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SIXTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 120

### REVIEW OF THE MULTILATERAL TREATY-MAKING PROCESS

Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Canada, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that multilateral treaties are an important primary source of international law,

Conscious, therefore, that the process of elaboration of multilateral treaties, directed towards the progressive development of international law and its codification, forms an important part of the work of the United Nations and of the international community in general,

Recalling its resolution 35/162 of 15 December 1980 inviting Governments and international organizations to submit their observations on the report of the Secretary-General of 27 August 1980, 1/ as well as their comments on any other aspect of the subject,

Aware of the heavy burden which active involvement in the process of multilateral treaty-making places upon Governments,

Convinced that the most rational use should be made of the finite resources available for the elaboration of multilateral treaties,

Taking into account statements made at the current session in the debate in the Sixth Committee, 2/

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1/ A/35/312 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

2/ A/C.6/36/SR.54 to \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General in 1980 and 1981 <sup>3/</sup> including the replies and observations made by Governments and international organizations on the review of the multilateral treaty-making process;
2. Decides in the light of statements made on this item at the thirty-sixth session to establish at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly a working group of the Sixth Committee to:
  - (a) Consider the questions raised in annex I of the Secretary-General's report of 1981 (A/36/553) and any other relevant material submitted by Governments and international organizations;
  - (b) Assess the methods of multilateral treaty-making used in the United Nations and in conferences convened under its auspices to determine whether the current methods of multilateral treaty-making are as efficient, economical and effective as they could be to meet the needs of the Members of the United Nations;
  - (c) Make recommendations on the basis of the above-mentioned assessment;
3. Invites Governments and international organizations to submit by 30 June 1982 their observations on the 1980 and 1981 reports of the Secretary-General, taking into account the specific questions contained in annex I of the 1981 report as well as their comments on any other aspect of the subject, as they consider desirable;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session a report containing the observations and comments received pursuant to paragraph 3 above;
5. Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare documentation containing the material and information listed in annex II of the 1981 report of the Secretary-General in the form of a provisional version of a volume in the Legislative Series, as well as a topical analysis of the observations and replies received, in time for use by the working group referred to in paragraph 2;
6. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare and publish as soon as possible new editions of the Handbook of Final Clauses and the Summary of the Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Agreements, taking into account relevant new developments and practices in that respect;
7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "Review of the multilateral treaty-making process".

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<sup>3/</sup> A/36/553 and Add.1 and 2.