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COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND
INSTITUTIONS REGARDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE THE TEACHING,
STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

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The Soviet Union, which follows a consistent policy of peaceful coexistence, favours strict observance of the rules of international law and the strengthening of international legality in relations between States: it therefore supports General Assembly resolution 1816 (XVII) concerning technical assistance to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, provided that such assistance is furnished on a basis of equality and without interference in the domestic affairs of States.

1. In the Soviet Union, international law curricula provide for the study of such subjects as public international law, private international law and the history of international law. International law is taught, by both the lecture and the seminar method, at all law institutes, at the law faculties of State universities, at the Patrice Lumumba University of the Friendship of Peoples, and at various other higher educational establishments in the liberal arts field. For students wishing to specialize in international law, lectures to supplement the basic curriculum and special seminars are conducted each year on such individual questions of international law as international maritime law, diplomatic and consular law, and the legal aspects of United Nations activities.

All Soviet students, including those attending law schools, are entitled to free tuition. Students at all higher educational establishments, including those attending law institutes, receive a State grant.

2. Since Soviet higher educational establishments have qualified professors of and instructors in international law on their staffs, the Soviet Union does not require assistance in the form of specialized foreign personnel to teach international law.

3. The Soviet Union assists other countries in the study of international law by training their undergraduate and graduate students at Soviet law schools and other higher educational establishments in the liberal arts field; it also engages in exchanges of international law specialists under bilateral agreements with interested States. If the Governments concerned so desire, the Soviet Union can provide assistance in the study of international law by admitting undergraduate students, trainees and graduate students to Soviet law schools and other higher

educational establishments in the liberal arts field and by sending professors and instructors from Soviet higher educational establishments to other countries.

4. Among the public organizations which are in a position to assist foreign countries in the teaching of international law are the League of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Contact with Foreign Countries, the Soviet Association for Co-operation with the United Nations, the All-Union "Knowledge" Society and the Soviet International Law Associations.

5. One of the primary purposes of United Nations and UNESCO technical assistance in disseminating knowledge of international law and in developing programmes for the teaching of it should be to enable the newly independent States to build up their own body of specialists in international law. Action to promote bilateral inter-State exchanges of undergraduate students, graduate students and teachers of international law would be a useful contribution to the achievement of the objectives of resolution 1816 (XVII). It would be advisable, in this connexion, to explore the relevant experience and practice of States as well as other possible forms of United Nations assistance in the dissemination of knowledge of international law. Assistance of this kind could be financed through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, without any additional expenditure.

6. The competent Soviet authorities take a favourable view of the proposed proclamation by the General Assembly of a "United Nations Decade of International Law", and consider that such a Decade would have positive results.
