ARBITRATION

Convention signed at Washington April 4, 1908
Senate advice and consent to ratification April 17, 1908
Ratified by Norway May 23, 1908
Ratified by the President of the United States June 18, 1908
Ratifications exchanged at Washington June 24, 1908
Entered into force June 24, 1908
Proclaimed by the President of the United States June 29, 1908
Extended by agreements of June 16, 1913;\(^1\) March 30, 1918;\(^2\) and
November 26, 1923\(^3\)
Expired June 24, 1928

35 Stat. 1994; Treaty Series 499

The President of the United States of America and His Majesty the King
of Norway desiring in pursuance of the principles set forth in articles 15–19
of the Convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes, signed
at The Hague July 29, 1899,\(^4\) to enter into negotiations for the conclusion
of an Arbitration Convention, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

The President of the United States of America, Elihu Root, Secretary of
State of the United States of America; and

His Majesty the King of Norway: O. Skybak, His Chargé d’Affaires
at Washington;

who, after having communicated to one another their full powers, found
in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

**ARTICLE I**

Differences which may arise of a legal nature or relating to the interpreta-
tion of treaties existing between the two Contracting Parties and which it
may not have been possible to settle by diplomacy, shall be referred to the
Permanent Court of Arbitration established at The Hague by the Convention

\(^1\) TS 589, post, p. 454.
\(^2\) TS 632, post, p. 461.
\(^3\) TS 680, post, p. 470.
\(^4\) TS 392, ante, vol. 1, p. 230.
of July 29, 1899, provided, nevertheless, that they do not affect the vital
interests, the independence, or the honor of the two Contracting States, and
do not concern the interests of third Parties.

**Article II**

In each individual case the High Contracting Parties, before appealing
to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, shall conclude a special Agreement
defining clearly the matter in dispute, the scope of the powers of the Arbitra-
tors, and the periods to be fixed for the formation of the Arbitral Tribunal
and the several stages of the procedure. It is understood that on the part of
the United States such special agreements will be made by the President of
the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof.

**Article III**

The present Convention shall be ratified by the President of the United
States of America by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof;
and by His Majesty the King of Norway. The ratifications shall be exchanged
at Washington as soon as possible, and the Convention shall take effect on
the date of the exchange of its ratifications.

**Article IV**

The present Convention is concluded for a period of five years, dating from
the day of the exchange of its ratifications.

Done in duplicate at the City of Washington, in the English and Nor-
wegian languages this 4th day of April in the year 1908.

Elihu Root [seal]

O. Skybak [seal]