SUMMARY OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2008

1. The Commission of the Whole considered the changes made to the text of the draft Convention by the Drafting Committee (see CONF. 11 - Doc. 48). It remarked that the square brackets in the heading of Article 37 (English version) should be removed, that the reference to Chapter VI in the heading of Article 38 (English version) should now be to Chapter V, and that the twelve month period mentioned in Article 48(2) (French version) was not correct and should be six months. After having thus adopted the title, the Preamble and each Article of the draft Convention, the Commission finalised the second reading and referred the text of the draft Convention to the Conference.

2. The Conference adopted the text of the draft Convention as it stood upon completion of the second reading, as well as the Final Act (see CONF. 11 - Doc. 47) with some minor amendments to be made within 30 days.

3. Subsequently, the following 34 States signed the Final Act: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malta, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United States. The Final Act was also signed by the European Community, making 35 signatures in all.

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