family, provided that such property is in the receiving State only as a direct consequence of the deceased's presence there in his capacity as a member of a consular post or as a member of the family of a member of a consular post.

*Article 22.* 1. All articles, including motor vehicles, imported or exported for the official use of a consular post shall be exempt from the payment of customs duties and other dues in the receiving State to the same extent as articles imported or exported for the official use of the diplomatic mission of the sending State.

2. Consular officers and members of their family shall be exempt from customs inspection of their personal baggage and from payment of customs duties and other charges on imported or exported articles to the same extent as members of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State.

3. Articles imported or exported by consular employees or members of the service staff of a consular post or members of their family in connection with their first arrival in the receiving State shall be exempt from payment of customs duties and other charges to the same extent as members of the administrative and technical staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State.

4. The foregoing paragraphs shall not apply to the payment of deposits or to payment for the storage and cartage of imported or exported articles.

*Article 23.* Without prejudice to its laws concerning areas to which access is prohibited or controlled for reasons of national security, the receiving State shall guarantee the freedom of movement and transit of members of a consular post for official purposes within the consular district.

*Article 24.* 1. Consular employees and members of the service staff of a consular post who are nationals of the receiving State or have their domicile therein shall not enjoy the facilities, privileges and immunities provided in this Convention, except for the exemption from the requirement to appear as witnesses in matters related to the performance of their official functions provided for in article 16.

2. Paragraph 1 shall apply equally to members of the family of members of a consular office who are nationals of the receiving State or have their domicile therein.

#### SECTION IV. CONSULAR FUNCTIONS

*Article 25.* 1. Consular officers shall have the right:

- a) To protect the rights and interests of the sending State and its nationals;
- b) To contribute to the development of the economic, cultural and scientific relations between the sending State and the receiving State;
- c) To promote by other means the development of the friendly relations between the sending State and the receiving State.

2. In addition to the functions covered by this Convention, consular officers may perform other consular functions entrusted to them by the sending State, provided that they are in conformity with the laws of the receiving State.

*Article 26.* 1. Consular officers may perform their consular functions only in the consular district. The performance of consular functions outside the consular district shall require, in each specific case, the prior consent of the receiving State.

2. In the performance of their consular functions consular officers may communicate directly with the competent authorities in the consular district.

*Article 27.* 1. Subject to the laws of the receiving State, consular officers shall have the right to represent nationals of the sending State and take appropriate steps to ensure their proper representation before the courts and other authorities of the receiving State, in order to ensure that arrangements are made to protect the rights and interests of such nationals when, owing to absence or for other acceptable reasons, they cannot protect their own rights and interests in good time. The same shall apply to juridical persons of the sending State.

2. Consular officers shall have the right to communicate with a national of the sending State, to interview him, to give him assistance in communicating with the authorities of the receiving State, and, with respect to matters raised by such authorities, to provide him with the assistance of a lawyer or of some other person, and to provide him with a translator.

3. The receiving State shall not limit in any way communication by a national of the sending State with a consular post or his access thereto.

4. The authorities of the receiving State shall assist consular officers to obtain information about persons having the nationality of the sending State, in order that they may communicate or meet freely with such persons.

*Article 28.* 1. If a national of the sending State is detained or arrested, the authorities of the receiving State shall immediately notify the competent consular post of the sending State.

2. Consular officers shall have the right to visit, immediately and as often as necessary, a national of the sending State who has been detained or arrested or imprisoned in execution of a sentence. However, a consular officer shall not take any action under this paragraph when such national, in the presence of the consular officer and the representative of the competent authorities of the receiving State, expressly declines such action.

3. The rights referred to in paragraph 2 shall be exercised in accordance with the laws of the receiving State, it being understood, however, that such laws must not impede the full exercise of the said rights.

*Article 29.* 1. Consular officers shall have the right:

- a) To maintain a register of nationals of the sending State;
- b) To receive applications and issue documents on questions concerning nationality, in accordance with the laws of the sending State;
- c) To issue, renew, extend, amend, cancel or withdraw passports and other travel documents of nationals of the sending State;
- d) To issue, renew, extend, amend, cancel or withdraw visas in accordance with the laws of the sending State;
- e) To maintain a register of births and deaths of nationals of the sending State and to issue the relevant certificates; such registration shall not exempt the persons concerned from the registration requirements of the laws of the receiving State;



- f) To solemnize marriages and to perform other acts relating to civil status and to maintain a register of them, provided that such acts are authorized by the sending State and are in conformity with the laws of the receiving State;
- g) To receive and certify declarations concerning the civil status of nationals of the sending State, in accordance with the laws of that State;
- h) To legalize documents, provided that this is in conformity with the laws both of the receiving State and of the sending State.

