Part 4

The Implementation Agreement of 1995
Chapter 21

The Straddling Stocks Agreement of 1995*

On 4 August 1995 the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, at its sixth session, adopted without a vote the text of the Agreement for the Implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.¹ The title is often shortened to “the Straddling Stocks Agreement”. To date, the Agreement has 62 parties.² It marks a significant clarification and development in the rules of international law relating to fishing on the high seas, within the framework of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

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² The parties include Australia, Belize, Canada, the European Community and its member States, Iceland, Japan, Liberia, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, the Ukraine and the United States.

* This chapter is based on a paper read to the Public International Law Group of the Society of Public Teachers of Law, Cardiff Law School on 13 Sept. 1995. It was first published in 45 ICLQ (1996) 463-475. The information regarding the status of the Agreement has been updated: current information is available on www.un.org/Depts/los.