

## Book Reviews

A. Eide, G. Alfredsson, G. Melander, L. Adam Rehof and A. Rosas (eds), *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A Commentary*, Scandinavian University Press (1992) (distributed by O.U.P., Oxford) 474 pages.

This Commentary is very interesting in three respects. First, all the authors are from one of the five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden) and are all experienced experts in the area of human rights. Second, they do not confine themselves to tracing the legislative history and delving into the contents of the Declaration; they also look into the subsequent normative developments at national, regional and international levels. Third, they try as much as possible to identify the position and performance of the Nordic countries with regard to the main provisions of the Declaration.

Unfortunately, the various contributions do not have a common format. Thus, some deal at great length with either the drafting history or the further developments of the Declaration, while others do not; some provide an exhaustive bibliography and others not at all, and so on.

As in all collective works, the quality of the contributions is uneven. Special mention should be made in praise of the papers by H. Danielius on Article 5 (prohibiting torture), by A. Eide (on Article 25, economic and social rights, and Article 28, the right 'to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration can be fully realized'), and by T. Opsahl (on Articles 29, on duties and limitations, and Article 30, which sets forth the vicious circle).

A. C.

Günther Handl *et al.* (eds), *Yearbook of International Environmental Law*, Graham & Trotman/Martinus Nijhoff Publisher, London/Dordrecht/Boston, No. 2 (1991) 784 pages including Documents and Index.

The first edition of this yearbook appeared in 1990, and this second release maintains a standard which makes it an important source of documentation, literature and narrative reporting of developments in international environmental law.

Edited by a team of academics and experts in international environmental affairs, the 1991 edition adds contributions from a number of experts in international law and relations.

Two very useful articles are found in Part I. The first by J. Cameron and J. Robinson concerns trade provisions in international environmental agreements and their compatibility with GATT. A second notable piece by K. Sachariev discusses environmental monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

Part II presents the year in review by canvassing major developments in international environmental law and cooperation, and focusing on the preparatory stages of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), with particular reference to the perspective of developing countries. Then, some special detailed reports illustrate progress in different fields of environmental protection, and the efforts undertaken by international and regional bodies in specific areas such as the marine environment, air and atmosphere, water, management of risky and hazardous substances, natural conservation and energy.

A remarkable survey of 1991 literature covering various aspects of environmental law and policy is given in Part III, which includes a critical review of selected major books published during the year. This section features an extremely detailed and up-to-date bibliography for lawyers involved in environment-related studies.