

## Chapter II

### SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTY-THIRD SESSION

11. Concerning the topic “State responsibility”, the Commission considered the fourth report of the Special Rapporteur (A/CN.4/517 and Add.1). The Commission also completed the second reading of the topic (see chapter IV). The Commission decided, in accordance with article 23 of its statute, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts in a resolution, and that it annex the draft articles to the resolution. The Commission decided further to recommend that the General Assembly consider, at a later stage, and in the light of the importance of the topic, the possibility of convening an international conference of plenipotentiaries to examine the draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts with a view to adopting a convention on the topic.

12. With regard to the topic of “International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law (prevention of transboundary damage from hazardous activities)”, the Commission completed the second reading of the topic (see chapter V). The Commission decided, in accordance with article 23 of its statute, to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention by the Assembly on the basis of the draft articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities.

13. As to the topic “Reservations to treaties”, the Commission considered part two of the fifth report<sup>3</sup> of the Special Rapporteur, which had not been considered at the preceding session, and his sixth report (A/CN.4/518 and Add.1–3). The Commission adopted 12 draft guidelines dealing with formulation of reservations and interpretative declarations. The Commission also referred 13 draft guidelines, dealing with form and notification of reservations and interpretative declarations, to the Drafting Committee (see chapter VI).

14. With regard to the topic “Diplomatic protection”, the Commission considered chapter III of the first re-

port of the Special Rapporteur,<sup>4</sup> dealing with questions of continuous nationality and transferability of claims which had not been considered the previous year, and his second report (A/CN.4/514), dealing with the issue of the exhaustion of local remedies. The Commission referred draft articles 9, 10 and 11 dealing with the questions of continuous nationality, transferability of claims and the exhaustion of local remedies to the Drafting Committee. The Commission also established open-ended informal consultations to consider the question of continuous nationality and transferability of claims (see chapter VII).

15. As regards the topic “Unilateral acts of States”, the Commission examined the fourth report of the Special Rapporteur (A/CN.4/519). The Special Rapporteur proposed draft articles (a) and (b) on the rules relating to interpretation of unilateral acts. The Commission considered the oral report of the Chairman of the Working Group on the topic, Mr. Víctor Rodríguez Cedeño, and supported the proposal to request additional information from States on State practice relating to unilateral acts (see chapter VIII).

16. The Commission continued traditional exchanges of information with ICJ, the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, the Inter-American Juridical Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI) of the Council of Europe (see chapter IX, sect. C).

17. A training seminar organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva was held with 24 participants of different nationalities. Some members of the Commission gave lectures at the seminar (see chapter IX, sect. E).

18. The Commission decided that its next session should be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva in two parts, from 29 April to 7 June and from 22 July to 16 August 2002.

<sup>3</sup> *Yearbook ... 2000*, vol. II (Part One), document A/CN.4/508 and Add.1–4.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/CN.4/506 and Add.1.