

In a spirit of conciliation, which the Assembly appreciated, the Cuban Government, through its representative on the First Committee, intimated that it contemplated the withdrawal of its reservation respecting the duration of the Court sessions and would invite the appropriate bodies to take the necessary steps to this end. The Committee took note of this declaration, recommended that States which have not yet ratified the Protocol should do so as soon as possible, and requested the Secretary-General to present to the Assembly, for consideration at its next session, a statement showing the ratifications received by that time.

General Conventions

The First Committee re-examined Part IV of the Resolution adopted by the Assembly on October 3, 1930, on the procedure to be followed in all cases in which States desired to conclude a convention under the auspices of the League. The Committee took account of the observations submitted by the Governments and by the technical organizations of the League. It also discussed what changes were required in the text in order to bring it into conformity, as far as possible, with the procedure proposed for the codification of international law.

As a result of this examination, the Committee adopted an amended text, which will be substituted for the text adopted in 1930.

Progressive Codification of International Law

The 1930 Assembly expressed its conviction that the codification of international law initiated in 1924 should continue, subject, however, to some revision of methods. This revision of methods was effected by the First Committee of the 1931 Assembly.

After a general discussion, the Committee decided to adopt and recommend to the Assembly, with minor modifications, a resolution submitted by the delegations of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Norway, Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. This resolution provides that a proposal of any subject for codification by international convention presented by the Government of a Member of the League or non-Member State should, in the first instance, be referred to the Assembly for consideration. The Assembly, if it considered the matter *prima facie* suitable for codification, would refer it to a Committee of Experts to be constituted by the Council, which would prepare a draft Convention and a report to be submitted through the Council to a subsequent Assembly. If this further Assembly, after considering the draft convention and the report of the experts, decided that the subject should be provisionally retained as a matter for codification, the Secretary-General would then submit the draft Convention and report to the Governments for their comments; and on receipt of replies from the Governments a subsequent Assembly would take a final decision as to the convocation of a Codification Conference. In the event of the Committee of Experts desiring to amend their draft Convention in the light of the comments of Governments, there is to be a second consultation of Governments on the revised draft before the Assembly takes its final decision.

The First Committee also made two recommendations endorsing the views expressed by the Codification Conference of 1930. The first is designed to secure the collaboration of international and national scientific institutes with the League in the future work of codification. The second suggests that the work of codification undertaken by the League of Nations should be carried on in concert with that of the international conferences of American States.

Nationality of Women

On the proposal of the representative of Guatemala, the Council had placed on the agenda of the Assembly the question of the nationality of women,