

1. *Expresses* to the Committee on International Criminal Jurisdiction its appreciation for its valuable work on the draft statute;

2. *Urges* the Member States which have not yet done so to make their comments and suggestions on the draft statute, in particular if they are of the opinion that further action should be taken by the General Assembly with a view to the establishing of an international criminal court;

3. *Decides* to appoint a Committee composed of one representative each of seventeen Member States, which States shall be designated by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with the Chairman of the Sixth Committee, and directs that this Committee shall meet at the Headquarters of the United Nations in 1953, the exact date to be determined by the Secretary-General, with the following terms of reference:

(a) In the light of the comments⁶ and suggestions on the draft statute submitted by governments, as well as of those made during the debates in the Sixth Committee,

- (i) To explore the implications and consequences of establishing an international criminal court and of the various methods by which this might be done;
- (ii) To study the relationship between such a court and the United Nations and its organs;
- (iii) To re-examine the draft statute;

(b) To submit a report to be considered by the General Assembly at its ninth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the necessary services and facilities for the meetings of the Committee.

*400th plenary meeting,
5 December 1952.*

In accordance with the terms of resolution 687 (VII) above, the President of the General Assembly announced, at the 407th plenary meeting on 19 December 1952, that, in consultation with the Chairman of the Sixth Committee, he had designated the following Member States as members of the Committee:

ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CHINA, DENMARK, EGYPT, FRANCE, ISRAEL, THE NETHERLANDS, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, THE PHILIPPINES, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA AND YUGOSLAVIA.

688 (VII). Question of defining aggression

The General Assembly,

Having regard to its resolution 599 (VI) of 31 January 1952,

Considering that the discussion of the question of defining aggression at the sixth and seventh sessions of the General Assembly and in the International Law Commission⁷ has revealed the complexity of this question and the need for a detailed study of:

⁶ See document A/2186 and Add.1.

⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 9*, para. 35 et seq.

(a) The various forms of aggression,

(b) The connexion between a definition of aggression and the maintenance of international peace and security,

(c) The problems raised by the inclusion of a definition of aggression in the Code of Offences against the Peace and Security of Mankind and by its application within the framework of international criminal jurisdiction,

(d) The effect of a definition of aggression on the exercise of the jurisdiction of the various organs of the United Nations,

(e) Any other problem which might be raised by a definition of aggression,

Considering that continued and joint efforts shall be made to formulate a generally acceptable definition of aggression, with a view to promoting international peace and security and to developing international law,

1. *Decides* to establish a Special Committee of fifteen members, each representing one of the following Member States: Bolivia, Brazil, China, Dominican Republic, France, Iran, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, to meet at the Headquarters of the United Nations in 1953;

2. *Requests* the said Special Committee:

(a) To submit to the General Assembly at its ninth session draft definitions of aggression or draft statements of the notion of aggression;

(b) To study all the problems referred to above on the assumption of a definition being adopted by a resolution of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to communicate the Special Committee's report to Member States for their comments and to place the question on the provisional agenda of the ninth session of the General Assembly.

*408th plenary meeting,
20 December 1952.*

689 (VII). Measures to limit the duration of regular sessions of the General Assembly

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the memorandum⁸ submitted by the Secretary-General on measures to limit the duration of regular sessions of the General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of adopting appropriate measures to this end, consistent with the fulfilment of the Assembly's functions,

Noting the observations and suggestions presented by the Secretary-General with respect to the rules of procedure,

⁸ See document A/2206.