2. Consular officers shall inform the competent authorities of the receiving State about the execution of the acts referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraphs *e*) and *f*), when the laws of the receiving State so require.

*Article 30.* Consular officers shall have the right:

- a) To receive and certify declarations of nationals of the sending State;
- b) To certify and accept for safekeeping wills and other documents concerning legal acts of nationals of the sending State;
- c) To certify and accept for safekeeping documents concerning legal transactions between nationals of the sending State, except for legal transactions concerning the acquisition, transfer or revocation of rights to immovable property situated in the receiving State;
- d) To certify signatures on documents of nationals of the sending State;
- e) To certify the authenticity of copies of documents or parts of documents;
- f) To certify translations of documents;
- g) To perform other notarial functions entrusted to them by the sending State, provided that they are in conformity with the laws of the receiving State.

*Article 31.* Documents and instruments issued, certified or authenticated by consular officers in the receiving State in accordance with article 30 shall have the same legal validity as the corresponding documents and instruments issued by the competent authorities of the receiving State.

*Article 32.* 1. Consular officers shall have the right:

- a) To receive from nationals of the sending State documents, money, valuables and other items owned by such nationals and to hold them in safekeeping;
- b) To receive from the authorities of the receiving State documents, money, valuables and other items lost by nationals of the sending State during their stay in the receiving State, with a view to returning them to their owners.

2. An article held in safekeeping in accordance with paragraph 1 may be exported from the receiving State, provided that its export is in conformity with the laws of the receiving State.

*Article 33.* The competent authorities of the receiving State shall inform a consular post of the sending State of the death of a national of the sending State.

*Article 34.* 1. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall communicate to a consular post any information in their possession about the opening of a succession of a national of the sending State who has died in the receiving State, about the existence of a will of the deceased, and about the heirs or legatees. Consular officers shall have the right to request the competent authorities of the receiving State to provide information about the testamentary dispositions of a national of the sending State who has died in the receiving State.

2. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall inform a consular post when a succession opened in the receiving State will have the effect that nationals of the sending

State who are not domiciled or legally represented in the receiving State may be regarded as heirs or legatees, whatever the nationality of the testator at the time of his death.

3. If a national of the sending State has left an estate in the receiving State or if the opening of a succession has the result that nationals of the sending State may be regarded as heirs or legatees, whatever the nationality of the testator at the time of his death, consular officers shall be empowered to request the competent authorities of the receiving State to take action, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State, to safeguard, preserve and administer the said estate and to inform the consular post about such action already taken.

4. A consular post may, directly or through a lawyer appointed by it, participate in the action referred to in paragraph 3 and make arrangements for the representation of the heirs or legatees, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State.

5. On completion of the succession formalities in the receiving State, the movable property forming part of the estate, or the sum of money obtained from the sale of movable and immovable property, shall be handed over to the consular post for remittal to a national of the sending State, provided that he is an heir or legatee, who is not domiciled in the receiving State and has not taken part, either personally or through a representative, in the succession proceedings.

6. The property referred to in paragraph 5 shall be handed over to the consular post once payment of any debts with which the inheritance is encumbered and any inheritance taxes has been made or guaranteed, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State.

7. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall hand over to a consular post without formality the personal effects, money and valuables which a national of the sending State had with him when he died during a temporary stay in the receiving State, provided that he is not domiciled or represented in the receiving State.

8. The remittal and export to the beneficiaries of the property referred to in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 or the proceeds from its sale shall be carried out in conformity with the laws of the receiving State.

*Article 35.* 1. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall inform a consular post in writing about all cases where it is necessary to provide a guardian or a trustee for a national of the sending State who is permanently or temporarily resident in the receiving State.

2. The consular post shall have the right to seek the assistance of the competent authorities of the receiving State concerning the appointment of a guardian or a trustee for a national of the sending State, and to request them to propose suitable persons for appointment as guardians or trustees.

*Article 36.* 1. Consular officers shall have the right to render help and assistance to a ship of the sending State in the ports and territorial and inland waters of the receiving State.

2. Consular officers may communicate with a ship of the sending State and board the ship as soon as it has received permission to communicate with the shore. The captain and the members of the crew of a ship of the sending State shall be permitted to establish communication with a consular officer.

3. In the performance of their functions consular officers may approach the competent authorities of the receiving State for help and assistance in all matters relating to a ship of the sending State, its captain, crew, passengers or cargo.

