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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE LAW ON THE WORK OF ITS SECOND SESSION

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Piet-Hein HOUBEN (Netherlands)

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1758th plenary meeting, on 20 September 1969, the General Assembly included as item 90 of the agenda of its twenty-fourth session, and allocated to the Sixth Committee, the item entitled "Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session".<sup>1/</sup>
2. The Sixth Committee considered this item at its 1111th to 1118th meetings, held from 1 to 7 October 1969 and at its 1120th and 1121st meetings, held on 9 and 10 October 1969.
3. At the 1111th meeting, on 1 October 1969, Mr. László Réczei (Hungary), Chairman of the second session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), introduced UNCITRAL's report on the work of that session.<sup>2/</sup>
4. At the 1121st meeting, on 10 October 1969, the Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee raised the question whether the Committee wished to include in its report to the General Assembly a summary of views expressed during the debate on agenda item 90. After referring to paragraph (f) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967, the Rapporteur informed the Committee of the financial implications of the question. At the same meeting, the Committee decided that, in view of the nature of the subject-matter, the report on agenda item 90 should include a summary of the representative trends of opinion and not of the individual views of all delegations.
5. The report of UNCITRAL on the work of its second session, which was before the Sixth Committee, is divided into twelve chapters as follows:
  - I. Organization of the session;
  - II. International sale of goods;
  - III. International payments;
  - IV. International commercial arbitration;

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<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/7618).

<sup>2/</sup> This presentation was pursuant to a decision taken by the Sixth Committee at its 1096th meeting, on 13 December 1968. See report of the Sixth Committee on the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its first session, Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 88, document A/7408, para. 3.

- V. International legislation on shipping;
- VI. A. Register of organizations and register of texts;  
B. Bibliography;
- VII. Co-ordination of the work of organizations in the field of international trade law; working relationship and collaboration with other bodies;
- VIII. Training and assistance in the field of international trade law;
- IX. Yearbook of the Commission;
- X. Suggestions relating to future activities of the Commission;
- XI. Organizational questions relating to future work;
- XII. Resolutions and other decisions adopted by the Commission at its second session.

## II. PROPOSALS

6. At the 1120th meeting, on 9 October 1969, the representative of India introduced a draft resolution sponsored by Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Congo, (Democratic Republic of), Ghana, India, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, Nigeria, Romania, Spain and United Republic of Tanzania (A.C.6/L.748 and Add.1 and 2), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session, 3/

"Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 by which it established the Commission and defined its object and terms of reference, and resolution 2421 (XXIII) on the report of the Commission on the work of its first session,

"Noting the comments by the Trade and Development Board at its ninth session expressing its appreciation of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, 4/

"Taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of a Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the financial implications of alternative proposals for such a Yearbook, 5/

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the Commission's report on the work of its second session;

"2. Endorses the inclusion by the Commission, on the basis indicated in its report, of international legislation on shipping among the priority topics in its work programme;

"3. Notes with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's programme of work, including the establishment of Working Groups on uniform rules governing the international sale of goods and the law applicable thereto, on time-limits and limitations (prescription) in the field of the international sale of goods, and on international legislation on shipping;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/7618).

4/ A.C.6/L.744. The account of the proceedings at the ninth session of the Trade and Development Board appears in the Board's report to the General Assembly, Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/7616).

5/ A/CN.9/32.

"4. Takes note of the view expressed by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in its report that in order to implement the mandate entrusted to the Commission by the General Assembly, it is desirable that there be the widest possible participation by the members of the Commission in the preparatory work to be done by Working Groups or Special Rapporteurs;

"5. Endorses the Commission's desire, where necessary, to obtain the services of consultants or organizations with special expertise in technical matters dealt with by the Commission;

"6. Emphasizes the need for full co-operation with the Commission in the performance of its task to promote the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade;

"7. Approves in principle the establishment of a Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law which would make the Commission's work more widely known and readily available, and requests the Commission to consider at its third session the timing and content of the Yearbook, in the light of the report of the Secretary-General 6/ and of the discussions at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

"8. Authorizes the Secretary-General to establish the Yearbooks referred to in paragraph 7 above in accordance with the decisions and recommendations to be adopted by the Commission at its third session;

"9. Endorses the decisions and recommendations of the Commission concerning the registers of organizations and texts and requests the Secretary-General to continue the work of preparing and publishing the registers in accordance with those decisions and recommendations;

"10. Recommends that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law should:

(a) Continue its work on the topics to which it decided to give priority, i.e. the international sale of goods, international payments, international commercial arbitration, and international legislation on shipping;

(b) Continue to give attention to the ways and means which would effectively promote training and assistance in the field of international trade law;

(c) Keep its programme of work under constant review, bearing in mind the important contribution which the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law can make to economic co-operation among all peoples and, thereby, to their well-being;

"11. Recommends further that the Commission should continue to collaborate fully with international organizations active in the field of international trade law;

"12. Requests the Secretary-General to forward to the Commission the records of the discussions at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly on the Commission's report."

