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UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY,  
DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Report of the Secretary-General

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law was established by the General Assembly under its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, and has been continued under relevant resolutions repeated annually until 1971 and biennially thereafter. <sup>1/</sup>
2. In its most recent resolution, namely, resolution 32/146 of 16 December 1977, the General Assembly, inter alia, authorized the Secretary-General to carry out in 1978 and 1979 the activities specified in the report which he submitted at the thirty-second session (A/32/326), while expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, and to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) for their participation in the Programme.
3. In paragraph 9 of that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the implementation of the Programme during 1978 and 1979 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years.
4. In accordance with the request of the General Assembly, the present report deals with the implementation of the Programme during 1978 and 1979 and submits recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years. The report, as in previous years, gives an account of the steps taken or planned by UNESCO and UNITAR, as well as a description of those of the United Nations itself.

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<sup>1/</sup> See resolutions 2204 (XXI) of 16 December 1966, 2313 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, 2464 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2698 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 2838 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971, 3106 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3502 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 and 32/146 of 16 December 1977. Information concerning action taken under the Programme in previous years is contained in the following reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly: Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 86, document A/6492 and Add.1; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 90, document A/6816; ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 89, document A/7305; ibid., Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 91, document A/7740; ibid., Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 90, document A/8130; ibid., Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 91, document A/8508 and Corr.1 and 2; ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 98, document A/9242 and Corr.1; ibid., Thirtieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 117, document A/10332; and ibid., Thirty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 114, document A/32/326.

## II. EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME DURING 1978 AND 1979

### A. Activities of the United Nations

#### 1. Co-operation with other organizations

5. As in previous years, the Secretariat informed a number of international organizations and institutions <sup>2/</sup> of the topics then before the following United Nations bodies: the Sixth Committee, the International Law Commission, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law; the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space; the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization; the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism; the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages; the Special Committee on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Principle of Non-Use of Force in International Relations; the United Nations Conference on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties; the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea; the United Nations Conference on the Carriage of Goods by Sea; and the United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. The Secretariat also compiled the text of resolutions of legal interest adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session and forwarded copies to those organizations and institutions, as well as to various national institutions through United Nations information centres. The compilation, however, had to be discontinued in 1979 because of the ever-growing volume of documentation the Department of Conference Services had to produce and the greatly increased cost the reproduction of the compilation involved. As an alternative, the Secretariat circulated to the international organizations and institutions mentioned above the text of the resolutions which the Assembly adopted on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee during its thirty-third session.

#### 2. Fellowships offered at national institutions

6. The Secretary-General circulated to Member States, at the request of the Permanent Missions of Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland, communications giving information about fellowships offered during 1978-1979 by the Governments of those States for the study of international law and international trade law at their national institutions.

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<sup>2/</sup> The organizations and institutions were the following: Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, Council of Europe, The Hague Academy of International Law, The Hague Conference on Private International Law, Inter-American Institute of International Legal Studies, Institute of International Law, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Association of Legal Science, Internatioanl Bar Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, International Law Association, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity, Organization of American States, World Federation of United Nations Associations, and World Peace through Law Center.

### 3. Publicity

7. The UN Monthly Chronicle has continued to include a section giving information on the current legal activities of the Organization. A document containing the text of resolutions of legal interest adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session was issued early in 1978.

### 4. Provision of advisory services of experts

8. Requests for the advisory services of experts in the legal field have continued to be administered within the framework of established technical assistance programmes.

### 5. Provision of United Nations legal publications

9. In accordance with paragraph 1 of resolution 32/146, the Secretary-General provided copies of United Nations legal publications issued during 1978 and 1979 to the institutions in developing countries <sup>3/</sup> which had previously received United Nations legal publications under the Programme and to a newly established institution in the United Republic of Tanzania. The International Court of Justice continued to provide copies of its publications to institutions receiving assistance under the Programme.

### 6. Geneva International Law Seminar

10. During the thirtieth and thirty-first sessions of the International Law Commission, the United Nations Office at Geneva organized the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the International Law Seminar for advanced students and young government officials. The fourteenth session was held between 29 May and 16 June 1978 and was attended by 23 persons, each from a different country, and the fifteenth session between 5 and 22 June 1979 had 21 participants, all from different countries. Participants attended meetings of the Commission and heard lectures by members of the Commission, the Chairman of the Sixth Committee of the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, the director of the Division

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<sup>3/</sup> The institutions were situated in the following countries: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Burma, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zaire. In addition, publications were supplied to the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee, whose secretariat is in New Delhi.

of Human Rights of the Secretariat, and the director of the Seminar. Further details of the Seminar are contained in the reports of the International Law Commission on the work of its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions. 4/

