



REGIONAL COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2 to 27 February 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

The United Nations Regional Courses in International Law are conducted under the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which was established by General Assembly resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965 to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States. The Regional Courses were most recently mandated under General Assembly resolution 69/117 of 10 December 2014. They are organized by the Codification Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs.

The Regional Course for Africa is organized by the Codification Division, in cooperation with the Government of Ethiopia, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Union.

OBJECTIVES

The Regional Courses provide high-quality training by leading scholars and practitioners from different regions and legal systems on a broad range of core subjects of international law, as well as specific subjects of particular interest to the countries in a given region. In addition, the interactive nature of the training allows the participants to share experiences and exchange ideas, which promotes greater understanding and cooperation on legal matters in the region. The Regional Courses constitute an important contribution to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities.

The Regional Courses are intended to enable qualified professionals, in particular government officials and teachers of international law from developing countries and countries with emerging economies, to deepen their knowledge of international law, and of the legal work of the United Nations and its associated bodies.

COURSE CONTENT

The lectures for this Regional Course included (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (S. Murphy, Member of the International Law Commission, Professor, George Washington University Law School); "Introduction to African Union law and institutions" (A. Kilangi, Dean of the Faculty of Law, St. Augustine University of Tanzania, President of the African Union

Commission on International Law); "International trade law" (M.M. Mbengue, Professor, University of Geneva); "International environmental law" and "International organizations" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, Director of the Department of Public International Law and International Organization, University of Geneva); "Community interests within international law" (D. Stewart, Legal Officer, Codification Division, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs); "International investment law" (J. Donoghue, Judge, International Court of Justice); "Self-determination in international law" and "Africa and international law in the twenty-first century" (A. Yusuf, Judge, International Court of Justice); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs); "International human rights law" (F. Ouguerouz, Judge, African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights); "Codification and progressive development of international law: the work of the International Law Commission" and "International peace and security" (D. Tladi, Member of the International Law Commission, Professor, University of Pretoria); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Deputy Chief Judge of the Court Martial and Deputy Judge Advocate General, Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington); "Law of the sea" (T. Treves, Former Judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Professor, University of Milan); "Peaceful settlement of disputes" (B. Daly, Deputy Secretary-General and Principal Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration).

METHODOLOGY AND TRAINING MATERIAL

The Regional Course was conducted in the form of interactive seminars and discussions to allow a maximum exchange of views. A comprehensive set of training materials was provided for each participant at the beginning of the Regional Course. Certificates were awarded to those participants who completed the Regional Course in its entirety.

PARTICIPANTS

This Regional Course was open to candidates from Member States of the African Regional Group. The selection of participants took into consideration the candidates' qualifications, the scope of their professional duties, the relevance of the training to their professional duties and gender balance. Applications from female candidates were strongly encouraged. Due consideration was also given to those candidates who were already present in the host city of the Regional Course.

The 31 participants who attended the Regional Course came from the following countries: Algeria, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Three participants came from the African Union and one participant came from the League of Arab States. Additionally, one staff member of the Economic Commission for Africa attended the international trade and investment law lectures as an observer.

VENUE AND COURSE LANGUAGE

The Regional Course for Africa was held at the facilities of the ECA, in Addis Ababa, from 2 to 27 February 2015. It was conducted in English.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information and application forms are available at <http://www.un.org/law/rcil/>.