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Afghanistan proposed an oral amendment to the draft resolution and subsequently accepted a modification of that amendment proposed by the representative of the Netherlands. As modified, the amendment read as follows: "Add to paragraph 10 of the resolution the following additional sub-paragraph:

'(d) In promoting the harmonization and unification of international trade law, give special consideration to the interests of developing and land-locked countries.'"

### III. DEBATE

8. The main trends of the Sixth Committee's debate on agenda item 90 are summarized in the following ten sections. The first three sections concern the observations which were made on the role of UNCITRAL in general, its working methods and its programme of work. The other seven sections contain a summary of the observations relating more particularly to the report of UNCITRAL on the work of its second session. They are set out under the following headings: international sale of goods, international payments, international commercial arbitration, international legislation on shipping, register of organizations and register of texts, establishment of an UNCITRAL Yearbook, and training and assistance in the field of international trade law.

#### A. The role of UNCITRAL in general

9. Most representatives expressed satisfaction at the work of UNCITRAL's second session and congratulated the Commission on the practical and businesslike way in which it had set about its substantive work. Several representatives called attention to the field of competence conferred on UNCITRAL by General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), and expressed the opinion that limitations should not be imposed on UNCITRAL's work which would be contrary to its terms of reference. These representatives observed that UNCITRAL, as an organ representing the international community, should take positive steps to reduce discrepancies between the needs of present-day international trade and the often obsolete legal institutions which sought to regulate it; UNCITRAL should, therefore, go beyond the tasks of providing information on existing legislation of an international character, and of merely co-ordinating the work of other organizations in the field of international trade law. Representatives of developing countries expressed the hope that UNCITRAL would be instrumental in establishing equitable conditions for international trade by eliminating from existing international instruments provisions which failed to give fair recognition to their interests. Consequently, UNCITRAL should not limit itself to the compilation of customs and norms of international trade which would necessarily imply the maintenance of an unsatisfactory status quo. Other

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representatives took the view that the primary responsibility of UNCITRAL was to co-ordinate the activities of other organizations, to review existing instruments where necessary and to disseminate information, rather than to undertake the preparation of new legal instruments. They emphasized the need for such co-ordination and the unique contribution that UNCITRAL could make in drawing on the specialized expertise of existing agencies and in developing means to secure the wider acceptance of suitable conventions.

#### B. The working methods of UNCITRAL

10. Several representatives stressed the importance of careful preparatory work so that the results could be generally accepted and successfully implemented, rather than merely producing rapid results. Many representatives were of the opinion that the establishment by UNCITRAL of inter-sessional working groups had been a wise and appropriate decision. The difficulties involved in the unification and harmonization of international trade law were considerable; therefore a sustained effort which would enable UNCITRAL to advance its work between its yearly sessions was required. On the other hand, caution was expressed about the possible proliferation and permanence of inter-sessional working groups lest the cost exceed the benefits from such work.

11. It was suggested by some representatives that UNCITRAL should secure wider participation and collaboration in its work than could be provided by those States which were members of the Commission; that UNCITRAL should, when necessary, obtain the services of consultants to assist it in its preparatory work; and that UNCITRAL should expand its co-operation with organizations concerned with international trade law by including economic and commercial circles engaged in trade law and interested in its work, so that the studies and the work undertaken would reflect the needs that were actually experienced in international trade.

12. Several representatives noted that the success of UNCITRAL's work depended on the selection by Member States of skilled experts for the sessions of UNCITRAL and the meetings of its working groups. The view was, however, expressed that this requirement would be difficult to meet if such sessions and meetings were permitted to last too long.

