



Nineteenth session

CONSIDERATION OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING FRIENDLY  
RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS\*

Comments received from Governments

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\* Item 81 of the provisional agenda.

BURMA

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Burma is a Member of the United Nations which has accepted the Principles and Purposes of the United Nations as stated in its Charter. Chapter I - Article I of the Charter of the United Nations says - "The purposes of the United Nations are: (1) to maintain international peace and security and to that end; to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of peace and to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace; (2) to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace; (3) to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion; and (4) to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends".

Again, Chapter I - Article 2 of the United Nations Charter says - "The Organization and its Members in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article I shall act in accordance with the following Principles: (1) the Organization is based on the principles of sovereign equality of all its Members; (2) all Members in order to ensure to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from membership shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the present Charter; (3) all Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered; (4) all Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations; (5) all Members shall give the United Nations every assistance

in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter and shall refrain from giving assistance to any State against which the United Nations is taking preventive or enforcement action; (6) the Organization shall ensure that States which are not members of the United Nations act in accordance with these Principles so far as may be necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security; and (7) nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter; but this Principle shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter 7".

In the light of the above Purposes and Principles of the United Nations of which Burma is a Member, Burma supports in full the Principles, viz., (a) the duty of States to co-operate with one another in accordance with the Charter; (b) the Principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; (c) the Principle that States shall fulfil in good faith the obligation assumed by them in accordance with the Charter - as stated in paragraph 5 of the resolution (1966) adopted by the General Assembly.

In view of the above Purposes and Principles of the United Nations Burma also fully supports the Principles as mentioned in resolution (1815) of the General Assembly, viz., (a) the Principles that States shall refrain in their international relation from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations; (b) the Principle that States shall settle their disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered; (c) the duty not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any State in accordance with the Charter; and (d) the Principle of sovereign equality of States. Relating to resolution (1967) of the General Assembly on Question of Method of Fact-finding, Burma proposes that the fact-finding responsibility be entrusted to an existing organization complementary to existing arrangements and without prejudice to the right of parties to any dispute to seek other peaceful means of settlement of their own choice and that such impartial fact-finding be within the framework of International Organizations and in accordance with bilateral and multilateral Conventions".