

STATEMENT No. 58
OCTOBER 20, 1967

U. N. G. A. XXII

SIXTH COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM 86: LAW OF TREATIES



Statement to be made by the Representative of Canada, MR ALAN GOTLIEB
on Friday, October 20, 1967.

Mr. Chairman,

As we all know, the preparation of the draft articles on the Law of Treaties was the result of extraordinary efforts on the part of the International Law Commission, and in particular the Special Rapporteur, Sir Humphrey Waldock, who combined brilliant scholarship, great drafting skill, an exceptional gift of seeking out compromise as well as a capacity for painstaking and continuing hard work. The draft articles represent the culmination of almost two decades of effort on the part of the Commission, and the international community must be very grateful to the Commission for its outstanding work. It is the view of the Canadian Delegation that it now becomes the responsibility of governments, to whom the task of codification has now been assigned, to devote serious efforts of their own to the continuation of this work through the drafting of a successful International Convention. Such a Convention could constitute not only an extremely important further stage in the codification of international law but moreover make a significant contribution to world order by the regulation of inter-state relationships in the central field of their activities.

It would not be, in our view, appropriate at this time to go into any great detail on matters of substance. The Canadian Delegation believes that detailed comments can better be covered in written submissions,