

October 11, 1965.

Text of Statement to be made in the 6th Committee
Debate on Agenda Item 87, the Reports of the
International Law Commission on the work of its
sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, by the
Canadian Delegate, Mr. Max Wershof, Q.C., on
Monday, October 11th

Mr. Chairman:

As this is the first occasion on which a representative of the Canadian Delegation has spoken this year in the Sixth Committee, I should like to begin by adding both my personal and my Delegation's felicitations to you, on your election to the Chair, and as well respectively to Mr. Fritan and Dr. Alcibar on their elections as Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

2. I should also like to record the appreciation of my Delegation for the exceptionally interesting remarks on the work of the I.L.C. at its 16th and 17th sessions, and on the importance of the Commission's work at the present time, which were made by Professor Bartos and Professor Ago when they introduced the Reports of those sessions of the Commission over which they had presided. Both these speeches were of the greatest value.

3. Of the matters which are dealt with in the Reports of the ILC on its 16th and 17th sessions, the draft articles drawn up with respect to the Law of Treaties and to Special Missions are undoubtedly of the greatest importance, since it is these which most urgently need to be put into final form before the term of membership of the Commission, as at present constituted, expires. My Government has already submitted its observations on the first and second parts of the draft Law of Treaties, however, and it proposes to submit observations on the third part of the Law of Treaties and on the draft articles on Special Missions early in 1966. I do not, therefore, propose today to comment substantively on either of these projects; suffice it to say that Canada is anxious that both these drafts be completed by the International Law Commission in time for them to be considered by the Sixth Committee next year. It is for this reason that Canada will actively support the programme of work which the ILC has proposed in Chapter IV of the Report on its 17th session, and why in particular we favour the holding of the proposed winter session in January of 1966 and, if necessary, the extension of the regular 1966 summer session as well.