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C. Programme of work of UNCITRAL

13. Most representatives who expressed their views on the programme of work of UNCITRAL observed that the programme entailed a heavy workload for UNCITRAL and its secretariat and therefore should not be further expanded for the time being. The opinion was also expressed that, in view of this workload, the International Trade Law Branch should develop as a unified operation in close relationship with the rest of the Office of Legal Affairs.

14. Some representatives declared that UNCITRAL should not confine itself to harmonizing and unifying private law norms in the international sphere, but should also concern itself with the removal of discriminatory rules which adversely affect international trade. Other representatives were of the view that questions of public international law and questions affecting trade policy could best be dealt with in organs other than UNCITRAL, and that UNCITRAL should accordingly confine its attention to the norms governing commercial relationships of a private law nature and should avoid considering political questions.

15. One representative suggested that, in accordance with operative paragraph 8 (d) of General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), UNCITRAL should consider by what practical means it could ensure the uniform interpretation and application of international instruments, particularly in the field of international shipping.

D. International sale of goods

(a) Rules governing the international sale of goods

16. Various trends of opinion were expressed regarding the unification of substantive rules governing the international sale of goods.

17. Some representatives expressed the opinion that the Hague Conventions of 1964 relating to a Uniform Law on the International Sale of Goods and a Uniform Law on the Formation of Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, which were the outcome of over thirty years of work, should constitute the basis

for further work by UNCITRAL in the field; that it would not be possible to form a considered opinion of the effectiveness of these Conventions until they had been put to the test by a sufficiently large number of States; and that, consequently, no changes should be proposed which might impede their ratification. The Conventions, it was further observed, were modern, practical legal instruments and represented the established practice of merchants of both the common law and civil law systems, modified to the extent necessary to achieve a single, harmonious and unified system. Under this view, repudiation of the Conventions would amount to a repudiation of the established law of both systems concerning not only international, but also internal commercial dealings. These representatives also stressed that the Hague Conventions were not designed to favour the interests of either developing or developed countries, but to establish a proper balance between sellers and buyers.

18. Other representatives questioned the need for UNCITRAL to base its work on the rules of the Hague Conventions of 1964. These representatives noted that the Conventions emerged from a diplomatic conference attended by only twenty-eight States, and that these States were not representative of the present membership of the United Nations. Attention was also directed to inconsistencies between the rules on choice of law in the Hague Convention of 1955 and provisions governing the applicability of the Hague Conventions of 1964. It was suggested that the Hague Conventions of 1964, as well as the Hague Convention of 1955 on the Law Applicable to the International Sale of Goods, could not form the basis of a unified law and it would accordingly be advisable to formulate a new instrument which would take full account of the interests of different legal, social and economic systems, including those of both the developed and developing countries.

19. However, most representatives who spoke on the question were agreed that UNCITRAL had acted wisely in establishing a working group to consider closely by what means and procedures the unification of the rules governing the international sale of goods could best be promoted, and that it was appropriate and desirable for UNCITRAL to examine the Hague Conventions of 1955 and 1964 in order to determine what modifications might be needed to render them more widely acceptable. It was observed that consideration should be given to uniting the

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two conventions in a single text which might be drafted in simpler language comprehensible to both traders and lawyers.

#### E. International payments

20. Many representatives welcomed the decision of UNCITRAL to investigate the possibility of preparing rules applicable to a new form of negotiable instruments for optional use in international transactions. These representatives commended UNCITRAL on the procedure it was following, namely, to assess the existing legal and practical difficulties in the use internationally of negotiable instruments by means of a detailed questionnaire addressed to Governments and to competent banking and trade institutions. In this connexion, the view was expressed that, where appropriate, a similar approach should be employed by UNCITRAL in its preparatory work on other priority topics. Some representatives pointed out that new economic and legal problems had arisen which were not covered by the Geneva Conventions of 1930 and 1931 providing a Uniform Law on Cheques, Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, and that unification of domestic legislation in this area would not be feasible. Therefore the best way of securing uniformity was UNCITRAL's project, which was confined to the consideration of a new negotiable instrument in international transactions; any other approach would lead to insurmountable difficulties, at least in some countries.

21. Several representatives referred favourably to UNCITRAL's decision to draw the attention of Governments to the contribution which employment of the "Uniform Customs and Practice of Documentary Credits", drawn up by the International Chamber of Commerce, could make to facilitating international trade. Some representatives also commended the decision to ask Governments to inform the International Chamber of Commerce concerning any difficulties arising in connexion with the use of the "Uniform Customs".

