

54. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The privileges and immunities to be accorded in connection with international organizations were considered by the Legal Committee and the General Assembly under two headings: the agreement between the United Nations and the United States concerning the permanent headquarters of the United Nations in the United States, and the co-ordination of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations with those of specialized agencies.

With respect to the permanent headquarters, the Secretary-General submitted for the approval of the General Assembly the agreement which he had negotiated and concluded with the United States in accordance with a previous decision of the Assembly.¹ The agreement was signed on June 26, 1947, and on August 4, 1947, Congress authorized the President of the United States to bring it into effect. The agreement was considered at length by the Legal Committee which presented a detailed report to the General Assembly. On October 31, 1947, the General Assembly unanimously endorsed the opinions contained in the report, approved the agreement and authorized the Secretary-General to bring it into force in the manner provided and to perform the functions required by it.

The agreement between the United Nations and the United States concerns primarily the permanent headquarters to be built between 42nd and 48th Streets on the East River, New York City; this area is called the "headquarters district". While the district will be under the control and authority of the United Nations, the laws of the United States, except as modified by regulations made by the United Nations, will prevail in the district. The district is to be inviolable, however, and the United Nations will enjoy the necessary facilities for its operations, including facilities for communication, transit and police protection. The agreement provides

¹ The text of this agreement is given in Appendix V, C, pp. 250 to 260.