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COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS ON THE DRAFT OF THE DRAFT PROTOCOL
RELATIVE TO THE STATUS OF STATELESS PERSONS

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith the communication received from the Government of the Dominican Republic in reply to the letter addressed by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 629 (VII) of 6 November 1952 to all the governments invited to the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons (held at Geneva in July 1951) with a view to obtaining their comments on the draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Letter of 2 February 1973 to the Secretary-General from the Secretary of State for External Relations and Public Worship of the Dominican Republic.

"The Secretary of State for External Relations and Public Worship of the Dominican Republic presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary-General's letter No. SOA/5/05/(1) of 1 December 1952 drawing the attention of the Dominican Department of State for External Relations to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its seventh regular session on 6 November 1952, in compliance with which the Secretary-General requests the comments of the governments of States Members on the application to stateless persons of certain provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1951 relating to refugees.

"In reply, the Dominican Department of State for External Affairs has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that since the Dominican Republic has neither signed nor ratified the Geneva Convention of 1951 relating to refugees, the Dominican Government cannot be considered to be under any obligation and is not in a position to express a technical opinion on the question raised in the above-mentioned resolution of the General Assembly.

While reserving the right to express its views more specifically in the event of ratifying the Convention, the Dominican Government considers that in view of the humanitarian considerations on which the Convention relating to Refugees is based it is natural that, as a general rule, the benefits of that international instrument should be extended also to stateless persons. "