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Forty-third session  
SIXTH COMMITTEE  
Sub-Committee on Good-Neighbourliness  
Agenda item 136

**DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES****Report of the Sub-Committee****Chairman-Rapporteur: Mr. Ioan VOICU (Romania)**

1. By its resolution 42/158 of 7 December 1987, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Sub-Committee on Good-Neighbourliness (A/C.6/42/L.6), which functioned within the Sixth Committee during the forty-second session of the Assembly, and decided to continue and to complete at its forty-third session, on the basis of the above-mentioned resolution and the report of the Sub-Committee, the task of identifying and clarifying the elements of good-neighbourliness and to begin the elaboration of a suitable international document on the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States within the framework of a sub-committee on good-neighbourliness.
2. At its 3rd meeting, on 26 September 1988, the Sixth Committee decided to re-establish the Sub-Committee on Good-Neighbourliness and elected Mr. Ioan Voicu (Romania) as Chairman of the Sub-Committee.
3. The Sub-Committee on Good-Neighbourliness held eight meetings, on 5, 13, 21 and 26 October 1988 and 2, 9, 14 and 16 November 1988. It had before it the report which it had submitted to the Sixth Committee at the forty-second session of the General Assembly (A/C.6/42/L.6) containing a list under the heading "Legal and other elements relating to the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness" (see annex). It also had before it two conference room papers by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, one (A/C.6/43/SC/CRP.1) containing a proposed amendment to point II.C.20 of the list contained in document A/C.6/42/L.6, and the other (A/C.6/43/SC/CRP.2) containing a proposed addition to section II.D of the list contained in document A/C.6/42/L.6.

4. The Sub-Committee discussed the wording of heading I.A of the list contained in document A/C.6/42/L.6, which was still subject to further consideration. It also discussed bracketed point 3 of section II.A and the bracketed part of point 20 of section II.C of the list which had raised particular difficulties at the previous session of the Sub-Committee.

5. During its initial discussions, the Sub-Committee decided to replace, on a provisional basis, heading I.A which read "Generally accepted principles and norms of international law concerning good-neighbourliness" by the formulation "General traits of good-neighbourly relations." However, in the course of the debate it was proposed to delete heading I.A.

6. It was understood that: (a) the list of elements of good-neighbourliness was not exhaustive and did not establish any hierarchy or any order of priority among the headings contained in it; (b) there was still no general agreement on that list; and (c) the positioning of the points in the list had a provisional character. The sole purpose of the list drawn up in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/158 is to assist in identifying and clarifying the elements of good-neighbourliness.

7. During the discussion some proposals, ideas and suggestions were made regarding the elements in the list. The Sub-Committee did not conclude its consideration of such proposals, ideas and suggestions. In this connection, some delegations did not consider that even given adequate time general agreement could be reached regarding the list of elements; other delegations believed that work on the list should continue in the framework of the Sub-Committee with a view to concluding an appropriate document on the basis of general agreement.

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ANNEX

List contained in the report of the Sub-Committee on  
Good-Neighbourliness to the Sixth Committee at the  
forty-second session of the General Assembly  
(A/C.6/42/L.6)

I. LEGAL AND OTHER ELEMENTS RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND  
STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS

- A. Generally accepted principles and norms of international law concerning good-neighbourliness\*
1. Universal applicability of the concept of good-neighbourliness between neighbouring States.
  2. Observance of generally accepted principles and norms of international law as a basic requirement of good-neighbourliness.
  3. Mutual tolerance.
- B. Development by neighbouring States of legal régimes to enhance their mutual relations and co-operation between them
4. Taking of measures for improving and developing friendly relations between neighbouring States.
  5. Exchange of information between States on activities and events on their own territory which clearly may affect neighbouring States.
  6. Negotiations between States with a view to considering and solving issues of common interest between neighbouring States.
  7. Taking of measures by States to eliminate or minimize the effects of some domestic activities on neighbouring States or on States of the same area.
  8. Refraining by States from domestic activities which clearly may have harmful effects on the territory of neighbouring States.
  9. Refraining by States from actions which may aggravate a conflict situation or a dispute between neighbouring States.
  10. Taking of measures by States to attenuate gradually a conflict situation or a dispute between neighbouring States.

\* The wording of this heading is subject to further consideration.

II. AREAS OF CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING  
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS

A. Political fields, such as:

1. Promotion of friendly relations, of mutual understanding, knowledge and confidence.
2. Acting towards the strengthening of world peace and security, well-being, economic and social progress.
- [3. Promotion of disarmament and limitation of armaments.]
4. Elimination of situations of tension and friction.
5. Development of political contacts.
6. Consultation and co-operation by States on activities and events on their own territory which clearly may affect neighbouring States.
7. Adoption by neighbouring States of reciprocal measures aimed at the prevention and elimination of any attempt on their respective security, as well as strengthening of their mutual security and confidence.

B. Fields of trade, industry, agriculture, science and technology, environment and other fields of economic activity, such as:

8. Commercial exchanges.
9. Industrial co-operation.
10. Co-operation in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fishery.
11. Co-operation in the fields of science and technology.
12. Protection of the environment.
13. Exploration and exploitation of mineral resources, in particular in border and adjacent areas.
14. Meteorology.
15. Co-operation in the field of transportation, including transit of goods in the territory of the State, and in the field of communication.
16. Customs matters.
17. Co-operation in the fields of oceanography, hydrology, glaciology, seismology, vulcanology and other related fields.
18. Conservation of living resources and use of border rivers and waters.

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C. Humanitarian and other fields, such as:

19. Movement of persons and human contacts.
20. Co-operation in the protection and promotion of human rights [including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities].
21. Protection of migrant workers and their families.
22. Dissemination of information, access to information and exchange of information on various aspects of life in neighbouring States.
23. Public health.
24. Co-operation in the fields of culture, education and sports.

D. Legislative, judicial, administrative and other fields, such as:

25. Exchange of information in legislative fields of common interest.
26. Co-operation and exchange of information concerning judicial and criminal matters, including, in particular, the elimination of international terrorism and of the illegal use of and trafficking in narcotics.
27. Co-operation in the case of natural calamities and other disasters.
28. Co-operation on border matters.

III. WAYS AND MEANS OF DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING  
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS

1. Diplomatic and consular relations.
2. Contacts and visits.
3. Agreements and declarations.
4. Programmes of co-operation and projects of mutual interest.
5. Joint bodies.
6. Meetings and conferences.
7. Negotiations and consultations.
8. Harmonization of technical norms and standards between neighbouring countries.

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**IV. ACTION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, IN PARTICULAR  
REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, IN DEVELOPING  
AND STRENGTHENING GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS**

1. Utilization of possibilities and capabilities of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and existing intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the political, economic, humanitarian, scientific, cultural and other fields.
2. Promotion of common objectives and programmes.
3. Implementation of regional and subregional projects, in particular among developing countries.

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