

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.

1. *Decides* to establish a Special Committee of fifteen members, each representing one of the following Member States: Afghanistan, Australia, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, France, Iran, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay;

2. *Requests* this Special Committee to consider the Secretary-General's memorandum and any other relevant information communicated to it by Member States and to submit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its eighth session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the Special Committee's report to Member States for comment and to include the item in the provisional agenda of the eighth session of the General Assembly.

*410th plenary meeting,
21 December 1952.*

B

The General Assembly,

Having examined the memorandum⁹ submitted by the Secretary-General on measures to limit the duration of regular sessions of the General Assembly,

Recognizing the need for adopting measures calculated to accomplish this purpose, without restricting the rights of States Members, including the right to speak fully and freely in the debates of the plenary meetings and in the various Committees,

Amends rule 2 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly to read as follows:

"On the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Assembly shall, at the beginning of each session, fix a closing date for the session".

*410th plenary meeting,
21 December 1952.*

690 (VII). Status of claims for injuries incurred in the service of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report¹⁰ of the Secretary-

⁹ *Ibid.*

General on the status of claims for injuries incurred in the service of the United Nations,

Noting that the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 365 (IV) of 1 December 1949 has presented international claims for reparation to governments in connexion with the death of agents of the United Nations,

Recommends that such claims be settled by the procedures envisaged in resolution 365 (IV).

*410th plenary meeting,
21 December 1952.*

691 (VII). Correction of the Chinese text of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Government of China has made a request for correction of the authentic Chinese text of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, with a view to bringing the Chinese text into greater harmony with the other authentic texts of the Convention, and had for this purpose submitted a corrected text,¹¹

Considering the memorandum¹² submitted to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General,

Requests the Secretary-General to transmit a certified copy of the corrected Chinese text of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, as well as a copy of the present resolution, to all Members of the United Nations and to the non-member States contemplated in article XI of the Convention, and to request States signatories of or parties to the Convention to notify him of their acceptance or objection.

*411th plenary meeting,
21 December 1952.*

¹⁰ See document A/2180.

¹¹ See document A/2221, annex III.

¹² See document A/2221.