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CONSIDERATION OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
CONCERNING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION
AMONG STATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF
THE UNITED NATIONS: REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING
FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Piet-Hein HOUBEN (Netherlands)

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1758th plenary meeting, held on 20 September 1969, the General Assembly decided to include item 89, entitled "Consideration of principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations: report of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States", in the agenda of its twenty-fourth session and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2463 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, the item had previously been included in the provisional agenda of the session.
2. The item was considered by the Sixth Committee at its 1158th, to 1164th meetings held on 24 to 26, 28 and 29 November and 1 December 1969.
3. The Committee had before it, as a basis for its consideration of the item, the report on the 1969 session of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States (A/7619). The Rapporteur of the Special Committee introduced the report at the 1158th meeting.
4. The report on the 1969 session was divided into the following two chapters: I. Introduction; and II. Completion of the Special Committee's work in the light of the debate which took place in the Sixth Committee during the twenty-third and preceding sessions of the General Assembly and in the 1964, 1966, 1967 and 1968 sessions of the Special Committee, by endeavouring to resolve, in the light of General Assembly resolution 2327 (XXII), all relevant questions relating to the formulation of the seven principles. The second chapter was divided into the following sections: 1. The principle that States 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; 2. The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; and 3. Concluding stage of the Special Committee's session.
5. At the 1162nd session on 28 November 1969, the Rapporteur, pursuant to paragraph (f) of General Assembly resolution 2292 (XXII) raised the question of

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the form of the Committee's report to the General Assembly and brought to the attention of the Committee the financial implications of that question. At that meeting, the Committee decided that, in view of the subject matter of the item, the report should contain a summary of principal juridical opinions expressed in the debate.

II. PROPOSAL

6. At the 1162nd meeting on 28 November 1969, Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Burma, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.6/L.781). Cyprus and the USSR subsequently became co-sponsors of the draft resolution. The draft resolution read as follows:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1815 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, 1966 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, 2103 (XX) of 20 December 1965, 2181 (XXI) of 12 December 1966, 2327 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 and 2463 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, which affirm the importance of the progressive development and codification of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States,

Recalling further that among the fundamental purposes of the United Nations are the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States,

Considering that the faithful observance of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations is of paramount importance for the maintenance of international peace and security and the improvement of the international situation.

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Considering further that the progressive development and codification of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States, so as to require their more effective application, would promote the realization of the purposes of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind resolution 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965,

Convinced of the significance of continuing the effort to achieve general agreement on the statements of the seven principles of international law set forth in General Assembly resolution 1815 (XVII), but without prejudice to the applicability of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, with a view to the adoption of a declaration which would constitute a landmark in the progressive development and codification of those principles,

Recalling that the General Assembly in its resolution 2499 (XXIV) has invited the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States to expedite its work with a view to facilitating the adoption of an appropriate document by the General Assembly during the commemorative session,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States (A/7619), which met at New York from 18 August to 19 September 1969,

1. Takes note of the report of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States;

2. Expresses its appreciation to that Committee for the valuable work it has performed and the progress reflected in the statements of the two principles it discussed;

3. Decides to ask the Special Committee, as reconstituted by General Assembly resolution 2103 (XX), to meet in the first half of 1970 _____ or any other suitable place for which the Secretary-General receives an invitation in order to continue and complete its work;

4. Requests the Special Committee in the light of the debate which took place in the Sixth Committee during the present session and the previous sessions of the General Assembly and in the 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 sessions of the Special Committee, to endeavour to resolve, in the light of General Assembly resolution 2327 (XXII), the remaining questions relating to the formulation of the seven principles, in order to complete its work, and to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session a comprehensive report containing a draft declaration on all of the seven principles;

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5. Calls upon the members of the Special Committee to devote their utmost efforts to ensuring the success of the Special Committee's session, in particular by undertaking, in the period preceding the session, such consultations and other preparatory measures as they may see necessary;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to co-operate with the Special Committee in its task and to provide all services, documentation and other facilities necessary for its work;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-fifth session an item entitled "Consideration of the report on principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations".

7. At the time of the introduction of the resolution it was stated that it was the understanding of the sponsors that there was a consensus that the Special Committee should first devote itself to completing the work on the formulations of the principle prohibiting the threat or use of force and the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and that it should then address itself to other work relating to other principles and to the preparation of a draft declaration. This understanding was wholly without prejudice to the positions of any delegations that had been taken with regard to any particular principle concerning friendly relations.

