

of L.507, may have different views. A brief analysis of the list of those countries which have accepted the Court's jurisdiction, and those which have not, suffices to show the diversity of views on this question. Speaking, however, as the representative of my Government rather than in my capacity as co-sponsor of Resolution L.507, I should like to make clear that my Government attaches very great importance to the need to further develop and expand the process of judicial settlement of disputes between nations.

There is one further matter on which there may have been a certain amount of confusion, namely, the general question of a compromise resolution. It will be recalled that in my opening statement I said, speaking on behalf of the co-sponsors of draft resolution L.507, that "we have not considered that our approach is the only one which can be followed on this topic. Our hope is indeed that the co-sponsors of resolutions embodying other approaches will be able to agree with us that ours is not antagonistic to theirs, nor theirs incompatible with ours". I should like to make clear that this remains the view of my Delegation and of the co-sponsors of L.507.

At a later point in my statement, however, I said also, "I do not propose to comment in detail on other resolutions..... before their sponsors have had an opportunity to present them. I should say frankly, however, that it is our view that the more fruitful approach, in the light of the history of past attempts to produce general statements of principles governing relations between countries, would be for the Sixth Committee to commence upon an empirically-based study of specific areas of the law in need of development and codification. It is, of course, for this reason that we have embodied the latter approach in draft resolution L.507".

In the light of the more than three weeks debate on this item, we remain of that view. Indeed, the trend of debate has confirmed us in this view. Nevertheless, the co-sponsors of draft resolution L.507 recognize the weight and validity of the many expressions of views suggesting that efforts be made for some