

IX. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE¹

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33/19. Drafting of an international convention against the taking of hostages

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 31/103 of 15 December 1976 and 32/148 of 16 December 1977,

Having considered the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages,²

Considering that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has been unable to complete the mandate given to it within the allocated time,

Mindful of the need to conclude, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international convention against the taking of hostages, taking into account the urgency of formulating effective measures to put an end to the taking of hostages,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee that it should continue its work in 1979,³

1. Takes note of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages;

2. Decides that the *Ad Hoc* Committee, as constituted,⁴ should continue, in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 31/103, to draft at the earliest possible date an international convention against the taking of hostages and, in the fulfilment of its mandate, to consider suggestions and proposals from any State, bearing in mind the views expressed during the debate on this item at the thirty-third session of the Assembly;

3. Invites Governments to submit, or to bring up to date, suggestions and proposals for consideration by the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to render all assistance to the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the preparation of summary records of its meetings;

5. Requests the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit its report and to make every effort to submit a draft convention against the taking of hostages to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fourth session the item entitled "Drafting of

¹For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee, see sect. X.B.8.

²Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/33/39 and Corr.1).

³*Ibid.*, para. 57.

⁴See resolution 32/148. The President of the General Assembly subsequently informed the Secretary-General (see A/33/557) that he had appointed Bulgaria to fill the remaining vacancy.

an international convention against the taking of hostages”.

*63rd plenary meeting
29 November 1978*

33/92. 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 eleventh session,⁵

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, its resolution 3108 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, by which it increased the membership of the Commission, and its resolution 31/99 of 15 December 1976, by which Governments of Member States not members of the Commission were entitled to attend as observers the sessions of the Commission and its Working Groups, as well as its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Commission on the work of its annual sessions,

Recalling also its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975,

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 States on a basis of equality and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples,

Having regard for the need to take into account the different social and legal systems in harmonizing the rules of international trade law,

Stressing the usefulness and importance of organizing symposia for promoting better knowledge and understanding of international trade law and, especially, for the training of young lawyers from developing countries in this field,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law has completed, or soon will complete, work on most of the priority items included in its original programme of work and has examined the programme of its future work,

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

2. *Takes note* of the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, held at Hamburg, upon the invitation of the Federal Republic of Germany, from 6 to 31 March 1978, which has resulted in the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978, known as the “Hamburg Rules”;

3. *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;

4. *Endorses* the decision of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to integrate the draft Convention on the Formation of Contracts for the International Sale of Goods with the draft Convention on the International Sale of Goods into a single text entitled “draft Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods”,⁶ and notes with satisfaction the approval by the Commission of the draft Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods;

5. *Takes note* of all items in the list of subject-matters for the Commission;⁷

6. *Reminds* the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law of its earlier call, contained in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 32/145 of 16 December 1977, to take account of the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions and notes, as a response to such call, the inclusion in the proposed work programme of the item entitled “Legal implications of the new international economic order” and the decision of the Commission to establish a working group on this matter;

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

(a) Continue its work on the topics included in its programme of work;

(b) Continue its work on training and assistance in the field of international trade law, taking into account the special interests of the developing countries;

(c) Maintain close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and continue to collaborate with international organizations active in the field of international trade law and strengthen its efforts at co-ordinating the work of such organizations in the interest of the unification and harmonization of international trade law and, to this end, take such steps as may be required;

(d) Continue to maintain liaison with the Commission on Transnational Corporations with regard to the consideration of legal problems that would be susceptible of action by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

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

(f) Keep its programme of work and working methods under review with the aim of further increasing the effectiveness of its work;

8. *Expresses the view* that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law should continue to hold symposia on international trade law;

9. *Appeals* to all Governments and to organizations, institutions and individuals to consider making financial and other contributions that would make possible the holding of a symposium on international trade law during 1980, as envisaged by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to apply towards the cost of the Commission symposia, in whole or in part,

⁵ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/33/17).

⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 28.

⁷ *Ibid.*, paras. 41 and 42.