8. At the 1162nd meeting on 28 November 1969 the representative of Ghana orally introduced an amendment to replace the blank in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution by the words "at Geneva".

9. At the same meeting, the Chairman referred the Committee to the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.6/L.784).

III. DEBATE

A. GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE WORK DONE BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN 1969 AND ON THE AIMS OF THE WORK

10. Many representatives reaffirmed the great importance of the work entrusted to the Committee. The establishment of friendly and peaceful relations between States was one of mankind's highest desires and was one of the principal objectives of the United Nations. Indeed the whole question was among the most important with which the Organization was concerned and was an indispensable prerequisite to a full realization of all its purposes. It went without saying that the strengthening, in international relations, of the role of international law and more particularly the strict application of, and respect for, the principles of the Charter are essential conditions for the maintenance of peace and international security, and for fruitful co-operation between countries. Further, this effort to systematize, to make more concrete and to develop the juridical order of the United Nations should be seen against the background of a world of struggle for human rights, for control of the arms race and for development.

11. A number of representatives, while stressing the great importance of the question, also underline its very considerable difficulties. The Special Committee, while taking the Charter as the essential basis of its work, faced very complicated questions relating to the interpretation of the principles of the Charter and to the method of applying those principles most effectively, taking account of the new needs of the international community and of Member States, of the new tendencies in the evolution of international law towards a modern juridical order and of the very diverse interests and political and juridical conceptions which gave rise to profound differences of opinion. In this respect some representatives pointed out that the task was both to formulate new principles, taking account of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, and to verify existing ones; others, however, noted that the provisions of the Charter could not be violated in that process.

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12. In general, the representatives who spoke in the debate were of the view that the Special Committee had, at its 1969 session, achieved important and substantial progress on two principles which were the most important and controversial of the seven entrusted to the Committee. Even if that progress appeared limited in some respects, it should be remembered that such progress was of considerable value given the depth of the differences within the Committee; moreover, the differences were no longer as wide as they were originally. Furthermore, several representatives pointed out that the progress within the Special Committee was, as a result of important mutual concessions, at one point larger than appeared from the report. In the end some of the concessions had been withdrawn, but it would be remembered that a considerable area of agreement had existed and this could be drawn on in the future. Other delegations were not so optimistic, however, when they noted that, following long and difficult negotiations beginning in 1964, either no consensus had been reached on a number of important questions, or principles had been stated in such an enfeebled manner as to render them practically ineffective.

B. COMMENTS ON THE PRINCIPLES CONSIDERED BY THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN 1969

13. Several representatives, referring to the comments which had been made on behalf of their countries on previous occasions, refrained from addressing themselves to the principles considered by the Special Committee in 1969. Others stated that they were generally satisfied with the conclusions which the Committee had reached. Nevertheless a number of delegates did make specific comments and the main trends of the observations on the principles are set out below.

1. The principle that States 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

14. Many representatives welcomed the progress that the Special Committee had made in enlarging the areas of agreement on the above principle. Final agreement appeared now to be near at hand. They stressed the great importance of the principle, which constituted the very essence of international law, in a world

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of interdependent States, which could no longer isolate themselves, and in a world in which the arms race continued. One delegate, in particular, stressed the importance for the present day world community of the concept of non-violence.

15. It was pointed out, however, that there were still several outstanding issues, including the use of force to violate international lines of demarcation, organization of armed bands and instigation of civil strife and terrorist acts, the use of force against colonial peoples, the recognition of situations brought about by the threat or use of force, the meaning of the word "force", and the legal uses of force. In some cases the differences were small and could be bridged; in others, however, the gap, said by some to be due to the inflexibility of certain States, was wider and would be more difficult to close. In particular the use of force in colonial situations could be mentioned. This specific case also showed the close interrelationship between the present principle and the principle of equal rights and self-determination and their formulation. The views expressed on that issue are set out below under the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples. The main trends of the debate on the other aspects of the use of force are set out in the following paragraphs.

16. A number of representatives welcomed the statement in point 3 of the report of the Drafting Committee (para. 117 of the report of the Special Committee), on the prohibition of the use of force in territorial disputes and boundary problems, which strengthened the protection afforded by international law to a State's territory and frontiers.

