

Emphasizing the need for the progressive development of international law and its codification 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 in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States,¹² and to give increased importance to its role in relations among States,

Welcoming the fact that the International Law Commission completed the first reading of the draft articles on the most-favoured-nation clause,

Noting with appreciation the work done by the International Law Commission on State responsibility, succession of States in respect of matters other than treaties and the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses,

Noting with satisfaction that the International Law Commission continued to pay special attention to the question of rationalizing further its organization and methods of work,

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

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

3. *Approves* the programme of work planned by the International Law Commission for 1977;

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

(a) Complete at its thirtieth session, in the light of comments received from Member States, from organs of the United Nations which have competence on the subject-matter and from interested intergovernmental organizations, the second reading of the draft articles on the most-favoured-nation clause adopted at its twenty-eighth session;

(b) Continue on a high priority basis its work on State responsibility, taking into account relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted at previous sessions, with a view to completing the preparation of a first set of draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, if possible within the next term of office of the members of the International Law Commission, and take up, at the earliest possible time, the separate topic of international liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law;

(c) Proceed with the preparation, on a priority basis, of draft articles on:

(i) Succession of States in respect of matters other than treaties;

(ii) Treaties concluded between States and international organizations or between international organizations;

(d) Continue its work on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses;

5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General their written comments on the subject of the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses;

¹² Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

6. *Expresses confidence* that the International Law Commission will continue to keep the progress of its work under review and to adopt the methods of work best suited to the speedy completion of the tasks entrusted to it;

7. *Supports* the request of the International Law Commission to the Secretary-General to prepare and publish as soon as possible a new and revised edition of the handbook entitled *The Work of the International Law Commission*;

8. *Expresses the wish* that seminars continue to be held in conjunction with sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants from developing countries be given the opportunity to attend these seminars;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission for its attention the records of the discussion on the report of the Commission at the thirty-first session of the General Assembly.

99th plenary meeting
15 December 1976

31/98. Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the value of arbitration as a method of settling disputes arising in the context of international commercial relations,

Convinced that the establishment of rules for *ad hoc* arbitration that are acceptable in countries with different legal, social and economic systems would significantly contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

Bearing in mind that the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law have been prepared after extensive consultation with arbitral institutions and centres of international commercial arbitration,

Noting that the Arbitration Rules were adopted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law at its ninth session¹³ after due deliberation,

1. *Recommends* the use of the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in the settlement of disputes arising in the context of international commercial relations, particularly by reference to the Arbitration Rules in commercial contracts;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange for the widest possible distribution of the Arbitration Rules.

99th plenary meeting
15 December 1976

31/99. 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 ninth session,¹⁴

¹³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/31/17), chap. V, sect. C.

¹⁴ Ibid., Supplement No. 17 (A/31/17).