#### F. International commercial arbitration

22. There was general endorsement of the opinion expressed by UNCITRAL that the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958, should be adhered to by the largest possible number of  
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States. One representative declared that UNCITRAL should also encourage States to accede to the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration, 1961, provided that accession to that Convention was not limited to States members of the Economic Commission for Europe.

23. Several representatives expressed agreement with the conclusion reached by UNCITRAL that, with regard to international commercial arbitration, the best course, for the time being, was for UNCITRAL to concern itself with problems of the international interpretation and application of existing conventions and welcomed, in this respect, the decision of UNCITRAL to appoint Mr. Ion Nestor (Romania) as Special Rapporteur on the most important problems arising in that connexion.

#### G. International legislation on shipping

24. Most representatives who commented on the decision of UNCITRAL to include international legislation on shipping among the priority topics in its programme of work, recognized that UNCITRAL was competent to consider such legislation and to decide on topics and methods of work in that connexion. Many drew attention, however, to the need for UNCITRAL to take account of the work of other organizations in the field so as to avoid wasteful duplication or unnecessary expenditure. It was also observed that collaboration in this particular field had been helped by the creation of the Joint Shipping Legislation Unit of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the UNCTAD secretariat.

25. Some representatives, while accepting the competence of UNCITRAL in the field of international legislation on shipping, doubted the wisdom of UNCITRAL's decision to include the subject in its working programme at the present stage. These representatives took the view that it would be preferable for UNCITRAL not to commence considering the substance of the question until the other international organizations concerned had considered its economic and other aspects. Under this view, the Commission should, for the time being, confine its task to that of co-ordination.

26. Representatives of developing countries stressed that UNCITRAL's work in this field was of importance for the economy of these countries and expressed the hope that their countries would be equitably represented in the bodies

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responsible for drafting new legislation or modifying existing legislation. These representatives stated that present-day legislation in the field reflected, in many respects, an earlier economic phase of society, as well as attitudes and practices which seemed unduly to favour ship-owners at the expense of shippers. They also observed that the developing countries were particularly interested in legislation on freight rates, charter parties, standard clauses in bills of lading, and the limitations on the ship-owner's liability resulting from exemption clauses. Some delegations expressed the opinion that international shipping legislation is a priority topic that provides UNCITRAL with the best opportunity of contributing to a change in the status quo and the creation of more just and equitable conditions for the developing nations in the field of international trade.

27. One representative suggested that, in dealing with international legislation on shipping, UNCITRAL should take account of the Treaties of Montevideo of 1889, as revised in 1940 and 1944, which had greatly benefited private international law.

#### H. Register of organizations and register of texts

28. Several representatives commended UNCITRAL on the work which was at present being carried out in regard to the establishment of a register of organizations and a register of texts, and expressed confidence that the measures taken by UNCITRAL to publish the registers in stages and make arrangements for their sale would reduce their cost.

29. Representatives of developing countries declared that the establishment of the registers was of special importance to their countries in that the registers permitted access to information and documentation on international trade law which was not otherwise readily available. It was further stated that, in view of the potential value of the registers in countries which often lacked highly trained personnel and did not have the extensive archives of the developed countries, the costs of establishing the registers was fully justified.

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I. Establishment of an UNCITRAL Yearbook

30. There was general support among representatives in the Sixth Committee for the view that an UNCITRAL Yearbook would make the work of UNCITRAL more widely known and generally available, and that the publication of the Yearbook was in principle desirable.

31. Some representatives, however, expressed hesitation as to the timeliness of publishing a yearbook, since the results of UNCITRAL's work had not yet become visible. These representatives doubted whether the advantage of having a yearbook would, for the time being, justify its cost. The view was expressed that the establishment of a yearbook was not necessarily the best way of attaining the ends which the yearbook purported to achieve, and that other means -- such as the annual report of UNCITRAL, possibly with certain modifications, and access to available documentation -- could provide acceptable alternatives. These representatives expressed the hope that the decision could be postponed until the next session of the General Assembly, when the Assembly would be in possession of the final views of UNCITRAL. However, a majority of the representatives who spoke on the subject supported the publication of the Yearbook without unnecessary delay, while expressing their preference for an approach along the lines of alternative A as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General.<sup>1/</sup> One representative observed that alternative A did not enumerate all relevant documents necessary to become fully acquainted with the work of UNCITRAL, such as those dealing with time-limits and limitations.