7. Activities concerning international trade law

11. The General Assembly, in resolutions 32/145 of 16 December 1977 and 33/92 of 16 December 1978, repeated the recommendations of previous years that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) should continue its work on training and assistance in the field of international trade law, taking into account the special interests of the developing countries.
12. The Secretary-General submitted notes (A/CN.9/152 and A/CN.9/173) on training and assistance in the field of international trade law to the eleventh and twelfth sessions of UNCITRAL, held at New York from 30 May to 16 June 1978 and at Vienna from 18 to 29 June 1979.
13. The Secretary-General reported in these notes that, in response to his notes urging Governments of developed countries to ascertain whether commercial and financial institutions within their respective countries would be willing to receive interns from developing countries, the Government of Belgium had awarded two fellowships in 1978 and offered two for 1979 to candidates from developing countries for academic and practical training of six months' duration. The Secretariat assisted the Government of Belgium in the publication of the offers and in the selection of suitable candidates. Also, during discussion of the report of UNCITRAL in the Sixth Committee at the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, the representative of Poland indicated his Government's willingness to offer some fellowships to candidates from developing countries for academic and practical training in international trade law in Poland.
14. The Secretary-General's notes also showed that during 1977-1978 young lawyers had received training at the International Trade Law Branch of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations in New York. Two of them were under the United Nations-UNITAR international law fellowship programme (see para. 20 et seq. below) and one was under the United Nations Department of Public Information internship programme.
15. At its eighth session, UNCITRAL requested the Secretary-General to organize, in connexion with its tenth session, a second international symposium on international trade law and to seek voluntary contributions from Governments, international organizations, foundations and private sources to cover the cost of travel and subsistence of participants from developing countries. At its tenth session, however, the Commission noted that the symposium which it had planned to hold had to be cancelled for insufficiency of funds and decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should consider the possibility of providing for the funding of the symposia on international trade law, in whole or in part, out of the

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4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/33/10), paras. 225-229; and ibid., Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/34/10), paras. 227-233.

regular budget of the United Nations. <sup>5/</sup> The General Assembly, by resolution 32/145, noted with regret that the second symposium could not be held owing to the insufficiency of voluntary contributions, appealed to all Governments and organizations, institutions and individuals to consider making financial and other contributions that would enable the holding of such symposia, and requested the Secretary-General to study the problem of how adequate financial resources could be provided.

16. The Secretary-General submitted a report on the prospects for the financing of the symposia (A/33/177) to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session. After considering the Secretary-General's report, the Assembly, in resolution 33/92 of 16 December 1978, recommended that UNCITRAL should continue to hold symposia on international trade law and appealed to all Governments and to organizations, institutions and individuals "to consider making financial and other contributions that would make possible the holding of a symposium on international trade law during 1980", and authorized the Secretary-General "to apply towards the cost of the Commission symposia, in whole or in part, as may be necessary to finance up to 15 fellowships for participants in the said symposia, voluntary contributions to the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law not specifically earmarked by the contributors to some other activity within the Programme".

17. The Secretary-General has construed the foregoing authorization to mean that voluntary contributions for 1979 and 1980 to the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law not otherwise earmarked for a different activity by their contributors might be allocated to the second UNCITRAL symposium.

18. As regards the scheduling of the second symposium, the Secretary-General's note submitted to the twelfth session of UNCITRAL stated that, both for reasons of insufficiency of contributions announced by that time and the fact that in addition to the Commission's thirteenth session there was also scheduled for 1980 the conference of plenipotentiaries to consider the draft Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, the earliest date for which the next symposium could be scheduled would be in conjunction with the Commission's fourteenth session, in 1981.

19. At its twelfth session, the Commission decided to place on the agenda of its thirteenth session the financing of the symposium, with a view to organizing a symposium in 1981.

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<sup>5/</sup> Report of the United Nations Commission of International Trade Law on the work of its tenth session (1977), Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/32/17), para. 45.

B. United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme  
in International Law

20. Under paragraph 1 (a) of resolution 32/146, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to award a minimum of 15 fellowships each year in 1978 and 1979 at the request of Governments of developing countries. Accordingly, the United Nations and UNITAR jointly granted 21 fellowships in 1978 and 22 fellowships in 1979. As in previous years, UNITAR administered this joint programme. While the United Nations fellowships were open to candidates from developing countries, the UNITAR fellowships were available also to candidates from developed countries.

21. The objectives of the programme are to enable qualified persons, in particular middle-grade government legal officers and young teachers of international law: (a) to deepen their knowledge of international law, particularly, regarding those questions of special interest to developing countries; (b) to acquire practical experience of the legal work of the United Nations and its associated agencies; and (c) to have an opportunity for frank and informal exchanges of views of legal problems of common interest or of special concern to their respective countries.

22. Letters from the Executive Director of UNITAR giving detailed information on the programme were sent to all States Members of the United Nations early in 1978 and 1979. A total of 78 applications from 54 countries were received for 1978 and 98 applications from 55 countries for 1979. In the selection of candidates, special consideration was given to the qualifications of individual applicants, the needs of their respective countries and their normal fields of work, while also bearing in mind the desirability of ensuring a balanced geographical distribution. In keeping with usual practice, preference was given to candidates from countries whose nationals had not been awarded a fellowship in immediately preceding years. Special consideration was also given to least developed countries and to countries which had recently gained independence.

23. In 1978, the fellowships were offered to candidates from the following countries: Canada, Democratic Yemen, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Seychelles, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam. 6/ In 1979, the fellows were selected from the following countries: Bolivia, Burma, Burundi, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Fiji, Guinea, 7/ Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawai, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Sweden, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia. The fellowships for the Canadian, Swiss, Romanian and Swedish candidates were funded by UNITAR and those for all the others by the United Nations.

24. The successful candidates pursued one of the following three study schemes:

(a) Attendance for six weeks at the private and public international law course at the Hague Academy of International Law. In addition, UNITAR organized at The Hague special lectures, seminars and various courses on topics relating to a

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6/ The fellow of Viet Nam could not take up the fellowship offered to him.

7/ The fellow of Guinea could not take up the fellowship offered to him.

new international economic order with a view to complementing the regular lectures and providing the fellows with an opportunity to participate actively in the discussions of legal issues of particular importance and interest to developing countries. 8/ A one-week course on the new law of the sea as well as a series of seminars on the drafting of treaties were organized by UNITAR. The programme at The Hague also included a study-trip to the secretariats of the European Communities and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States at Brussels. A period of practical training for three months was then provided at the legal offices of the United Nations and related organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization and the International Labour Organisation. A total of 25 fellows pursued this scheme during the two-year period.

