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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PRINCIPLES OF  
INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING FRIENDLY  
RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES

GHANA, INDIA AND YUGOSLAVIA: PROPOSAL

Principle B: Peaceful settlement of disputes

1. Every State shall settle its disputes with other States by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice are not endangered.
2. Unless otherwise provided for, the parties to any dispute shall, first of all, seek a solution by direct negotiations; taking into account the circumstances and the nature of the dispute, they shall seek a solution by inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means of their own choice.
3. (a) If any dispute is not capable of settlement by some other means and if the parties agree that it is essentially legal in nature, such a dispute shall, as a general rule, be referred by all the parties to it to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the Court. The parties may, however, entrust the solution of their differences to other tribunals by virtue of agreements already in existence or which may be concluded in the future.  
  
(b) In accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice concerning the election of the judges of the Court,

the United Nations shall take early steps to assure that in the Court as a whole there are represented more fully and equitably the main forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world. At the same time, it is the duty of the United Nations to continue its efforts in the field of the progressive development of international law and its codification in order to strengthen the legal basis of the judicial settlement of international disputes.

4. States should, as far as possible, include in the bilateral and multilateral agreements, to which they become parties, provisions concerning the particular peaceful means mentioned in Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations, by which they desire to settle their differences.

5. In view of their gravity and their tendency to increase tensions rapidly and, thereby, endanger international peace and security, territorial disputes and problems concerning frontiers shall be settled solely by peaceful means.

6. In seeking a peaceful settlement the parties to a dispute, as well as other States, shall refrain from any action which may aggravate the situation and shall act in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of this Chapter.

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