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**Agenda for the two hundred and forty-first meeting - incorporated in the table of contents of the
summary record of the 241st meeting**

Topic:
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INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE SIXTH SESSION

*Held at the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris,
from 3 June to 28 July 1954*

241st MEETING

Thursday, 3 June 1954, at 3.15 p.m.

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Chairman : Mr. J. P. A. FRANÇOIS
later : Mr. A. E. F. SANDSTRÖM

Present :

Members : Mr. G. AMADO, Mr. R. CÓRDOVA, Faris Bey el-KHOURI, Mr. F. GARCÍA-AMADOR, Mr. S. HSU, Mr. H. LAUTERPACHT, Mr. R. PAL, Mr. C. SALAMANCA, Mr. G. SCELLE.

Secretariat : Mr. Yuen-li LIANG (Director of the Division for the Development and Codification of International Law, and Secretary to the Commission).

Opening of the session

1. The CHAIRMAN declared the sixth session of the International Law Commission open, and welcomed the members.

Statements by the Director-General of UNESCO and the Chairman

2. Dr. Luther H. EVANS (Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) welcomed the members of the Commission.

3. He observed that it was the first session of the Commission to be held at the seat of a specialized agency of the United Nations and said that it was especially significant that the session of a body set up by the General Assembly of the United Nations to encourage "the progressive development of international law and its codification" should be held at the headquarters of UNESCO, an organization created, in the words of its Constitution, "to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for human rights and fundamental freedoms".

4. The activities of UNESCO and the other specialized

agencies had a bearing on the development of international law, for the conventions drafted by them embodied new international obligations and international standards. In performing such quasi-legislative functions, international organizations were modifying a number of traditional concepts of the law of nations, and UNESCO thus regarded the Commission as an ally in its task, and looked to it for guidance on the principles to be implemented.

5. The deliberate creation of new law, or the legislative process, was a safer method of formulating international law than that of leaving its development to the discretion of individual States or of a number of States.

6. A democratic legislative body should represent the main forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world, and the Commission, by its very composition, fulfilled those conditions.

7. The specialized agencies, for their part, reflected in all their activities the same preoccupation with universality. In particular, UNESCO, which had a membership of seventy-two States, represented a concerted attempt at integrating the world community above political differences and controversies.

8. In their quest for world peace, international organizations should think primarily in terms of the rules of law to be applied. As Mr. John Foster Dulles—the present Secretary of State of the United States—had said in 1948, an adequate world organization required legislative and judicial bodies to translate agreed moral principles into law. To think in terms of enforcement rather than of law was to approach the problem from the wrong end: law-making should precede law-enforcement.

9. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the members of the Commission would be satisfied with the facilities provided by his organization.

10. The CHAIRMAN said that as a consequence of the elections held at the eighth session of the General Assembly, certain changes had occurred in the membership of the Commission. Mr. J. M. Yepes, Mr. Ricardo J. Alfaro, Mr. F. I. Kozhevnikov and Mr. Manley O. Hudson were no longer members and he wished to express his appreciation and that of the Commission for the valuable contribution they had made to the work of the Commission.

11. He welcomed Mr. F. V. García-Amador and Mr. C. Salamanca as new members. Of the other members, Mr. S. B. Krylov had cabled that he would be unable to attend the session, as he was undergoing an operation; Mr. J. Spiropoulos would be arriving on Saturday, 5 June; no news had been received from Mr. J. Zourek.