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CONSOLIDATION AND PROGRESSIVE EVOLUTION OF THE NORMS AND  
PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAW

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At the thirtieth session of the General Assembly, the Second Committee, 1/ in connexion with its consideration of agenda item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council), had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1474) submitted by the Philippines, entitled "Codification and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development". The representative of the Philippines later introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1474/Rev.1), entitled "Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law". The Second Committee approved, without a vote, a draft decision proposed by the Chairman (A.C.2/L.1489) in the light of informal consultations, which was later adopted, also without a vote, by the General Assembly at its 2441st plenary meeting, on 15 December 1975.
2. By that decision, the General Assembly took note of the draft resolution entitled "Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law", set forth below, and decided to include this question as a separate item in the provisional agenda of its thirty-first session in the hope that it would be allocated to the Sixth Committee for consideration:

"Consolidation and progressive evolution of the norms and principles of international economic development law"

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Article 13, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations,

\* A/31/150.

1/ For the report of the Committee, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 12, document A/10467, paras. 50-53.

which calls upon the General Assembly to initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification,

"Recalling its resolution 3082 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the urgent need to establish or improve norms of universal application in the field of international economic relations,

"Considering that there are already norms and principles in the field of economic development that are politically relevant, legally sufficient and timely for consolidation, such as those set forth in General Assembly resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation, as well as in relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of other economic and financial organizations of the United Nations system,

"Convinced that there has been a long-felt need for a comprehensive code of economic behaviour, based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and co-operation, that should guide international economic relations, particularly at this time when the world is faced with a general economic crises and with mounting problems of under-development in most developing countries,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to study the question of the consolidation and progressive development of the norms and principles of international economic development law, and the feasibility of their codification, taking into account, particularly, the above-mentioned resolutions;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his study on this question to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-first session."

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