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Sixth Committee

Summary record of the 1st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 4 October 2010, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Ms. Picco (Monaco)

Contents

Tribute to the memory of Shabtai Rosene, leading expert in international law

Election of the Rapporteur

Organization of work

Agenda item 140: Administration of justice at the United Nations

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Tribute to the memory of Shabtai Rosenne, leading expert in international law

- 1. **The Chairperson** paid tribute to the memory of Shabtai Rosenne, a leading expert in international law, and highlighted a number of his accomplishments as both diplomat and academic.
- 2. At the invitation of the Chairperson, the members of the Committee observed a minute of silence.
- 3. **Ms. Schonmann** (Israel) expressed appreciation for the tribute paid to the memory of Shabtai Rosenne, who had played a major role in advancing respect for international law and in promoting its use for peace and the welfare of nations.

Election of the Rapporteur

- 4. **The Chairperson** recalled that as at 11 June 2010, when the Committee had elected its officers for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had not yet nominated a candidate for Rapporteur. She had since been informed that the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had nominated Ms. Cabello de Daboin (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) for the post of Rapporteur.
- 5. Ms. Cabello de Daboin was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

Organization of work (A/C.6/65/1; A/C.6/65/L.1)

- 6. **The Chairperson** drew attention to the allocation of agenda items to the Committee, as contained in document A/C.6/65/1, and to the note by the Secretariat entitled "Organization of work" (A/C.6/65/L.1), in particular paragraphs 7 to 11 concerning the establishment of working groups.
- 7. With regard to agenda item 140, "Administration of justice at the United Nations", it was her understanding that the Committee wished, in accordance with the decision by the General Assembly, to establish a working group to be chaired by Mr. Sivagurunathan (Malaysia), with a view to continuing the consideration of the outstanding legal aspects of the administration of justice at the United Nations, taking into account the results of the deliberations of the Fifth and Sixth Committees on the item, previous decisions of the Assembly and any

further decisions that the Assembly might have taken during its sixty-fourth session, and that the working group would be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

- 8. It was so decided.
- 9. **The Chairperson**, referring to agenda item 107, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", said it was her understanding that the Committee wished, in accordance with the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, to establish a working group, to be chaired by Mr. Perera (Sri Lanka), with a view to finalizing the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and continuing to discuss the item included in its agenda by General Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations, and that the working group would be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of IAEA.
- 10. It was so decided.
- 11. **The Chairperson**, referring to agenda item 75, "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts", said it was her understanding that the Committee wished to establish a working group, the chairperson of which was as yet undetermined, to further examine the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, and that the working group would be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of IAEA.
- 12. It was so decided.
- 13. **The Chairperson**, referring to agenda item 80, "Diplomatic protection", said it was her understanding that the Committee wished to establish a working group, the chairperson of which was as yet undetermined, to further examine the question of a convention on diplomatic protection, or any other appropriate action, on the basis of the articles drafted by the International Law Commission on diplomatic protection, and that the working group would be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of IAEA.

10-56556

- 14. It was so decided.
- 15. **The Chairperson** drew attention to the proposed timetable for the Committee's work, contained in paragraphs 3 to 6 of the note entitled "Organization of work" (A/C.6/65/L.1). In accordance with established practice, the proposed work programme would be applied with flexibility in light of the progress made by the Committee, which would take action on draft resolutions as soon as they were ready for adoption.
- 16. The Committee must allow sufficient time for preparation and consideration of the estimates of expenditure arising from draft resolutions. Since it was scheduled to conclude its work on 11 November 2010, all draft resolutions with financial implications must be submitted to the Fifth Committee by 31 October 2010, except for those relating to agenda items scheduled to be considered after that date. She took it that the Committee wished to proceed accordingly.
- 17. It was so decided.
- 18. **The Chairperson** stressed that the Committee was required to make full use of conference resources and facilities. Although over the past four sessions it had shown an improvement in that regard, during its most recent session it had lost almost eight hours because of meetings ending early. Its conference service utilization factor would improve further if discussions began on time and if, in the event that the Committee was unable to proceed with discussion of an item, delegations were prepared to consider the next item on the agenda.
- 19. She took it that the Committee wished, as in the past, to follow the practice of the General Assembly in giving precedence on the list of speakers to representatives of regional groups or other groups of States.
- 20. It was so decided.
- 21. **The Chairperson** drew attention to paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 59/313, which invited Member States that were aligned with statements already made by the chair of a group of Member States, where possible, to focus additional interventions made in their national capacity on points that had not already been adequately addressed in the statements of the groups in question, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.

Agenda item 140: Administration of justice at the United Nations (A/65/86, A/65/303, A/65/304 and A/65/373)

22. **The Chairperson** introduced agenda item 140, entitled "Administration of justice at the United Nations".

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.

10-56556