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8/ In 1978, the following gave special lectures or led seminars: Mr. Georges Abi-Saab, Professor, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva; Mr. Paul Berthoud, Director, Division for Programme Support Services, UNCTAD, Geneva; Mrs. Brigitte Bollecker-Stern, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Dijon, France; Mr. Hugo Caminos, Deputy Director, Law of the Sea secretariat, United Nations, New York; Mr. Edwin Carrington, Deputy Secretary-General, ACP secretariat, Brussels; Mr. G. A. L. Droz, Deputy Secretary-General, Hague Conference on Private International Law, The Hague; Mr. Alexander Elkin, Special Adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London; Mr. Hans J. Geiser, Officer-in-Charge, UNITAR European Office, Geneva; Mr. Eduardo Jiménez de Aréchaga, President of the International Court of Justice, The Hague; Mr. Manfred Lachs, Judge of the International Court of Justice, The Hague; Mr. Erik Suy, the Legal Counsel, United Nations, New York; Mr. Salah El Dine Tarazi, Judge of the International Court of Justice, The Hague; Mr. Iwan Verkade, Deputy Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands; Mr. Henricus Sondaal, Head of Treaty Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands; Mr. Gabriel Wilner, Consultant, Transfer of Technology Division, UNCTAD, Geneva; and Mr. Ralph Zacklin, Senior Legal Officer, United Nations, New York.

In 1979, the following gave special lectures or led seminars: Mr. G. Abi-Saab; Mr. P. Berthoud; Mr. H. Caminos; Mr. E. Carrington; Mr. Evgeny Chossudovsky, Special Fellow, UNITAR; Mr. Adair Dyer, First Secretary, Hague Conference on International Private Law, The Hague; Mr. Abdullah El Erian, Judge of the International Court of Justice, The Hague; Mr. A. Elkin, UNITAR Consultant, London; Mr. M. Lachs; Mr. T. Konate, Secretary-General, ACP secretariat, Brussels; Mr. S. E. Dine Tarazi; Mr. H. Sondaal; Mr. Francesc Vendrell, Department for Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization, United Nations, New York; Mr. van Hoek, Director of Operations, Directorate General for Development, Commission of the European Communities, Brussels; Sir Humphrey Waldock, President of the International Court of Justice, The Hague; and Mr. G. Wilner.

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(b) Attendance at the Hague Academy lecture course and the special UNITAR lectures, seminars and courses as in scheme (a) preceded by participation in the Geneva International Law Seminar organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva and a period of individual research in Geneva. Five fellows followed this scheme during the period under consideration.

(c) Attendance at the Hague Academy lecture course and the special UNITAR lectures, seminars and courses as in scheme (a) above. Fourteen fellows followed this scheme during the period under consideration.

25. The Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UNITAR wish to express their thanks to the President, Judges and officials of the International Court of Justice, the Netherlands Foreign Ministry and the Hague Academy of International Law, as well as to the specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system for their continued assistance in ensuring the successful implementation of the Fellowship Programme. The significant increase in applications over the last two years attests to the usefulness of this Programme and indicates the wide appreciation it enjoys among Member States.

### C. Activities of UNESCO

26. At its nineteenth session, held in 1976, the General Conference of UNESCO adopted the medium-term plan (1977-1982) which lists as one of its objectives the "promotion of the study of the role of international law and of international organizations in the establishment of a peaceful world order" (Objective 2.2). In a resolution adopted at its twentieth session in 1978, the General Conference authorized the Director-General to carry out activities designed to contribute to the attainment of the above objective under the following themes: "promotion of university teaching in international law and on international organizations and promotion of research on the contribution of international law to the solution of the new problems of the contemporary world" in such a way that the activities undertaken on these different planes:

"(a) contribute to the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;

"(b) advance knowledge of the role which can be played by international law and international organizations, in particular in the establishment of a new international economic order." 9/

#### 1. Development of new teaching materials

27. UNESCO began in 1978 a new series of publications, "New Challenges to International Law". In this series, highly qualified scholars and practitioners of international law express their views on how certain major problems and issues of the contemporary world affect international law, both in theory and practice, and what changes may be expected or required in order for international law to respond more adequately to the needs of the international community.

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9/ Resolution 20c/3/2.2/13.

28. The first volume in this series is a book written by Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui entitled Towards a New International Economic Order. It was published in French in 1978 and in English in 1979. The Spanish version is expected to be published shortly. A second volume in this series, The birth of the State through wars of national liberation: the case of Guinea-Bissau, written by Ms. Paulette Pierson-Mathy, will be published in 1979 in French.

29. Another publication in the field of international law is the textbook, The International Dimensions of Human Rights, edited by Mr. Karel Vasak. The French edition was published in 1978 and English and other language versions are in preparation.

30. With a view to making available teaching material on international organization, including international law relating thereto, a book, designed for undergraduate and post-graduate courses in this field, was published under the title The Concept of International Organization. The general editor of the volume is Mr. Georges Abi-Saab.

31. In the field of international humanitarian law in armed conflict, UNESCO has, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Henri Dunant Institute, concluded contracts with an international team of experts for preparing a textbook on the subject, designed to supplement programmes in international law with the most complete and up-to-date material. Publication in English, French and Spanish is foreseen for 1979.

