

6. *Invites* the specialized agencies and the interested inter-governmental organizations to send observers to the conference;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the conference documentation and recommendations concerning its methods of work and procedures;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange for the necessary staff and facilities which will be required for the conference;

9. *Refers* to the conference chapter II of the report of the International Law Commission covering the work of its thirteenth session, together with the records of the relevant debates in the General Assembly, as the basis for its consideration of the question of consular relations;

10. *Expresses the hope* that the conference will be fully attended;

11. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Consular relations" in the provisional agenda of its seventeenth session to allow further expressions and exchanges of views concerning the draft articles on consular relations.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1686 (XVI). Future work in the field of the codification and progressive development of international law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1505 (XV) of 12 December 1960,

Considering that the conditions prevailing in the world today give increased importance to the role of international law in relations among nations,

Emphasizing the important role of codification and progressive development of international law with a view to making international law a more effective means of furthering the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Mindful of its responsibilities under Article 13, paragraph 1 a, of the Charter to encourage the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Having surveyed the present state of international law with particular regard to the preparation of a new list of topics for codification and progressive development of international law,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the valuable work it has already

accomplished in the codification and progressive development of international law;

2. *Takes note* of chapter III of the report of the International Law Commission covering the work of its thirteenth session;¹

3. *Recommends* the International Law Commission:

(a) To continue its work in the field of the law of treaties and of State responsibility and to include on its priority list the topic of succession of States and Governments;

(b) To consider at its fourteenth session its future programme of work, on the basis of sub-paragraph (a) above and in the light of the discussion in the Sixth Committee at the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions of the General Assembly and of the observations of Member States submitted pursuant to resolution 1505 (XV), and to report to the Assembly at its seventeenth session on the conclusions it has reached;

4. *Decides* to place on the provisional agenda of its seventeenth session the question entitled "Consideration of principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations".

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

1687 (XVI). Question of special missions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1504 (XV) of 12 December 1960, whereby it referred to the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities the draft articles on special missions contained in chapter III of the report of the International Law Commission covering the work of its twelfth session,²

Noting the resolution on special missions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities at its 4th plenary meeting, held on 10 April 1961, recommending that the subject be referred again to the International Law Commission,³

Requests the International Law Commission, as soon as it considers it advisable, to study further the subject of special missions and to report thereon to the General Assembly.

*1081st plenary meeting,
18 December 1961.*

¹ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 9 (A/4425).

² *Ibid.*, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 71, document A/4773, para. 1.