

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the paramount importance of the Charter of the United Nations in the continuing development of the rule of law among nations,

Recalling that the Charter records the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

Convinced that fulfillment by Member States of their duty to co-operate actively with one another through the United Nations, and to respect international rights and perform in good faith treaty and other international obligations, is essential for the creation of conditions of stability and well-being necessary for the achievement of peaceful and friendly relations among States,

Considering that certain areas of international law are in need of clarification and progressive development if law is to make a fuller contribution to social progress, better standards of life and friendly relations and co-operation among States,

Conscious of the significance of the emergence of many new States and of the contribution which they are in a position to make to the progressive development and codification of international law,

1. Affirms that the rule of law is essential for the achievement of the Purposes of the United Nations, particularly the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States based on respect for the principles set forth in the Charter of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and of the sovereign equality of all Member States;

2. Affirms also that the Charter is the fundamental statement of principles of international law governing friendly relations and co-operation among States, notably, the obligation