

Aware of the heavy burden which active involvement in the process of multilateral treaty-making places upon Governments,

Convinced that the most rational use should be made of the finite resources available for the elaboration of multilateral treaties,

Aware that the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee has been reviewing certain aspects of multilateral treaty-making,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth,³¹ thirty-sixth,³² and thirty-seventh³³ sessions, including the replies and observations made by Governments and international organizations on the review of the multilateral treaty-making process,

Having considered the report of the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-making Process,³⁴ established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/112 of 10 December 1981, and noting that the Working Group will require more time to fulfil its mandate as provided in paragraph 2 of that resolution,

Taking into account the statements made at the current session in the debate in the Sixth Committee,³⁵

1. *Decides* to reconvene the Working Group at its thirty-eighth session with the aim of completing the examination of the matters referred to in paragraph 2 of resolution 36/112;

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to prepare and publish as soon as possible new editions of the *Handbook of Final Clauses*³⁶ and the *Summary of the Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Agreements*,³⁷ taking into account relevant new developments and practices in that respect;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Review of the multilateral treaty-making process".

*107th plenary meeting
16 December 1982*

37/111. Report of the International Law Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its thirty-fourth session,³⁸

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 the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations³⁹ and to give increasing importance to its role in relations among States,

Recognizing the importance of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics which might be submitted to the International Law Commission, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission further to enhance their contributions to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Welcoming the establishment of general objectives and priorities which will guide the study by the International Law Commission of the topics on its programme of work within the term of office of Commission members elected at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the contemporary international community, may be suitable for progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

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

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at that session and, in particular, for having completed the final reading of the draft articles on the law of treaties between States and international organizations or between international organizations;

3. *Recommends* that, taking into account the comments of Governments, whether in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly, the International Law Commission should continue its work aimed at the preparation of drafts on all the topics in its current programme;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the conclusions and intention of the International Law Commission concerning its procedures and methods of work, as reflected in paragraphs 266 and 270 of its report;

5. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the increased role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and approves the conclusions reached by the International Law Commission⁴⁰ concerning summary records of its meetings and the application to its documentation of the thirty-two-page limit, as well as the request made by the Commission in paragraph 272 of its report;

6. *Appeals* to Governments and, as appropriate, to international organizations to respond as fully and expeditiously as possible to the requests of the International Law Commission for comments and observations on its draft articles and questionnaires and for materials on topics on its programme of work;

7. *Reaffirms its wish* that the International Law Commission will continue to enhance its co-operation with intergovernmental legal bodies whose work is of interest for the progressive development of international law and its codification;

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

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate.

*107th plenary meeting
16 December 1982*

³¹ A/35/312 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

³² A/36/553 and Add.1 and 2.

³³ A/37/444 and Add.1.

³⁴ A/C.6/37/L.29.

³⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Sixth Committee*, 65th and 66th meetings.

³⁶ ST/LEG/6.

³⁷ ST/LEG/7.

³⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/37/10)*.

³⁹ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

⁴⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/37/10)*, paras. 267-269 and 271.