J. Training and assistance in the field of international trade law

32. Many representatives stressed the importance for UNCITRAL to develop local expertise in the field of international trade law, particularly in the developing countries, and welcomed the decision of the Commission to encourage intensification of the existing programmes.

33. It was suggested that UNCITRAL should contemplate organizing a seminar on international trade law similar to that in international public law held in connexion with the sessions of the International Law Commission in Geneva. It was also suggested that UNCITRAL should consider providing developing countries with training facilities in developed countries, particularly in the fields of banking, insurance and transport.

#### IV. VOTING

34. At the 1120th meeting on 9 October 1969, the Sixth Committee, at the request of the representative of Afghanistan, took a roll-call vote on the proposed amendment to paragraph 10, referred to in paragraph 7 above. The amendment was adopted by 57 votes to 4, with 25 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

- In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Burma, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Dahomey, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.
- Against: Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.
- Abstaining: Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania.

35. At the 1121st meeting, on 10 October 1969, the representative of Israel declared that, subsequent to the above vote, he received instructions from his Government which would have enabled him to vote in favour of the amendment.

36. At the 1120th meeting, on 9 October 1969, at the request of the representative of Liberia, a separate vote was taken on paragraph 8 of the draft resolution (A/C.6/L.748 and Add.1 and 2). Paragraph 8 was adopted by 53 votes to 15, with 14 abstentions.

37. The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 84 votes to none, with 2 abstentions. Explanations of vote were given by the representatives of Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Congo (Democratic Republic of), France, Ghana, India, Israel, Liberia, Peru, Philippines, Spain, 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.

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V. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

38. The Sixth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the United Nations Commission on  
International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session,<sup>8/</sup>

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and defined its object and terms of reference, and resolution 2421 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968 on the report of the Commission on the work of its first session,

Noting the comments by the Trade and Development Board at its ninth session expressing its appreciation of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,<sup>9/</sup>

Taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of a Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the financial implications of alternative proposals for such a Yearbook,<sup>10/</sup>

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session;

2. Endorses the inclusion by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, on the basis indicated in its report, of international legislation on shipping among the priority topics in its work programme;

3. Notes with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, including the establishment of working groups on uniform rules governing the international sale of goods and the law applicable thereto, on time-limits

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<sup>8/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/7618).

<sup>9/</sup> A/C.6/L.744. The account of the proceedings at the ninth session of the Trade and Development Board appears in the Board's report to the General Assembly, Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/7616).

<sup>10/</sup> A/CN.9/32.



and limitations (prescription) in the field of the international sale of goods, and on international legislation on shipping;

4. Takes note of the view expressed by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in its report that, in order to implement the mandate entrusted to the Commission by the General Assembly, it is desirable that there be the widest possible participation by the members of the Commission in the preparatory work to be done by Working Groups or Special Rapporteurs;

5. Endorses the desire of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law to obtain, where necessary, the services of consultants or organizations with special expertise in technical matters dealt with by the Commission;

6. Emphasizes the need for full co-operation with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in the performance of its task to promote the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade;

7. Approves in principle the establishment of a Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law which would make the Commission's work more widely known and readily available, and requests the Commission to consider, at its third session, the timing and content of the Yearbook, in the light of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>11/</sup> and of the discussions at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

8. Authorizes the Secretary-General to establish the Yearbook referred to in paragraph 7 above in accordance with the decisions and recommendations to be adopted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law at its third session;

9. Endorses the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law concerning the registers of organizations and texts, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the work of preparing and publishing the registers in accordance with those decisions and recommendations;

10. Recommends that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law should:

(a) Continue its work on the topics to which it decided to give priority, that is, the international sale of goods, international payments, international commercial arbitration and international legislation on shipping;

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<sup>11/</sup> Ibid.

(b) Continue to give attention to the ways and means which would effectively promote training and assistance in the field of international trade law;

(c) Keep its programme of work under constant review, bearing in mind the important contribution which the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law can make to economic co-operation among all peoples, and, thereby, to their well-being;

(d) In promoting the harmonization and unification of international trade law, give special consideration to the interests of developing and landlocked countries;

11. Recommends further that the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law should continue to collaborate fully with international organizations active in the field of international trade law;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to forward to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law the records of the discussions at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly on the Commission's report.

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