

The Sixth Committee recommended also that the International Law Commission should concentrate during its 1967 session on special missions, so as to draw up the draft articles on that subject in a form suitable for embodiment in a single convention. It was also in agreement that the provisional agenda of the nineteenth session of the ILC in 1967 should include items on succession of states and governments, state responsibility and relations between states and intergovernmental organizations. This resolution was adopted unanimously by the Sixth Committee and also achieved unanimous adoption in plenary.

During the debate, the less-developed nations in particular showed great enthusiasm for the seminar on international law which had been organized in Geneva by the European Office of the United Nations at the time of the seventeenth session of the ILC and supported the idea of more such seminars, with a greater participation from the newer countries.

Progressive Development of the Law of International Trade

Hungary proposed this item for the agenda of the Sixth Committee for the nineteenth session and resubmitted it at the twentieth session. The General Assembly then decided unanimously to include the item on the agenda of its twenty-first session and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the twenty-first session a comprehensive report on the matter. It was that report of the Secretary-General (including comments by the secretariats of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, and a text of a resolution on this subject recently adopted by the International Chamber of Commerce) which was the subject of debate in the Sixth Committee at the twenty-first session, along with a draft resolution on the matter sponsored by 35 states. This resolution favoured the establishment of a United Nations Commission on the Law of International Trade, which would have for its object the promotion of the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade; the text of the draft resolution as introduced to that effect by one of the co-sponsors was not complete, in that the co-sponsors had not reached agreement on certain points, preferring to leave these for the Sixth Committee to decide. These points included the place of meeting of the Commission, the number and the distribution of the seats on the Commission, and the date of the first elections of the members of the Commission. After informal agreement on these matters was reached, a revised text of the 35-power draft resolution was introduced, which was thereafter approved by 75 in favour (Canada) to none opposed, with no abstentions. It also achieved unanimous support in the General Assembly.