## 2. Seminars and meetings of experts devoted to international law

32. Assistance of \$25,000 was granted to the University Simon Bolívar, Caracas, Venezuela, to organize a Symposium on Regionalism and Universalism in the International Protection of Human Rights. The Symposium took place in July 1978, in Caracas, just a few days after the entry into force of the American Convention on Human Rights. The participants were predominantly scholars and practitioners of international law from various continents and international organizations, both regional and universal.

33. The Caracas Symposium was one of the several meetings which were organized in preparation for the International Congress on the Teaching of Human Rights. This Congress, made possible thanks to the generous invitation of the Government of Austria and with the endorsement of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 3 (XXXIII) and the General Assembly in its resolution 32/123, was held at Vienna from 12 to 16 September 1978 and was attended by nearly 300 participants and observers from some 60 Member States as well as from some 80 governmental and non-governmental organizations. The Congress adopted a "Final Document" containing a series of recommendations relating to the principles and considerations by which the teaching of human rights should be guided and actions to be taken by UNESCO. Pursuant to those recommendations and relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its twentieth session, a meeting of experts was convened in Paris from 25 to 28 June 1979 to elaborate a plan for the development of the teaching of human rights, including within the framework of

international law. The detailed proposals will be taken into account in the preparation of the next programme and budget of the Organization and will be communicated to Member States and non-governmental organizations, which are invited to contribute to their implementation.

34. At the generous invitation of the People's Republic of Czechoslovakia, a meeting of experts was held in Prague from 4 to 8 June 1978 devoted to the preparation of the 1980 World Congress on Disarmament Education which UNESCO is organizing pursuant to paragraph 107 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. The meeting brought out the importance of international law in the study of disarmament and considered the suggestions that international disarmament law be considered as a branch of international law.

35. Considering the specific conditions of the development of the teaching of international law in Africa, support was given to the Austrian National Commission for a project involving the holding of seminars on new perspectives and conceptions of international law and teaching of international law at African universities.

### 3. Granting of fellowships

36. As in the past, assistance was granted to the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, to cover costs of nearly 40 participants, mainly from developing countries, in the sixth and the seventh sessions of the International Training Centre for the Teaching of Human Rights (Centre international de formation et de recyclage des enseignants des droits de l'homme - CIFREDH), held in 1978 and 1979. Its purpose is to provide in-depth training in the international and comparative law of human rights in order that the participants may be prepared to set up specialized courses in international human rights in their respective countries. Each session of CIFREDH is held in Strasbourg for four weeks in July and is followed by a two-week training period at international organizations dealing with human rights issues, including the Division of Human Rights and Peace of UNESCO.

37. Individual fellowships were also awarded to scholars from the following countries: Bulgaria (a 3-month fellowship devoted to problems of international law experienced by UNESCO in the field of international cultural co-operation); Burundi (a 12-month stipend to the Deputy Secretary of the National Commission of Burundi for UNESCO to study the importance of international relations in the contemporary world); Egypt (a 6-month grant to study the international law of human rights); Malaysia (a 3-month research project dealing with peace and international conflict); Mauritius (a 3-month fellowship devoted to comparative and constitutional law); Nigeria (a 12-month fellowship under a UNDP project for a senior lecturer and acting department chairman to pursue graduate studies in international law and international human rights); Panama (a research project on the neutrality of the Panama Canal Zone and its relations to world peace); Philippines (a 12-month fellowship to a graduate student to study international peace-keeping); Democratic Yemen (an 18-month fellowship under a UNDP project for a Supreme Court Justice to complete studies and develop the curriculum of a new Faculty of Law at Aden University); and Ukrainian SSR (two 6-month fellowships to an international specialist to continue his study on the dialectics of human rights and peace).

#### 4. Feasibility studies

38. Further to studies carried out in 1977-1978 relating to Africa and Asia, a feasibility study concerning the creation of a Latin American regional centre specializing in human rights and international humanitarian law was carried out pursuant to a contract concluded with the International Committee of the Red Cross.

39. Three consultants were sent to Benin to study ways and means of developing the teaching of public international law in that country.

#### 5. Assistance to non-governmental organizations

40. As in the past the International Social Science Council distributed the subvention it received from UNESCO among the 12 member organizations, including the International Association of Legal Sciences (IALS) and the International Law Association (ILA) for administrative and secretariat expenses.

#### D. Activities of UNITAR <sup>10/</sup>

##### 1. Regional training and refresher courses in international law

41. In accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolution, UNITAR continued organizing regional training and refresher courses in international law. As indicated in the last report of the Secretary-General (A/32/326, para. 50), one such course was held toward the end of 1977, from 21 November to 3 December, for the Caribbean region in Nassau, Bahamas, at the generous invitation of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, which provided the necessary course facilities as well as accommodation for the participants. The course was attended by 16 participants from the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as from the Netherlands Antilles, Dominica and St. Kitts-Nevis.

42. Another course was held for the Latin American region in Mexico City from 8 to 20 May 1979. As expected in the last report of the Secretary-General (ibid., para. 65), the course was for the first time organized jointly with the Hague Academy of International Law, which had also been holding similar regional seminars. The joint endeavour allowed to double the number of participants and to share the costs relating to the course. The Centre for Economic and Social Studies of the Third World in Mexico City generously accepted to offer the course facilities and accommodation for all the participants. Forty-five young legal advisers and university teachers from the following countries attended the course: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Uruguay and Venezuela.

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<sup>10/</sup> The participation of UNITAR in the United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme in International Law is described in paras. 20-25 above.

43. As in previous years, the objective of these courses was to enable young international lawyers from the regions concerned to meet in order to exchange views on, and deepen and update their knowledge of, recent developments in international law relevant to their regions and to their professional activities.

