

and self-determination of peoples, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, and to render assistance to the United Nations in carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Charter regarding the implementation of the principle, in order:

(a) To promote friendly relations and co-operation among States; and

(b) To bring a speedy end to colonialism, having due regard to the freely expressed will of the peoples concerned;

and bearing in mind that subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a violation of the principle, as well as a denial of fundamental human rights, and is contrary to the Charter.

Every State has the duty to promote through joint and separate action universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter.

The establishment of a sovereign and independent State, the free association or integration with an independent State or the emergence into any other political status freely determined by a people constitute modes of implementing the right of self-determination by that people.

Every State has the duty to refrain from any forcible action which deprives peoples referred to above in the elaboration of the present principle of their right to self-determination and freedom and independence. In their actions against, and resistance to, such forcible action in pursuit of the exercise of their right to self-determination, such peoples are entitled to seek and to receive support in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

The territory of a colony or other Non-Self-Governing Territory has, under the Charter, a status separate and distinct from the territory of the State administering it; and such separate and distinct status under the Charter shall exist until the people of the colony or Non-Self-Governing Territory have exercised their right of self-determination in accordance with the Charter, and particularly its purposes and principles.

Nothing in the foregoing paragraphs shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples as described above and thus possessed of a government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction as to race, creed or colour.

Every State shall refrain from any action aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of any other State or country.

The principle of sovereign equality of States

All States enjoy sovereign equality. They have equal rights and duties and are equal members of the international community, notwithstanding differences of an economic, social, political or other nature.

In particular, sovereign equality includes the following elements:

(a) States are juridically equal;

(b) Each State enjoys the rights inherent in full sovereignty;

(c) Each State has the duty to respect the personality of other States;

(d) The territorial integrity and political independence of the State are inviolable;

(e) Each State has the right freely to choose and develop its political, social, economic and cultural systems;

(f) Each State has the duty to comply fully and in good faith with its international obligations and to live in peace with other States.

The principle that States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter

Every State has the duty to fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by it in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

Every State has the duty to fulfil in good faith its obligations under the generally recognized principles and rules of international law.

Every State has the duty to fulfil in good faith its obligations under international agreements valid under the generally recognized principles and rules of international law.

Where obligations arising under international agreements are in conflict with the obligations of Members of the United Nations under the Charter of the United Nations, the obligations under the Charter shall prevail.

GENERAL PART

2. *Declares that:*

In their interpretation and application the above principles are interrelated and each principle should be construed in the context of the other principles.

Nothing in this Declaration shall be construed as prejudicing in any manner the provisions of the Charter or the rights and duties of Member States under the Charter or the rights of peoples under the Charter, taking into account the elaboration of these rights in this Declaration.

3. *Declares further that:*

The principles of the Charter which are embodied in this Declaration constitute basic principles of international law, and consequently appeals to all States to be guided by these principles in their international conduct and to develop their mutual relations on the basis of the strict observance of these principles.

2634 (XXV). Report of the International Law Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-second session,²

Emphasizing the need for the further codification and progressive development of international law in order to make it a more effective means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations and to give increased importance to its role in relations among nations,

Noting with satisfaction that at its twenty-second session the International Law Commission completed its provisional draft articles on relations between States and international organizations, continued the consideration of matters concerning the codification and progressive development of the international law relating to succession of States in respect of treaties and State responsibility and included in its programme of work the question of treaties concluded between States and international organizations or between two or more international organizations, as recommended by the General Assembly in resolution 2501 (XXIV) of 12 November 1969,

Noting further that the International Law Commission has proposed to hold a fourteen-week session in 1971 in order to enable it to complete the second reading of the draft articles on relations between States

² *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 10 (A/8010/Rev.1).

and international organizations and the first reading of draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties before the end of the term of office of its present members,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Office at Geneva organized, during the twenty-second session of the International Law Commission, a sixth session of the Seminar on International Law,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-second session;

2. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the International Law Commission, on the occasion of the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, for its outstanding contribution to the achievements of the Organization during this period, particularly through the preparation of drafts which have served as the basis for the adoption of important codification conventions, and expresses its appreciation to the Commission for the valuable work it accomplished during its twenty-second session;

3. *Approves* the programme and organization of work of the session planned by the International Law Commission for 1971, as well as its intention to bring up to date its long-term programme of work;

4. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission should:

(a) Continue its work on relations between States and international organizations, taking into account the views expressed at the twenty-third, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions of the General Assembly and the comments which may be submitted by Governments, with the object of presenting in 1971 a final draft on the topic;

(b) Continue its work on succession of States, taking into account the views and considerations referred to in General Assembly resolutions 1765 (XVII) of 20 November 1962 and 1902 (XVIII) of 18 November 1963, with a view to completing in 1971 the first reading of draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties and making progress in the consideration of succession of States in respect of matters other than treaties;

(c) Continue its work on State responsibility, taking into account the views and considerations referred to in General Assembly resolutions 1765 (XVII) of 20 November 1962, 1902 (XVIII) of 18 November 1963 and 2400 (XXIII) of 11 December 1968;

(d) Continue its study of the most-favoured-nation clause;

(e) Continue its consideration of the question of treaties concluded between States and international organizations or between two or more international organizations;

5. *Endorses* the decision of the International Law Commission to request the Secretary-General to prepare new editions, brought up to date, of the publication entitled *The Work of the International Law Commission*³ and of the document entitled "Summary of the practice of the Secretary-General as depositary of multilateral agreements";⁴

6. *Expresses the wish* that, in conjunction with future sessions of the International Law Commission, other seminars might be organized, which should continue to ensure the participation of an increasing number of nationals of developing countries, and supports

the suggestion contained in the Commission's report concerning the use of Spanish as a working language of the Seminar on International Law;⁵

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission the records of the discussion on the report of the Commission at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

*1903rd plenary meeting,
12 November 1970.*

2635 (XXV). Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its third session,⁶

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 establishing the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and defining the object and terms of reference of the Commission,

Recalling its resolution 2502 (XXIV) of 12 November 1969 with respect to the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session, in which the General Assembly recommended that the Commission should keep its programme of work under constant review, bearing in mind the important contribution that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law can make to economic co-operation among all peoples and, thereby, to their well-being,

Noting the forthcoming publication of the *Register of Texts*⁷ and of the first volume of the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*,⁸

Noting that the Trade and Development Board, at its tenth session, expressed its appreciation of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,⁹

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on its third session and of the progress made in its work;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that the desire, expressed in General Assembly resolution 2502 (XXIV), that there be the widest possible participation by the members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in the preparatory work to be done by working groups has been fulfilled, and that this participation has substantially advanced the work of the Commission;

3. *Endorses* the desire expressed by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to obtain, where necessary, the services of consultants or organizations with special expertise in technical matters dealt with by the Commission, it being understood that recourse to such services is made only in special circumstances;

⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/8010/Rev.1), para. 109.*

⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 17 (A/8017).

⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.V.3.

⁸ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.V.1, vol. I.

⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/8015/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1), part two, para. 232.*

³ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 67.V.4.

⁴ ST/LEG/7.