



# World Chronicle

UNITED NATIONS

**PROGRAMME:** No. 884 recorded 11 December 2002

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## "MANAGING AND PROTECTING THE WORLD'S OCEANS"

The world's oceans cover almost three quarters of the Earth's surface, and are home to more than 97 percent of living organisms. About 90 percent of goods traded internationally are transported by sea. So important are the oceans and seas – as a source of food, water, raw materials and energy – that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, now 20 years old, is considered to be one of the most important achievements in international law. Has the Convention made a contribution to world peace, by providing a mechanism for resolving maritime disputes? What are the current issues in the sustainable management of the oceans? And how important is U.S. support for the Convention? These are some of the issues discussed in this edition of **World Chronicle** with one of the Convention's architects: Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large of the Republic of Singapore.

**WORLD CHRONICLE** is produced by the Media Division, Department of Public Information, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.

Duration: 28:00  
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