44. The course curricula were worked out in consultation with various legal experts from the regions concerned and with representatives of Governments at the United Nations. As a result, the following topics, all relating to various legal aspects of a new international economic order, were included in the course curricula; legal problems relating to permanent sovereignty over natural resources; the new law of the sea; legal aspects of regional integration in the Caribbean and Latin America; legal aspects of transfer of technology; human rights in the perspective of a new international economic order; the Lomé Convention between the European Communities and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States.

45. The faculty members were chosen from among eminent international lawyers from Latin America and the Caribbean as well as from other parts of the world. 11/

46. The Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UNITAR wish to express their thanks to the Governments of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and Mexico as well as to all the faculty members for their invaluable contributions towards the success of the regional courses.

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11/ The following served as faculty members for the Bahamian course: Mr. Hugo Caminos (Argentina), Deputy Director, Law of the Sea secretariat, United Nations, New York; Mr. Edwin Carrington (Trinidad and Tobago), Deputy Secretary-General, ACP secretariat, Brussels; Mr. Ralph Carnegie (Jamaica), Professor, University of the West Indies, Bridgetown, Barbados; Mr. Carl Dundas (Jamaica), Legal Counsel, CARICOM secretariat, Georgetown; Mr. Hans J. Geiser (Switzerland), Officer-in-Charge, UNITAR European Office, Geneva; Sir Fred Phillips (Barbados), Chairman, Board of Directors of the Caribbean Investment Corporation, Saint Lucia; Mr. Duke Pollard (Guyana), Legal Counsel, International Bauxite Association, Kingston, Jamaica; Sir Rupert John (St. Vincent), Adviser, Commonwealth Development Corporation, Bridgetown, Barbados; Mr. Oscar Schachter (United States), Professor of International Law, Columbia University, New York.

The following served as faculty members for the Mexican course: Mr. A. Al-Rafei (Syrian Arab Republic), Director of Training, UNITAR; Mr. Hugo Caminos; Mr. Jorge Castañeda (Mexico), Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mexico; Mr. René Jean Dupuy (France), Secretary-General, the Hague Academy of International Law; Mr. Eduardo Jimenez de Aréchaga (Uruguay), former President of the International Court of Justice; Mr. B. F. Osorio-Tafall, Director General, Centre for Economic and Social Studies of the Third World, Mexico City; Mr. Félix Peña (Argentina), former Director, Institute for Latin American Integration, Buenos Aires; Mr. C. Sepúlveda (Mexico), Professor, National Autonomous University, Mexico City; Mr. Michel Virally (France), Professor, University of Paris; Mr. Gabriel Wilner (United States of America), Professor, University of Georgia.

## 2. Other activities

### (a) Travaux préparatoires of United Nations multilateral conventions

47. During the biennium of 1978-1979 UNITAR has been engaged in the development of a project dealing with travaux préparatoires of certain multilateral conventions adopted under the auspices of the United Nations and in seeking the requisite financial support to enable qualified persons to conduct the research. The Ford Foundation has agreed to provide a grant of \$25,000 to support the research, contingent upon an additional \$100,000 being raised from other sources.

48. As the General Assembly is aware there are two major difficulties about reference to the preparatory work on United Nations conventions. The first is that the material is contained in United Nations records that are available only in major libraries. The records are, therefore, not always conveniently accessible to the whole range of interested persons who must consult them. This is true particularly in the more newly independent countries. The second difficulty results from the complicated evolution of many United Nations treaties: the records are scattered in documents representing many years of debate in different forums. Consequently, even where records are available in libraries, there is still a real need for aids in retrieving them and for guidance in using them.

49. Such assistance may take a variety of forms, including the preparation by scholars of commentaries on the conventions, based on their own detailed examination of the records. However, persons who have to accept professional responsibility for the interpretation of a convention - e.g. judges, members of bodies supervising implementation, officials advising Governments, and lawyers advising clients - will not normally feel able to rely exclusively on the interpretation which someone else has placed upon the preparatory work and will consider it necessary to look at the records themselves. For such persons, it is essential to provide a systematic analysis of the records which does not interpose the discretion (no matter how objectively exercised) of the commentator.

50. The objectives of the UNITAR research are thus twofold. One is the preparation of a systematic analysis of the preparatory work of United Nations conventions. This would trace the origin of each significant work and phrase and, in addition, identify proposals which were made in the course of negotiations, but which were not implemented, and which for this very reason can shed light - albeit sometimes a negative one - on the meaning of the text as adopted. The second would be the physical reproduction in convenient form of all the materials relevant to each convention. Thus the exercise would be one of scientific and objective legal research aimed exclusively at the provision in an easily usable form of essential materials required by those whose work involves interpretation of United Nations conventions.

51. The project will initially concentrate on: (a) the Human Rights Covenants and the Optional Protocol of 1966; (b) the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951; and (c) the Convention on International Liability for Damages Caused by Space Objects of 1972.

(b) The evolution of the liability of States for damage caused through scientific and technological innovations

52. Another project, dealing with the evolution of the liability of States for damage caused through scientific and technological innovations, was elaborated during the biennium and UNITAR obtained the financial support of the Volkswagen Foundation for study of the subject. Preliminary work has begun.

