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## JUST PUBLISHED

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### **International Investment Instruments: A Compendium, Volumes XI and XII**

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[http://www.unctad.org/en/docs//dite4volxi\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs//dite4volxi_en.pdf) (Vol. XI)

[http://www.unctad.org/en/docs//dite4volxii\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs//dite4volxii_en.pdf) (Vol. XII)

Initiated in 1996, the series of *International Investment Instruments: A Compendium* contains a collection of international instruments relating to FDI and TNCs. The need for such a collection has increased in recent years as bilateral, regional, interregional and multilateral instruments dealing with various aspects of FDI have proliferated. The core of the *Compendium* consists of legally binding international instruments, mainly multilateral conventions, regional agreements, and bilateral treaties that have entered into force. In addition, a number of “soft law” documents, such as guidelines, declarations and resolutions adopted by intergovernmental bodies, have been included since these instruments also play a role in the elaboration of an international framework for FDI. The most recent volumes, XI and XII, published in 2003, are structured as follows: Volume XI consists of three parts (additional multilateral instruments; additional interregional and regional instruments; and investment-related provisions in free trade, economic integration and cooperation agreements). Volume XII consists of two parts (investment-related provisions of additional free trade, economic integration and cooperation agreements; and additional prototype bilateral investment treaties). Within each of these subdivisions, the instruments are reproduced in chronological order, except for the sections dedicated to prototype instruments. The Compendium reproduces the legal texts as they stand, with the only exceptions being the boxes added to each instrument explaining the context, such as the date of adoption and date of entry into force and, where appropriate, signatory countries.

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## **United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC): a historical collection and recollection by former UNCTC staff**

<http://unctc.unctad.org/html/index.html>

This unique on-line resource base collects and disseminates all information related to the historical memory of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (1974-1992), which was the predecessor of UNCTAD's Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development, in particular on its activities, documents and publications, and information on its former staff members. When the General Assembly formally created the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Centre as its secretariat, it defined their goals as to further the understanding of the political, economic, social, and legal effects of TNC activity, especially in developing countries; to secure international arrangements that promote the positive contributions of TNCs to national development goals and world economic growth while controlling and eliminating their negative effects; and to strengthen the negotiating capacity of host countries, in particular the developing countries, in their dealings with TNCs. The Centre had three divisions. The Information Analysis Division was responsible for the systematic collection and analysis of information relative to TNCs at the aggregate and enterprise levels, relevant national and regional legislation and policies as well as bibliographic data, and for the dissemination of the above information on a continuing basis through publications and reports and other means as may be requested by Governments. The Policy Analysis Division was responsible for work related to the formulation of a Code of Conduct and other international arrangements and agreements and agreements concerning TNCs, such as illicit payments in international commercial transactions, and conducted research on economic, legal, social, and political matters related to TNCs. The Advisory Services provided advisory services and information to requesting Governments on matters concerning foreign investment policies and institutional arrangements, as well as an evaluation of investment proposals and agreements.

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It also backstopped work in preparation for negotiations, organized training workshops on the above and on matters pertaining to negotiations with TNCs and the monitoring of their activities.