17. Several representatives declared that international lines of demarcation should not be included in the statement on this point since they had their own legal régime under the specific international instruments establishing them.

Other so-called lines of demarcation resulting not from international agreements duly signed, but from acts of aggression, were without juridical effect of any kind. Moreover, it seemed impossible to establish a generally accepted definition of such lines. It was also argued that there should be no mention of international lines of demarcation since the very wide scope of Article 2 (4) of the Charter should not be limited by the placing of undue emphasis on certain aspects of the prohibition. On the other hand it was said that a reference to such lines should

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be included to eliminate, so far as possible, the uncertainty concerning the legality of certain actions relating to lines which were in practice frequently established. A number of representatives attached particular importance to the proposal that any statement on this question was without prejudice to the claims of the parties with regard to the status of the lines.

18. Some representatives, in referring to points 5 and 6 of the Drafting Committee's report concerning the organization of armed bands and instigation of civil strife and terrorist acts, reiterated their countries' view that the general topic of the prohibition of terrorist and subversive activities concerned the principle of non-intervention rather than the principle of the non-use of force. The opinion was also expressed that any statement on this question should be completed by a provision that peoples under colonial or other foreign domination had the right to request and receive all forms of assistance from other States.

19. Those representatives who addressed themselves to the questions of military occupation and non-recognition of situations brought about by the illegal threat or use of force generally welcomed the statement which the Special Committee had adopted (point 7 of the report of the Drafting Committee). On one view the statement was a necessary aspect of the principle of the non-use of force without which the principle itself would be a mere recommendation, and, on another view, it was a necessary corollary of the principle. There was a difference of opinion concerning the inclusion, in the text relating to non-recognition, of the words "in contravention of the provisions of the Charter". On the one hand, these words were seen as merely bringing that part of the statement into line with the other parts, but on the other hand they were objected to as implying that territorial acquisitions achieved by the use of force were valid if the particular use of force was consistent with the Charter. Several representatives supported the proposal submitted to the Special Committee concerning the occupation or acquisition of areas in which mankind had a common interest. The proposal acquired a special urgency and relevance in the light of man's exploration of the new environments of space and the sea-bed. Others suggested, however, that the difficult matters involved in this proposal might better be dealt with by the appropriate United Nations bodies.

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20. Several representatives stated their support for the inclusion in the Declaration of the text considered by the Drafting Committee concerning all forms of coercion aimed against the political independence or territorial integrity of any State (reproduced under the heading Other decisions taken by the Drafting Committee). The word "force", as used in Article 2 (4), would, it was said, be nullified if it were limited to armed force, and it included political, economic and other forms of pressure. These forms of pressure could be just as effective as military force.

2. The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples

21. Many representatives speaking on the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and commenting on the report by the Drafting Committee on the principle as contained in paragraph 180 of the Special Committee's report (A/7619) expressed their satisfaction about the progress achieved during the last session of the Special Committee. They considered that the progress made in the formulation of the principle was of particular value since there were deep divergencies in the juridical approach to its scope and the basic legal elements of which the principle consists. The manner in which the principle found its expression in the Charter, being quite different from that used in the Charter for some other principles discussed by the Special Committee, made it particularly difficult to arrive at a precise and concise statement of the principle. Many representatives also stated that the formulation of the principle as reproduced in paragraph 180, however limited and incomplete, constituted a solid basis for the final formulation of the principle and the future work of the Special Committee. But they recognized at the same time that great endeavours had to be made and many difficult obstacles had to be overcome if a generally agreeable formulation of the principle were to be arrived at. On the other hand there were some representatives who expressed their disappointment that the Special Committee had not been able to surmount the obstacles relating to the identification and formulation of some of the basic components of the principle, which they considered of fundamental importance for the statement of the principle and the draft declaration as well.

22. Some representatives referred to the legal background of the principle. They recalled that the principle was embodied in the Charter, had been reaffirmed

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in numerous resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly in resolution 1514 (XV), and was a legal basis of one of the most characteristic features of our time, namely the movement of nations under colonial domination towards their independence and sovereignty. The majority of nations had become Members of the United Nations because of the application of the principle. The principle, which was of decisive importance to peoples still living under colonial domination, constituted a fundamental rule of international law, verified in the practice and in many resolutions of the General Assembly, and was a part of the legal foundation on which the whole legal concept of the United Nations rested. Some delegations considered that significant progress in the formulation of the principle is a prerequisite to any meaningful draft declaration on all of seven principles.

