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Twenty-fifth session  
Item 92 of the provisional agenda

DECLARATION ON UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION IN THE VIENNA  
CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF TREATIES

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the above-mentioned item appeared on the agenda as sub-item (a) of item 94, entitled "Declaration and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties". Its inclusion on the agenda had been proposed by the Secretary-General pursuant to a Declaration adopted by the Vienna Conference on the Law of Treaties<sup>1/</sup> in which the Conference, noting that articles 81 and 83 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties enabled the General Assembly to issue special invitations to States which were not Members of the United Nations or of any of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, to become parties to the Convention, and declaring itself convinced that it was in the interest of the rule of law that the Convention should be open to the participation of all States, invited the Assembly to give consideration, at its twenty-fourth session, to the matter of issuing invitations in order to ensure the widest possible participation in the Convention.

2. Item 94 (a) was referred to the Sixth Committee. Concerning this item, the Committee had before it two draft resolutions, one of which was submitted by the following countries: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mali, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Southern Yemen, Sudan,

<sup>1/</sup> A/7592, p. 3.

Syria, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic and Zambia, and was the subject of an amendment submitted by Uganda; the other was submitted by Ghana and India. The three texts are reproduced in the report of the Sixth Committee to the General Assembly.<sup>2/</sup>

3. The Sixth Committee did not consider the drafts which were submitted to it. It confined itself to recommending, at its 1153rd meeting on 13 November 1969, that the General Assembly should defer the matter until the following session.<sup>3/</sup> In accordance with that recommendation, the Assembly decided at its 1825th plenary meeting on 8 December 1969 to defer until its twenty-fifth session consideration of the item entitled "Declaration on Universal Participation in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties".

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<sup>2/</sup> A/7797, paras. 6-8.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., para. 18.