

of International Law, should be continued until the next year to prepare the work of the International Law Commission. This view prevailed in the sub-committee but was rejected by the Legal Committee. By a unanimous decision, the Assembly accordingly instructed the Secretary-General to do the necessary preparatory work, having regard to questions referred to the Commission by the Assembly, such as the draft declaration on the rights and duties of states.

On November 21, 1947, the Acting President of the Assembly, Dr. Wellington Koo, declared unanimously adopted a resolution requesting states to forward their comments on a draft declaration on the rights and duties of states which had previously been circulated. The Assembly also asked the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary preparatory work and entrusted the further study of this subject to the International Law Commission which it instructed to prepare a draft declaration "taking as a basis of discussion the draft declaration . . . presented by Panama and taking into consideration other documents and drafts on this subject".¹ The action of the Acting President in declaring this resolution adopted unanimously caused the representatives of the Ukraine, the U.S.S.R., Byelorussia, Poland and Yugoslavia to declare, in quick succession, that had the matter been put to a vote they would have voted against it. However, the action of the Chairman was upheld.

At its First Session, the Assembly adopted a resolution which affirmed the principles contained in the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and its judgments and directed the Interim Committee on Measures for Codification to formulate plans for a general codification of offences against the peace and security of mankind.² On November 21, 1947, the Assembly (by a vote of 42 in favour and 1 against, with 8 abstentions) entrusted the formulation of these principles to the International Law Commission and asked it to prepare a draft code of offences against the peace and security of mankind. Canada voted in favour of this resolution.

¹The Panamanian draft declaration referred to is given in *The United Nations 1946*, Conference Series, 1946, No. 3, prepared by the Department of External Affairs pp. 222-4.

²See p. 140 of *The United Nations 1946*, Conference Series, 1946, No. 3, prepared by the Department of External Affairs.