

United Nations Conference on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties

Vienna, Austria
First session
4 April – 6 May 1977

Resolutions of the General Assembly concerning the Conference

Extract from Volume I of the *Official Records of the United Nations Conference on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties (Summary records of the plenary meetings and of the meetings of the Committee of the Whole)*

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING THE CONFERENCE

Resolution 3496 (XXX) of 15 December 1975

SUCCESSION OF STATES IN RESPECT OF TREATIES

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Succession of States in respect of treaties",

Recalling that, in its resolution 3315 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, the General Assembly invited Member States to submit to the Secretary-General their written comments and observations on the draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties contained in the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-sixth session,¹

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General² containing the comments and observations submitted by a number of Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3315 (XXIX),

Taking note also of the views expressed by Member States during the debates in the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions,

1. Urges Member States which have not yet been able to do so to submit to the Secretary-General as soon as possible their written comments and observations on the draft articles;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to circulate, before the thirty-first session of the General Assembly, the comments and observations submitted by Member States;

3. Decides to convene a conference of plenipotentiaries in 1977 to consider the draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties and to embody the results of its work in an international convention and such other instruments as it may deem appropriate;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-first session an item entitled "Conference of plenipotentiaries on succession of States in respect of treaties".

*2440th plenary meeting
15 December 1975*

Resolution 31/18 of 24 November 1976

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUCCESSION OF STATES IN RESPECT OF TREATIES

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, by its resolution 3496 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, it decided to convene a conference

of plenipotentiaries in 1977 to consider the draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties, adopted by the International Law Commission at its twenty-sixth session,¹ and to embody the results of its work in an international convention and such other instruments as it might deem appropriate,

Recalling further that, in section II of its resolution 3315 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, it expressed its appreciation to the International Law Commission for its valuable work on the question of succession of States in respect of treaties and to the Special Rapporteurs on the topic for their contribution to this work,

Believing that the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission at its twenty-sixth session represent a good basis for the elaboration of an international convention and such other instruments as may be appropriate on the question of succession of States in respect of treaties,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General² containing the comments and observations submitted by a number of Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3315 (XXIX) and 3496 (XXX),

Mindful of Article 13, paragraph 1 a, of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that the General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Believing that the successful codification and progressive development of the rules of international law governing succession of States in respect of treaties would contribute to the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States, irrespective of their constitutional and social systems, and would assist in promoting and implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter,

Noting that an invitation has been extended by the Government of Austria to hold the United Nations Conference on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties at Vienna,

1. Decides that the United Nations Conference on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties, referred to in General Assembly resolution 3496 (XXX), will be held from 4 April to 6 May 1977 at Vienna;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to invite:

(a) All States to participate in the Conference;

(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and the work of

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/9610/Rev.1).*

² A/10198 and Add.1-6.

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/9610/Rev.1), chap. II, sect. D.*

² A/10198 and Add.1-6, A/31/144.

all international conferences convened under its auspices, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974;

(c) Representatives of national liberation movements recognized in its region by the Organization of African Unity, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

(d) The specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as interested organs of the United Nations and interested regional inter-governmental organizations, to be represented at the Conference by observers;

3. *Refers* to the Conference as the basic proposal for its consideration the draft articles on succession of States in respect of treaties adopted by the International Law Commission at its twenty-sixth session;

4. *Decides* that the languages of the Conference shall be those used in the General Assembly and its Main Committees;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Conference all relevant documentation and recommendations relating to its methods of work and procedures and to arrange for the necessary staff, facilities and services which it will require, including the provision of summary records;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange for the presence at the Conference, as an expert, of the International Law Commission's latest Special Rapporteur on the topic of succession of States in respect of treaties.

*77th plenary meeting
24 November 1976*