

principles or norms of human behaviour and thus preventing disputes from arising, and by adjudicating on and settling conflicts when they arise.

"In the larger sphere of the conduct and relations between state and state, the creation and interpretation of law must regulate relations between states, not by any one or several states, but by all states in common consensus and will.

"The application of the Rule of Law internationally is the fundamental basis and assurance of peace, and one of the most cardinal messages which lawyers throughout the world must carry to mankind is that the Rule of Law is synonymous with peace.

"Forward steps have been taken towards this objective for many generations, and in this century one of the significant yet undramatic developments in the relations of state and state has been the evolution of the Rule of Law in the international sphere, as formulated and laid down by the International Court of Justice and its predecessor, the Permanent Court of Justice.

The foregoing quotation conveys something, I believe, of the concept of the **R u l e** of Law upon which this Resolution is based and concerning which our co-sponsors will have more to say.

Text of Resolution

Turning now to the text of the Resolution, I should like to offer a few brief explanatory comments. It will be noted that the Resolution begins by drawing attention to the paramount importance of the Charter of the United Nations in the continuing development of the rule of law amongst nations: While the Charter is not the only law-making treaty in existence in the field of contemporary international law, it is surely the most far-reaching the most broadly based, the most fundamentally significant