53. The project will consist of a thorough and comprehensive study of the impact of scientific and technological change on the responsibility of States for injuries, including catastrophic accidents, and the degrees of their liability in international law arising from misuse or negligent control of technologically advanced instruments, materials, or fuels. The study is also intended to examine, with particular care, the questions of strict and absolute liability which occur through no fault on the part of any person using such instruments, materials, or fuels. Such study calls for investigation and analysis of law-changing processes in international law as legal ideas are confronted by new scientific and technological developments. In addition, the study will demonstrate how the development of these legal ideas derive from the extension of humanistic values into transnational and international affairs. Hence the study will examine and compare, against a background of the traditional, customary international law of State responsibility, how the major multilateral conventions on liability for damage due to harm caused by technological innovations can bring about fundamental changes in State practice and in international relations.

54. The specifics of such a study necessarily require a detailed and interpretative review of the important legal documents involved, and would include an appraisal of the travaux préparatoires leading to their conclusion as well as of subsequent State practice thereunder. The documents intended for review include the relevant articles of the informal Composite Negotiating Text of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1977); the IMCO fund and liability conventions; United States legislation which has been proposed as a United States substitute for the fund convention; the Vienna, Paris, and Brussels conventions on nuclear installations and ships; the "Principles" evolved at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, especially Principles 21 and 22; the United States "Savannah" legislation; and the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects.

55. While problems concerning extensive injuries to human beings and to their territories remain unsettled, States are faced with difficulties in reducing their differences to legal formulae; the greater the harm, the greater is the difficulty. Hence States may be presented with the temptation of resolving them by tests of nerve and strength, rather than by resorting to orderly legal process. The more clear-cut the articulation of the issues, and of the legal categories by which these issues can be characterized and analysed, the stronger the impulse becomes to resort to the process of law. Clarification for the purpose of enhancing the possibility of the peaceful settlement of disputes through due process of law, then, is the central goal of this study.

56. The study will involve searching through the various United Nations indexes and documents and discussing with the appropriate United Nations officials in order to locate relevant documents which are not easily accessible. These records will then be analysed in the light of both traditional international law and emerging theories of justice and of legal change. In addition, contemporary case law and legal literature will be combed for contributions to the thought on the subject-matter of the study. The extensive materials thus collected, classified, digested, and organized will be presented in book form.

(c) Human environment

57. UNITAR has published one of the studies reported to the General Assembly in paragraph 52 of the last report of the Secretary-General on the present programme (A/32/326), under the title Protecting the Human Environment: Procedures and Principles for Preventing and Resolving International Controversies. <sup>12/</sup>

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REGARDING  
EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME IN 1980-1981

58. In paragraph 9 of resolution 32/146, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, following consultations with the Advisory Committee, recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years. The Secretary-General's recommendations with respect to the conduct of the Programme in 1980 and 1981, which were considered by the Advisory Committee at its fourteenth session, on 8 November 1979, are set out below.

A. Activities of the United Nations

59. The following recommendations were made by the Secretary-General:

(a) Register of experts and scholars in international law. If further names are received from Governments, these will be included in an additional supplement;

(b) Co-operation with other organizations. The Secretary-General will inform interested bodies in 1980 and 1981, as in previous years, of the items of legal interest that were being considered by United Nations organs and plenipotentiary conferences convened by the United Nations;

(c) Fellowships and scholarships offered at national institutions. Information received from Governments regarding fellowships and scholarships offered at national institutions will, at the request of the State concerned, be circulated to States Members;

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<sup>12/</sup> Written by Aida L. Levin (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.XV.PS/9).

(d) Publicity. The Secretary-General will continue his efforts to see that adequate publicity is given to the legal activities of the United Nations, in particular by the continued regular inclusion in the UN Monthly Chronicle of a section dealing with matters of legal interest;

(e) Provision of advisory services of experts. As in previous years, requests for advisory services of experts will be handled within the framework of the established technical assistance programmes;

(f) Provision of United Nations legal publications. Copies of United Nations legal publications issued during 1980 and 1981 will be provided to the institutions in developing countries which have been receiving such publications under the Programme, and to other institutions in developing countries for which requests for such publications are made by the Member States concerned.

(g) Geneva International Law Seminar. It is expected that the seminar will continue to be held during the sessions of the International Law Commission in 1980 and 1981;

(h) Activities concerning international trade law. The steps to promote training and assistance in international trade law are of particular concern to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. The Secretary-General will take the requisite action during 1980 and 1981 in order to implement the recommendations addressed to him in this regard by the Commission, and report to its annual sessions on the results of his efforts.

60. In summary, the Secretary-General recommends that, in 1980 and 1981, the Secretariat should continue to conduct the above-mentioned activities along the same lines as they have been conducted in the past. In the event that considerable extra funds were to become available, the matter should be looked at afresh. The activities listed represent, in the view of the Secretary-General, a practical and effective use of the means at present available for the purposes of United Nations participation in the Programme and, as such, should be continued.

#### B. United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme in International Law

61. The Secretary-General recommends that the United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme in International Law should be conducted in 1980 and 1981 in the same way as in 1978 and 1979. A minimum of 15 fellowships would be provided under the United Nations regular budget and a few more will be added whose expenses would be covered by voluntary contributions and by UNITAR funds. It is expected, however, that the number of such extra fellowships would be considerably less than that of the preceding biennium since voluntary contributions for 1979 and 1980 which are not specifically earmarked otherwise may be utilized for the UNCITRAL symposium to be held in 1981 (see paras. 16-18 above and para. 76 below).

C. Activities of UNESCO

62. In 1980, UNESCO plans to continue publishing teaching materials relevant to international law and to continue assisting institutions in developing countries, at their request, in activities relating to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. To the extent that more Governments request funds through UNDP for the establishment of university-level programmes in the field of international law, UNESCO will provide whatever technical and financial assistance it can to help the States concerned attain the level of expertise necessary for the adequate defence of their interests at the international level, particularly as regards trade and development issues. It will be noted that, in the past, UNESCO has been executing agency for UNDP projects involving the setting up of chairs in international law; in recent years such projects have been limited to fellowships.