*Article 37.* 1. Consular officers shall have the right:

- a) Without prejudice to the rights of the authorities of the receiving State, to investigate any kind of incident taking place on board a ship of the sending State during its *voyage*, and to question the captain and the members of the crew about the incident;
- b) Without prejudice to the rights of the authorities of the receiving State, to resolve, in accordance with the laws of the sending State, any disputes between the captain and the members of the crew, including disputes concerning wages and contracts of service;
- c) To take action to recruit or dismiss a captain or a member of the crew, provided that such action is in conformity with the laws both of the receiving State and of the sending State;
- d) To take action to provide medical assistance to the captain, the members of the crew or the passengers, or to ensure their repatriation;
- e) To receive, issue, extend or attest any declaration or other documents provided for by the laws of the sending State with respect to the ships of that State and their cargo, and to verify the ship's papers.

2. Consular officers shall have the right to provide every help and assistance to the captain and the members of the crew of a ship of the sending State and to appear, together with them, before the courts and other competent authorities of the receiving State, in accordance with the laws of the receiving State.

*Article 38.* 1. Where the courts or other competent authorities of the receiving State intend to take coercive measures or conduct an investigation on board a ship of the sending State, the competent authorities of the receiving State shall so notify a consular officer. Such notification shall be given in sufficient time to enable the consular officer to be present. If the consular officer was not present when the said measures were taken, the competent authorities of the receiving State shall provide him, at his request, with a written report of what took place. If the urgency of the measures prevents prior notification of the consular officer, the competent authorities of the receiving State shall send him a written report of what took place and of the action taken, without the consular officer having to request a report.

2. Paragraph 1 shall also apply where the captain or the members of the crew have to be questioned on shore by the competent authorities of the receiving State concerning incidents relating to the ship of the sending State.

3. The provisions of this article shall not apply to normal inspections carried out by the customs, immigration and health authorities.

*Article 39.* 1. If a ship of the sending State suffers shipwreck, runs aground or suffers any other accident in a port or in the territorial or inland waters of the receiving State, the competent authorities of the receiving State shall immediately notify a consular officer and inform him of the action taken to save human life, the ship and its cargo.

Consular officers may render all assistance to the ship of the sending State, its captain, the members of its crew and its passengers and take suitable action to safeguard the cargo and repair the ship.

2. If the captain, the owner of the ship, his agent or the insurers are not in a position to take the necessary action to safeguard or otherwise deal with the ship and its cargo, a consular officer may take, on behalf of the owner of the ship of the sending State, the action which the owner of the ship or of the cargo could have taken.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to articles owned by a national of the sending State which were on board a ship of the receiving State or of a third State and which are found on the shore or in the waters of the receiving State as shipwrecked articles, or which have been brought to a port of the receiving State.

4. The competent authorities of the receiving State shall furnish all necessary assistance to a consular officer with respect to the action which he has to take in connection with an accident of a ship of the sending State.

5. A shipwrecked ship of the sending State, its cargo and its supplies shall be exempt in the receiving State from customs duties, charges and taxes, provided that they do not remain for subsequent use in the receiving State.

*Article 40.* Articles 36 to 39 of this Convention shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to aircraft of the sending State.

*Article 41.* With the consent of the receiving State, a consular post may perform the same consular functions on behalf of a third State.

*Article 42.* 1. Consular officers shall be empowered to collect consular dues in the receiving State, in accordance with the laws of the sending State.

2. The dues collected under paragraph 1 shall be exempt from any tax or duty in the receiving State.

#### SECTION V. GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

*Article 43.* All persons enjoying facilities, privileges and immunities under this Convention shall be obliged, without prejudice to the said facilities, privileges and immunities, to observe the laws of the receiving State, including the laws concerning vehicular traffic and the insurance of motor vehicles. Furthermore, they shall not be permitted to intervene in the domestic affairs of the receiving State.

*Article 44.* 1. The provisions of this Convention shall also apply to the consular activities of the diplomatic mission of the sending State. The same rights and duties as are established in this Convention with respect to consular officers shall apply to members of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State entrusted with the performance of consular functions. The names of the diplomats entrusted with the performance of consular functions shall be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving State.

2. The performance of consular functions by a member of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission in accordance with paragraph 1 shall not affect the facilities, privileges and immunities afforded to him by virtue of his diplomatic status.

*Article 45.* The High Contracting Parties agree to resolve through the normal diplomatic channel any kind of dispute which arises in the interpretation and/or implementation of this Convention.

*Article 46.* 1. This Convention shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force 30 days after the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Moscow.

2. This Convention shall remain in force indefinitely. Either of the High Contracting Parties may denounce it; the denunciation shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of written notification of the denunciation, which shall be done through the diplomatic channel.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Convention has been signed and sealed at Quito on 10 December 1982 in duplicate in the Russian and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics:

*[Signed]*

FELIX N. KOVALEV  
Ambassador

For the Republic  
of Ecuador:

*[Signed]*

LUIS VALENCIA RODRÍGUEZ  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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