

Considering that since its first session in 1949 the International Law Commission has included the question of State responsibility in its agenda and that so far it has received six reports from its first Special Rapporteur and four reports from its second Special Rapporteur, in addition to various studies prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Office at Geneva organized, during the twenty-fourth session of the International Law Commission, an eighth session of the Seminar on International Law,

I

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

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work it accomplished at that session;

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

(a) 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, with a view to the preparation of a first set of draft articles on the topic;

(b) Proceed with further consideration on succession of States in respect of treaties in the light of comments received from Member States on the present draft;

(c) Continue its work on succession of States in respect of matters other than treaties, taking into account the views and considerations referred to in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

(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;

4. *Approves* the programme and organization of work of the twenty-fifth session of the International Law Commission, to be held in 1973, including the decision to place on the provisional agenda of that session an item entitled "Review of the Commission's long-term programme of work: 'Survey of International Law' prepared by the Secretary-General";

5. *Notes* that the International Law Commission intends, in the discussion of its long-term programme of work, to decide upon the priority to be given to the topic of the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 2780 (XXVI);

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as soon as possible, the study on the legal problems relating to the non-navigational uses of international watercourses requested by the General Assembly in resolution 2669 (XXV) of 8 December 1970, and to present to the International Law Commission at its twenty-fifth session an advance report on such study;

7. *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 jurists of developing countries;

8. *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-seventh session of the General Assembly;

II

1. *Invites* States and also the specialized agencies and interested intergovernmental organizations to submit, as soon as possible, their written comments and observations on the draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission concerning the prevention and punishment of crimes against diplomatic agents and other internationally protected persons;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the comments and observations referred to in paragraph 1 above in order to facilitate consideration of the draft articles by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session in the light of those comments and observations;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-eighth session an item entitled "Draft convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against diplomatic agents and other internationally protected persons" with a view to the final elaboration of such a convention by the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session all relevant documentation which may be required for the discussion of that item.

*2091st plenary meeting
28 November 1972*

2927 (XXVII). Twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Law Commission

The General Assembly,

Recalling that on 21 November 1947 the General Assembly adopted resolution 174 (II) by which it established the International Law Commission and approved the Statute of the Commission,

Noting that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the first session of the International Law Commission will be marked on 12 April 1974,

1. *Commends* the International Law Commission and all the distinguished lawyers who have participated in its work for the outstanding contribution made to the codification and progressive development of international law;

2. *Recommends* that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Law Commission should be observed in an appropriate manner by the General Assembly during its twenty-eighth session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of international organizations concerned with questions of international law.

*2091st plenary meeting
28 November 1972*

2928 (XXVII). 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 fifth session,⁵

⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 17 (A/8717).

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and defined the object and terms of reference of the Commission,

Further recalling its resolutions 2421 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, 2502 (XXIV) of 12 November 1969, 2635 (XXV) of 12 November 1970 and 2766 (XXVI) of 17 November 1971 concerning the reports of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its first, second, third and fourth sessions,

Reaffirming its conviction that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would significantly contribute to universal economic co-operation among all peoples on a basis of equality and, thereby, to their well-being.

Bearing in mind that the Trade and Development Board, at its twelfth session,⁶ took note of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifth session;

2. Commends the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for the progress made in its work and for its efforts to enhance the efficiency of its working methods;

3. Notes with satisfaction the completion of draft articles for a convention on prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods;⁷

4. Recommends that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law should:

(a) Continue in its work to pay special attention to the topics to which it has decided to give priority, that is, the international sale of goods, international payments, international commercial arbitration and international legislation on shipping;

(b) Accelerate its work on training and assistance in the field of international trade law, with special regard to developing countries;

(c) Continue to collaborate with international organizations active in the field of international trade law;

(d) Continue to give special consideration to the interests of developing countries and to bear in mind the special problems of land-locked countries;

(e) Keep its programme of work and its working methods under constant review;

5. Invites the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to seek from Governments and interested international organizations information relating to legal problems presented by the different kinds of multinational enterprises, and the implications thereof for the unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to consider, in the light of this information and the results of available studies, including those by the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council, what further steps would be appropriate in this regard;

⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 15 (A/8715/Rev.1), part one, para. 239.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 17 (A/8717), para. 21.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to forward to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law the records of the discussions at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly on the Commission's report on the work of its fifth session.

2091st plenary meeting
28 November 1972

2929 (XXVII). United Nations Conference on Prescription (Limitation) in the International Sale of Goods

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter II of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifth session,⁸ which contains draft articles for a convention on prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and defined the object and terms of reference of the Commission,

Noting that at its fourth and fifth sessions, held in 1971 and 1972, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, in the light of observations and comments submitted by Governments, considered and revised provisional draft articles on prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods that had been prepared by the Commission's Working Group on Time-Limits and Limitations (Prescription) in the International Sale of Goods, and that the Commission, at its fifth session, approved the draft articles as set forth in paragraph 21 of its report,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law at its fifth session recommended that the General Assembly should convene an international conference of plenipotentiaries to conclude, on the basis of the draft articles adopted by the Commission, a convention on prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods,⁹

Convinced that conflicts and divergencies among the existing national rules governing prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods constitute obstacles to the development of world trade and that the harmonization and unification of such rules would promote the flow of world trade,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for its valuable work on prescription in the international sale of goods;

2. Decides that an international conference of plenipotentiaries shall be convened in 1974, in New York or at any other suitable place for which the Secretary-General receives an invitation, to consider the question of prescription (limitation) in the international sale of goods and to embody the results of its work in an international convention and such other instruments as it may deem appropriate;

3. Further decides to consider at its twenty-eighth session any other matters requiring decision in connexion with the conference and to include in the provisional agenda of that session an item entitled "United Nations Conference on Prescription (Limitation) in the International Sale of Goods";

⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 17 (A/8717).

⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 20.