63. Following the publication of the first two volumes in the series on "new challenges to international law", other translations in the series will be published in 1980 and new volumes will be prepared.

64. Work will also continue on the preparation of a textbook for undergraduate students designed for teaching of international organization. UNESCO will organize a consultation in 1980 with the participation of competent bodies such as the Institut du droit international, the Hague Academy of International Law and UNITAR with a view to co-ordinating efforts to bring research on international law and international organizations more in line with the challenges of the current international situation. This consultation is designed to encourage more active and co-ordinated participation in the United Nations programme of assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law.

65. The Secretary-General recommends that the General Assembly should express its appreciation to UNESCO for its participation in the Programme.

D. Activities of UNITAR

66. Assuming approval by the General Assembly, the United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme in International Law would be administered by UNITAR in 1980 and 1981 along the same line as in previous years.

67. The cycle of regional training and refresher courses will be continued during the biennium 1980-1981 with courses being planned for Africa and Asia. The co-operation with the Hague Academy of International Law is envisaged again in the organization of those courses.

68. UNITAR research dealing with the travaux préparatoires of United Nations multilateral conventions (see paras. 47-51 above) will further be elaborated and work will proceed to the extent possible as funding becomes available. Work will also be continued on the Institute's project on the evolution of the liability of States for damage caused through scientific and technological innovations (see paras. 52-56 above).

69. The Secretary-General recommends that the General Assembly should express its appreciation to UNITAR for its participation in the Programme, particularly in the conduct of the United Nations-UNITAR Fellowship Programme in international law and in the organization of regional courses.

#### IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF UNITED NATIONS PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMME

##### A. 1978 and 1979

70. Among the activities under the Programme during 1978 and 1979, three items involved specific budgetary allocations: the supply of United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries; the provision of a minimum of 15 fellowships each year; and assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country invited to regional training and refresher courses organized by UNITAR.

71. The cost of shipping United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries was covered by the amount allocated under section 23A (Department of Conference Services) of the United Nations budget for the biennium 1978-1979. As regards the cost of provision by the United Nations of a minimum of 15 fellowships each year and travel grants for participants in the regional courses, a total of \$194,000 has been included from the regular budget source under section 20 (Office of Legal Affairs) of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.

72. In accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 32/146, the Secretary-General addressed a note, in January 1978 and January 1979, to Member States drawing their attention to paragraphs 7 and 8 of that resolution, whereby the Assembly requested Member States, organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme. Member States were asked to draw the attention of interested organizations and individuals to the provisions of paragraphs 7 and 8. The Legal Counsel addressed a communication in May 1979 to some 50 foundations and philanthropic bodies in 11 countries, with a request for voluntary contributions.

73. As a result, cash contributions were received from Governments of the following States in the following amounts during 1978: Argentina, \$6,800; Austria, \$810; Cyprus, \$263; Senegal, \$2,091; Togo, \$48 and Yugoslavia, \$3,000. Those received during 1979 as at 1 November were: Argentina, \$5,200; Austria, \$734; Cyprus, \$276; Iran, \$2,000; Kenya, \$266 and Trinidad and Tobago, \$2,000. Further cash contributions were received from a non-governmental institution, the University of Athens, Greece, in the amount of \$413 and \$405 for 1978 and 1979, respectively.

74. In addition, the following Governments have made contributions specifically to the 1978 and 1979 Geneva International Law Seminar in the following amounts: Austria, \$757 for 1978, \$786 for 1979; Denmark, \$4,464 for 1978, \$4,699 for 1979; Finland, \$2,000 for 1978, \$3,000 for 1979; Germany, Federal Republic of, \$2,992 for 1978, \$3,760 for 1979; Kuwait, \$2,000 for 1978, \$2,500 for 1979; Netherlands,

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\$4,506 for 1978, \$4,898 for 1979; Norway, \$5,662 for 1978, \$10,262 for 1979; and Sweden, \$2,500 each for 1978 and 1979. A further grant of \$6,000 for persons attending the Geneva Seminar has recently been announced by the Dana Fund for International and Comparative Legal Studies.

75. Thus, as at 1 November 1979, the total of voluntary cash contributions received for the biennium for purposes other than the Geneva International Law Seminar was \$24,305 and that for the Geneva Seminar, \$57,286.

76. As stated above (see paras. 16-17), the General Assembly, in its resolution 33/92, authorized the Secretary-General to apply towards the cost of the UNCITRAL symposia voluntary contributions to the Programme received in 1979 and 1980 which are not specifically earmarked to some other activity within the Programme. The total of the contributions which may thus be allocated to the symposia was \$9,209 in 1979 as at 1 November.

77. The voluntary contributions other than those for the Geneva Seminar and for the UNCITRAL symposia, together with the unspent balance carried over from the previous biennium, have made it possible to grant three extra fellowships in 1978 and four in 1979, in accordance with paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/146.

B. 1980 and 1981

78. Assuming that the Secretary-General's recommendations regarding the provision of legal publications are accepted, the cost of shipping the publications issued in 1980 and 1981 would be covered by the estimates under section 29A (Department of Conference Services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. 13/

79. With regard to the provision of fellowships for persons from developing countries and of travel grants for participants in regional courses to be organized by UNITAR during 1980-1981, an amount of \$194,000 is included from the regular budget source under section 26C (Office of Legal Affairs) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium, 14/ assuming that the General Assembly approves the Secretary-General's recommendations on those programmes.

