

Reference: C.N.719.2012.TREATIES-VI.18 (Depositary Notification)

SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, 1961, AS AMENDED BY THE
PROTOCOL AMENDING THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC
DRUGS, 1961

NEW YORK, 8 AUGUST 1975

UNITED KINGDOM: OBJECTION TO THE RESERVATION CONTAINED IN THE
COMMUNICATION BY THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA¹

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 14 December 2012.

(Original: English)

“The United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations acting in his capacity as treaty depositary and refers to his note C.N.829.2011.TREATIES-28 (Depositary Notification) of 10 January 2012, which outlined that an instrument of accession to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs had been received from the Plurinational State of Bolivia with a proposed reservation submitted in accordance with Article 50, paragraph 3 of the Convention.

The United Kingdom acknowledges and respects the cultural importance of the coca leaf in Bolivia. The United Kingdom also understands that the Bolivian government considers it an integral part of Bolivian heritage and that the use of coca for traditional purposes has been established as a cultural right in the Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. The United Kingdom also welcomes the recent reductions in coca production in Bolivia, as outlined in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2011 National Coca Monitoring Survey.

¹ Refer to depositary notification C.N.829.2011.TREATIES-28 of 10 January 2012
(Communication: Bolivia (plurinational state of)).

The United Kingdom is, however, concerned that the reservation could lead to increases in coca production and –crucially- the amount of coca diverted to the cocaine trade. As such, the reservation would weaken international law as it relates to the global effort to tackle the drugs trade and could weaken the international community’s response to that trade. Therefore, the United Kingdom objects to the proposed reservation and requests that the Secretary-General inform States Parties to the Single Convention accordingly.”

19 December 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. G. W.', written in a cursive style.

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