



General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/38/670  
15 December 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-eighth session  
Agenda item 130

REVIEW OF THE MULTILATERAL TREATY-MAKING PROCESS

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Soud Mohamad ZEDAN (Saudi Arabia)

1. The item entitled "Review of the multilateral treaty-making process" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/110 of 16 December 1982. By paragraph 1 of that resolution, the Assembly also decided to reconvene at its thirty-eighth session the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-Making Process with the aim of completing the examination of the matters referred to in paragraph 2 of resolution 36/112.
2. On the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Assembly, at its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1983, decided to include the item in its agenda. At its 4th plenary meeting, on the same day, the Assembly decided to allocate the item to the Sixth Committee.
3. In connection with this item, the Sixth Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-Making Process (A/C.6/37/L.29);
  - (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/37/444 and Add.1);
  - (c) Provisional version of United Nations Legislative Series No. 21 (ST/LEG/SER.B/21) in two volumes.
4. At its 27th meeting, on 27 October 1983, the Sixth Committee reconvened, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/110 the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-Making Process and appointed Mr. Essam Sadek Ramadan (Egypt) as the Chairman of the Working Group.

5. At the 73rd meeting, on 9 December, the Chairman of the Working Group presented its report to the Committee (A/C.6/38/L.28).

6. At the same meeting, the representative of Australia introduced a draft decision (A/C.6/38/L.29), with a slight oral revision. The Committee adopted the draft decision by consensus (see para. 7).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

7. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Review of the multilateral treaty-making process

The General Assembly

(a) Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-Making Process 1/, which was established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/112 of 10 December 1981 to determine whether the current methods of multilateral treaty-making were as efficient, economical and effective as they could be to meet the needs of the Members of the United Nations;

(b) Decides that at its thirty-ninth session, an open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee will be established with the aim of completing the work on the review of the multilateral treaty-making process;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to circulate to Member States the reports of the Working Group on the Review of the Multilateral Treaty-Making Process; 2/

(d) Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Review of the multilateral treaty-making process".

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1/ A/C.6/38/L.28.

2/ A/C.6/37/L.29 and A/C.6/38/L.28.