80. The Secretary-General would repeat his efforts, if the General Assembly so requests, in soliciting voluntary contributions towards the Programme. It is proposed, as in the biennium 1978-1979, that the funds accruing from such contributions may, subject to considerations of a practical nature as well as the provisions of General Assembly resolution 33/92, be used to increase the number of fellowship grants in addition to the minimum which would be authorized by the General Assembly under the appropriations from the regular budget.

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13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/34/6), vol. II, p. 422 et seq.

14/ Ibid., p. 215.

V. MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

A. Thirteenth session

81. By its resolution 32/146, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the programme during 1978 and 1979 to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session. While no report was required in 1978, the Secretary-General submitted to the Committee, for its information, an interim report on the activities conducted in 1978 and on the steps to be taken in 1979. The thirteenth session of the Committee was scheduled by the Secretary-General on 14 December 1978 to discuss this interim report. The meeting was subsequently postponed until 19 January 1979. Chaired by Mr. K. O. Kumi (Ghana), the meeting was attended by the representatives of Barbados, Ghana, Italy, Mali, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America. The Legal Counsel introduced the interim report of the Secretary-General. The representatives of UNITAR and UNESCO as well as a member of the International Trade Law Branch of the Office of Legal Affairs made statements.

82. All the members who spoke paid tribute to the various bodies which had been engaged in the execution of the Programme.

83. It was stated that UNITAR should take further steps to achieve a balanced representation from developing and developed countries in the selection of faculty members of its seminars at The Hague and its regional courses. It was also pointed out that the lecturers for the Caribbean course represented the Western world only and that a broader representation should be considered in future courses. The opinion was expressed that benefits to participants should continue to be the primary criterion in the selection of lecturers.

84. Regarding the UNITAR research project relating to travaux préparatoires of United Nations multilateral conventions, it was stated that there appeared to be a certain connexion between the initiation of the item on review of multilateral treaty-making in the General Assembly and the launching of the UNITAR project, for which UNITAR had appointed the very initiator of the Assembly item as a consultant.

85. The Legal Counsel remarked that, although the Assembly resolution on the item (resolution 32/48) had requested UNITAR and other bodies to lend assistance to the Secretary-General "upon request", no such request had been made. The view was also expressed that the UNITAR project reflected a fine effort on the part of UNITAR, which had the right to foresee the future need and proceed with its own projects.

86. The representative of UNITAR replied that, since the officers in charge were not available at that moment, it would provide clarifications in writing on the points raised.

B. Fourteenth session

87. The written responses to the questions on UNITAR international law programmes raised at the thirteenth session were circulated to members of the Committee on 30 October 1979 through the Legal Counsel.

88. At the fourteenth session, the Committee held one meeting, on 8 November 1979. Chaired by Mr. K. O. Kumi (Ghana), the meeting was attended by the representatives of Barbados, France, Hungary, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania.

89. The Committee considered the present report of the Secretary-General in draft form, which was introduced by the Legal Counsel. The representatives of UNESCO and UNITAR as well as a member of the International Trade Law Branch of the Office of Legal Affairs made statements on the activities of their respective bodies.

90. Commenting on the selection of lecturers for the seminars and regional courses organized by UNITAR, certain members stated that, despite the efforts of UNITAR, there was not sufficient balance among lecturers coming from various legal systems of the world, with too much representation from West European countries and too little from third world as well as East European countries. The hope was expressed that in future selection more lecturers should be appointed from among professors and government officials of those latter countries. It was further stated that many lecturers had been appointed repeatedly in the past years and that should be avoided in order to secure wider representation. It was suggested that in the future selection of lecturers UNITAR should consult at least the members of the Committee.

91. It was stated, on the other hand, that these criticisms concerning the alleged lack of balance in the list of lecturers were exaggerated.

92. The representative of UNITAR stated that it had made real efforts to achieve the balance among various regions and legal systems in their selection of lecturers, though the main emphasis had to be placed on their individual competence and thus little account was taken whether they were from universities, governmental services or international organizations. Regarding the repetition of some lecturers for the seminar at The Hague, it was replied that it was somewhat inevitable because of the limitations in financial resources, which had prevented UNITAR from inviting lecturers from distant places, as well as in the availability of competent bilingual experts.

93. It was stated that UNITAR could do better in selecting more lecturers from the third world, for instance from among the Judges of the International Court of Justice, and other jurists who could be found in nearby countries. It was pointed out in this connexion that the officials of the secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States were not sufficiently representative of third world positions because of the limited nature of that organization's functions.

94. The view was expressed that, while the conduct of the Programme was on the whole quite satisfactory, too little emphasis appeared to have been put on the activities of UNITAR and UNESCO on the basic topics of classic international law, which should form the essential part of the education process. The representative of UNITAR replied that such basic topics were covered by the courses at the Hague Academy of International Law and the selection of other topics such as those relating to a new international economic order was to complement them.

95. Certain representatives protested, as a matter of principle, against the issuance of part of Committee documentation in English language only.

96. After having completed its consideration of the draft report of the Secretary-General, the Committee took up the question of possible assistance to the Hague Academy of International Law which, the Legal Counsel pointed out, was in serious financial crisis, to such an extent that, in the words of the Academy itself, "the continuation of the basic programme of the summer courses - and thus even the survival of the Academy - is threatened". The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should insert in the resolution it is to adopt on the United Nations Programme of Assistance, a paragraph or two drawing the attention of Governments and other potential donors to the desirability of providing the Academy the funds necessary to continue its work and its valuable assistance to the United Nations own Programme of Assistance.

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