23. Some representatives referring to the formulation contained in paragraph 180 of the Special Committee's report stressed the universality of the principle which relates to all nations in all continents, since international law gave the same rights to all peoples whether under colonial domination or other foreign oppression. It was pointed out at this juncture that the criterion for distinguishing the colonial oppression from other than colonial oppression was only a geographical one and consequently was not juridically correct.

24. On the other hand, some representatives expressed the view that the principle applied to the colonial situations in the first place since the Charter makes specific mention of this particular form of foreign domination recognizing the right of colonial peoples to self-determination and independence. In the view of these representatives the colonial subjugation was the main obstacle at the present time to really friendly relations between States and to further progress towards peace and international security.

25. Some representatives considered that the legal content of the principle had to be taken in the broadest sense so that it embraced also the right of any State to choose, without any interference from any other State, the political, economic and social system which it considered desirable for itself. It was also mentioned that the principle included the right of all peoples to develop and dispose of their wealth and natural resources.

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26. It was also stated that the principle, being of universal character, applied equally to peoples in multinational States guaranteeing them the inalienable right to self-determination which incorporated also the freedom to secession and to establish an independent State. Several representatives however expressed the idea that the principle should not be used in such a way as to affect the national sovereignty and territorial integrity. States should refrain from any action aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of any other State. On the other hand, the view was expressed that there was the possibility of the abuse of the application of the principle of self-determination by secessionist movements in multinational States in order to bring about the dismemberment of the State concerned. Although a broad interpretation of the principle is desirable, it was stated, it could not be extended to cover secessionist movements of tribal, ethnic and religious groups.

27. Several representatives expressed their satisfaction about the agreement to include in the formulation of the principle a provision concerning the duty of States to render assistance to the United Nations in carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Charter regarding the implementation of the principle and to promote the universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Some representatives stated that the subjection of peoples to the alien subjugation or exploitation constituted a denial of fundamental human rights and was contrary to the United Nations Charter.

28. Many representatives stated that administering Powers were prohibited from using armed actions or repressive measures against colonial peoples which deprives these peoples of their right to self-determination. Some representatives noted in this connexion that it was the adherence of certain delegations to concepts and ideas which were inconsistent with the spirit of the Charter and at variance with many resolutions of the United Nations which prevented the Special Committee from making any significant progress in a formulation of a clear prohibition of armed actions against colonial peoples struggling for their independence. It was also stated that the use of force against peoples under colonial domination striving for their independence was contrary to international law and constituted, in most cases, a crime against peace as determined by the Statute of the Nuremberg and Tokyo international tribunals.

29. On the other hand, it was pointed out that the exercise of duties entrusted to an administering Power by express provisions of the Charter could not be considered as criminal activity. It was said that the Charter did not regulate the use of force in colonial situations since the relations between a metropolitan State and its dependent territories did not belong to the category of international relations to which Article 2, paragraph 4, applied.

30. Several representatives affirmed that the right of a dependent people to exercise its inherent right of self-defence, once all other remedies had been exhausted, should be included in the formulation of the principle since otherwise the right of self-determination would be deprived of its essence. Other representatives pointed out that the peoples subjugated to colonial rule had the right to use any means whatever, including the use of force, to throw off colonialism. It was stated in this connexion that without a recognition of the right of the colonial peoples to self-defence there could not be any meaningful formulation of the principle of self-determination. On the other hand, it was pointed out that there was no basis in the Charter for attributing dependent peoples with a right to use force and to be assisted by the forces of other States. Several representatives, however, stated that since the legitimacy of the struggle of the colonial peoples was recognized, such peoples were entitled to seek and to receive any support from other States.

31. Several delegates pointed out that under international law a colonial territory could not be regarded as an integral part of the territory of the administering Power.

32. Commenting on the text in paragraph 180 of the report (A/7619) several delegations approved the proposal that the statement should start with a general statement of the principle, followed by a paragraph spelling out the legal consequences deriving from it. Different views were expressed, however, as to whether rights or duties should appear first in the formulation. It was suggested that the statement of the principle should start with a declaration of rights of peoples followed by an enumeration of duties deriving for States from the principle.

C. OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING FUTURE WORK

33. It was agreed that the Special Committee, as reconstituted by General Assembly resolution 2103 (XX) of 20 December 1965, should be asked to meet to continue and complete its work. It was also agreed that the Committee should meet early in the year so that Governments would be able to give full and proper consideration to the work of the Committee well in advance of the next session of the General Assembly. These areas of agreement were reflected in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution submitted to the Committee (see para. 6 above).

34. Many representatives also expressed the hope and belief that the Committee would, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 2499 (XXIV) of November 1969, be able to complete its work so that an appropriate document could be adopted by the Assembly during the twenty-fifth commemorative session. The proposed declaration would constitute a fitting tribute to the Organization on that occasion and would emphasize the importance which the United Nations and the world today attach to the respect for international law. On the other hand, some delegates, while also hoping that the work of the Committee would be concluded next year, pointed out that that objective should not be sought at any price; it was necessary that the careful and patient approach of the Committee should be continued, and that quality should not be sacrificed for speed.

35. A number of representatives expressed views concerning the terms of reference of the Special Committee, and the matters which were still to be considered by the Committee. The general agreement on this issue was embodied in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution and in the understanding expressed when the draft resolution was submitted to the Sixth Committee (see para. 7 above).

36. Several representatives reaffirmed the value of holding preparatory consultations before the Committee met in 1970 to help ensure the successful completion of its work. Operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution was to this effect.

IV. VOTING

37. At its 1163rd meeting, on 29 November 1969, the Sixth Committee, on a roll-call vote, adopted by 30 votes to 6, with 47 abstentions, the oral amendment submitted by Ghana (see para. 8 above). The details of the vote were as follows:

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- In favour: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, India, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Romania, Sierra Leone, Southern Yemen, Sweden, United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia.
- Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, China, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America
- Abstentions: Barbados, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay and Venezuela.

38. The draft resolution (A/C.6/L.781) (see para. 6 above), as thus amended, was then adopted by 84 votes to none with no abstentions.

39. At the same meeting, the representatives of Tunisia, the United States, the Dominican Republic, France, the Congo (Brazzaville), Cameroon and Australia made statements in explanation of vote.

V. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

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

Consideration of principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1815 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, 1966 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, 2103 (XX) of 20 December 1965, 2181 (XXI) of 12 December 1966, 2327 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 and 2463 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, which affirm the importance of the progressive development and codification of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States,

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Recalling further that among the fundamental purposes of the United Nations are the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States,

Considering that the faithful observance of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations is of paramount importance for the maintenance of international peace and security and the improvement of the international situation,

Considering further that the progressive development and codification of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States, so as to require their more effective application, would promote the realization of the purposes of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind resolution 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965,

Convinced of the significance of continuing the effort to achieve general agreement on the statements of the seven principles of international law set forth in General Assembly resolution 1815 (XVII), but without prejudice to the applicability of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, with a view to the adoption of a declaration which would constitute a landmark in the progressive development and codification of those principles,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 2499 (XXIV), has invited the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States to expedite its work with a view to facilitating the adoption of an appropriate document by the General Assembly during the commemorative session,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States,^{3/} which met at New York from 18 August to 19 September 1969,

1. Takes note of the report of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Special Committee for the valuable work it has performed and the progress reflected in the statements of the two principles it discussed;

^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/7619).

3. Decides to ask the Special Committee, as reconstituted by General Assembly resolution 2103 (XX), to meet in the first half of 1970 at Geneva or at any other suitable place for which the Secretary-General receives an invitation in order to continue and complete its work;

4. Requests the Special Committee, in the light of the debate which took place in the Sixth Committee during the present session and the previous sessions of the General Assembly and in the 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 sessions of the Special Committee, to endeavour to resolve, in the light of General Assembly resolution 2327 (XXII), the remaining questions relating to the formulation of the seven principles, in order to complete its work, and to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session a comprehensive report containing a draft declaration on all of the seven principles;

5. Calls upon the members of the Special Committee to devote their utmost efforts to ensuring the success of the Special Committee's session, in particular by undertaking, in the period preceding the session, such consultations and other preparatory measures as they may deem necessary;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to co-operate with the Special Committee in its task and to provide all the services, documentation and other facilities necessary for its work;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-fifth session an item entitled "Consideration of the report on principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations".
