

3. *Requests* those specialized agencies and other interested organizations which are active in the preparation and study of multilateral treaties, and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, upon request, to lend any necessary assistance;

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

*97th plenary meeting
8 December 1977*

32/144. Computerization of treaty information and registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General concerning the computerization of treaty information and the registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations,¹⁵

Recalling the regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations¹⁶—adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 97 (I) of 14 December 1946, as modified by resolutions 364 B (IV) of 1 December 1949 and 482 (V) of 12 December 1950—as well as its resolutions 254 A and B (III) of 3 November 1948, 364 A (IV) of 1 December 1949 and 1092 (XI) of 27 February 1957,

Also recalling its recommendation, made on 14 December 1974 at its 2319th plenary meeting, concerning the notifications that States and international organizations¹⁷ depositaries of multilateral treaties are called upon to send to the United Nations Secretariat,¹⁸

Noting that the United Nations Treaty Information System, which is expected to become fully operational at the beginning of 1978, has been conceived as an open system, capable of utilizing not only the data resulting from the registration process under Article 102 of the Charter, but all data relating to treaties and international agreements, regardless of their origin,

Recalling that the General Assembly has consistently taken the view that treaties and international agreements should be published with the least possible delay and that, in this respect, an interval of one year between registration and publication has generally been held to be reasonable,

Noting in this connexion that, according to the information provided by the Secretary-General, the interval between registration and publication of treaties and international agreements had reached five years as an average at 31 July 1977, while the delay in the administrative process of registration itself amounted to twenty months,

¹⁵ A/32/214.

¹⁶ For the text, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 76, p. XVIII.

¹⁷ Wherever it appears in the resolution, the term "international organizations" is understood, in the light of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 1969, as applying to intergovernmental organizations. For the text of the Convention, see A/CONF.39/11/Add.2 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.V.5), pp. 287-301.

¹⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31 (A/9631)*, p. 149, item 87.

1. *Emphasizes anew* the importance of having every treaty and every international agreement registered and published as soon as possible in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly regulations to give effect thereto;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to initiate forthwith, within the means available and in co-operation, as appropriate, with the specialized agencies and other international organizations concerned, such measures as would contribute towards the reduction of the current arrears, both in the field of registration and in the field of publication of treaties and international agreements;

3. *Approves*, as a temporary measure, the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in paragraphs 29 to 34 of his note with regard to the publication of treaties and international agreements;¹⁵

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to approach as soon as possible the Governments and international organizations concerned, especially those that act as depositaries of multilateral treaties and agreements, in order to ascertain the best means of putting the United Nations Treaty Information System to full use for the benefit of the international community;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session an item entitled "Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations".

*105th plenary meeting
16 December 1977*

32/145. 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 tenth session,¹⁹

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 devel-

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/32/17)*.

oping 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,

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

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its tenth 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* that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law has completed work on a draft Convention on the International Sale of Goods²⁰ and that the Commission intends to place before the General Assembly, at its thirty-third session, draft provisions on the formation and validity of contracts for the international sale of goods, together with appropriate recommendations on the action to be taken with respect to those draft provisions;

4. *Notes with regret* that the second international symposium on international trade law could not be held owing to the insufficiency of voluntary contributions from Governments and other sources;

5. *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;

(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;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to continue to take account of the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions that laid down the foundations of the new international economic order, bearing in mind the need for United Nations organs to participate in the implementation of those resolutions;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to review, in the near future, its long-term programme of work²¹ and, in this connexion, requests Governments to submit their views and suggestions on such a programme;

8. *Expresses the view* that both the draft Convention on the International Sale of Goods and the draft provisions on the formation and validity of contracts for the international sale of goods, referred to in paragraph 3 above, should be considered by a conference of plenipotentiaries at an appropriate time;

9. *Decides* to defer until its thirty-third session, when it shall have received from the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law the recommendations relating to the draft provisions on the formation and validity of contracts for the international sale of goods, a decision as to the appropriate time for convening the conference of plenipotentiaries mentioned in paragraph 8 above and as to the terms of reference of such a conference;

10. *Appeals* to all Governments and to organizations, institutions and individuals to consider making financial and other contributions that would make possible the holding of symposia on international trade law as envisaged by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study the problem of how adequate financial resources can be provided for the symposia on international trade law which are organized biennially by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, taking into account the availability of voluntary contributions and the relevant recommendation of the Commission adopted at its 185th meeting on 17 June 1977,²² and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law the records of the discussions at the thirty-second session of the General Assembly on the Commission's report on the work of its tenth session.

*105th plenary meeting
16 December 1977*

32/146. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law²³ and the recommendations made to the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which are contained in that report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

²¹ *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/31/17), chap. VIII, sect. A.

²² *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/32/17), chap. VI.

²³ A/32/326.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. C.