

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

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3232 (XXIX). Review of the role of the International Court of Justice*The General Assembly,*

Recalling that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that, in conformity with Article 10 of the Charter of the United Nations, the role of the International Court of Justice remains an appropriate matter for the attention of the General Assembly,

Recalling further that, in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Charter, all Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered,

Taking note of the views expressed by Member States during the debates in the Sixth Committee on

the question of the review of the role of the International Court of Justice at the twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh and twenty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Taking note also of the comments transmitted by Member States and by Switzerland in answer to a questionnaire of the Secretary-General¹ in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2723 (XXV) of 15 December 1970 and 2818 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, and of the text of the letter dated 18 June 1971 addressed to the Secretary-General by the President of the International Court of Justice,²

Considering that the International Court of Justice has recently amended the Rules of Court³ with a view

¹ A/8382, para. 5.

² *Ibid.*, para. 393.

³ I.C.J. *Acts and Documents* No. 2 (Sales number 364).

to facilitating recourse to it for the judicial settlement of disputes, *inter alia* by simplifying the procedure, reducing the likelihood of undue delays and costs and allowing for greater influence of parties on the composition of *ad hoc* chambers,

Recalling the increasing development and codification of international law in conventions open for universal participation and the consequent need for their uniform interpretation and application,

Recognizing that the development of international law may be reflected, *inter alia*, by declarations and resolutions of the General Assembly which may to that extent be taken into consideration by the International Court of Justice,

Recalling further the opportunities afforded by the power of the International Court of Justice, under Article 38, paragraph 2, of its Statute, to decide a case *ex aequo et bono* if the parties agree thereto,

1. *Recognizes* the desirability that States study the possibility of accepting, with as few reservations as possible, the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with Article 36 of its Statute;

2. *Draws the attention* of States to the advantage of inserting in treaties, in cases considered possible and appropriate, clauses providing for the submission to the International Court of Justice of disputes which may arise from the interpretation or application of such treaties;

3. *Calls upon* States to keep under review the possibility of identifying cases in which use can be made of the International Court of Justice;

4. *Draws the attention* of States to the possibility of making use of chambers as provided in Articles 26 and 29 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice and in the Rules of Court, including those which would deal with particular categories of cases;

5. *Recommends* that United Nations organs and the specialized agencies should, from time to time, review legal questions within the competence of the International Court of Justice that have arisen or will arise during their activities and should study the advisability of referring them to the Court for an advisory opinion, provided that they are duly authorized to do so;

6. *Reaffirms* that recourse to judicial settlement of legal disputes, particularly referral to the International Court of Justice, should not be considered an unfriendly act between States.

2280th plenary meeting
12 November 1974

3233 (XXIX). Participation in the Convention on Special Missions, its Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes and the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, by its resolution 2530 (XXIV) of 8 December 1969, it adopted and opened for signature and ratification or for accession the Convention on Special Missions and its Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes and resolved to consider at a later session the question of issuing

invitations in order to ensure the widest possible participation therein,

Noting the Declaration on Universal Participation in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties,⁴ in which the General Assembly was invited to give consideration to the matter of issuing invitations in order to ensure the widest possible participation in that Convention,

Decides to invite all States to become parties to the Convention on Special Missions, its Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes and the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.⁵

2280th plenary meeting
12 November 1974

3247 (XXIX). Participation in the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling that by its resolution 3072 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973 it decided that the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations would be held early in 1975 at Vienna,

1. *Decides* to invite all States to participate in the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps to give effect to resolution 3072 (XXVIII) and the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to invite also the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States in their respective regions to participate in the Conference as observers, in accordance with the practice of the United Nations.

2303rd plenary meeting
29 November 1974

3314 (XXIX). Definition of Aggression

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the Question of Defining Aggression, established pursuant to its resolution 2330 (XXII)⁶ of 18 December 1967, covering the work of its seventh session held from 11 March to 12 April 1974, including the draft Definition of Aggression adopted by the Special Committee by consensus and recommended for adoption by the General Assembly,⁶

Deeply convinced that the adoption of the Definition of Aggression would contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security,

1. *Approves* the Definition of Aggression, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

⁴ *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties, Documents of the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.70.V.5), document A/CONF.39/26, p. 285.

⁵ *Ibid.*, document A/CONF.39/27, p. 287.

⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/9619 and Corr.1).*