

adopted, setting up a special committee for the purpose of preparing recommendations as to what form the further treatment of each principle should take. Discussion of this item will be continued at the next session of the Assembly.

During the debate, the Canadian Delegation stressed the undesirability of injecting highly political considerations into an already difficult legal debate and assisted in bringing about the compromise resolution. Canada also co-sponsored, in connection with the topic of peaceful settlement of disputes, a resolution calling for a study of methods of international fact finding. This resolution [1967 (XVIII)] was adopted by 65 votes in favour (Canada), 15 against, with 27 abstentions.

Dissemination of International Law

In the light of written comments submitted by several countries and international organizations, the Assembly discussed practical ways to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. The Canadian contribution to this discussion had been developed at a seminar convened in the summer of 1963 by the National Commission for UNESCO and attended by a number of professors of international law and officials of the Canadian Government. The resolution [1968 (XVIII)] which resulted from the debate establishes a Special Committee to pursue the matter and requests help and advice from the Technical Assistance Committee and UNESCO.

International Law Commission

At its fifteenth session, held in Geneva from May 6 to July 12, 1963, the International Law Commission devoted its main effort to the drafting of the second part of a Law of Treaties ("Invalidity and Termination of Treaties"). The Commission also reviewed the progress made by the special rapporteurs on the topics "Relations between States and International Organizations" and "Special Diplomatic Missions", and appointed rapporteurs for the study of "State Responsibility" and "Succession of States".

In reviewing the Report of the Commission, the Sixth Committee paid special attention to certain questions of great theoretical and practical interest arising from the second instalment of the draft Law of Treaties. Thus, the Commission had reached the conclusion that there were in contemporary international law certain rules of *jus cogens*, i.e. certain fundamental rules of international public order from which states were not permitted to contract out and which might affect the validity of a treaty (for instance, a treaty contemplating an illicit use of force contrary to the principles of the United Nations Charter). Another article of the draft law gave an affirmative answer to the disputed question whether the validity of a treaty was affected by a fundamental change of circumstances. Such points provoked a lively debate