

**OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS
CONTENTS**

	PAGE
UNITED NATIONS:	
Documents on the Development and Codification of International Law:	
Historical Survey of Development of International Law and its Codification by International Conferences. <i>April 29, 1947</i>	29
Methods for Encouraging the Progressive Development of International Law and its Eventual Codification. <i>May 6, 1947</i>	111
Outline of the Codification of International Law in the Inter-American System with Special Reference to the Methods of Codification. <i>May 6, 1947</i>	116
Note on the Private Codification of Public International Law. <i>May 16, 1947</i>	138

UNITED NATIONS
DOCUMENTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND CODIFICATION
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW *

1. HISTORICAL SURVEY OF DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ITS CODIFICATION
BY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES **

April 29, 1947

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I

	PAGE
THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW	32
A. General	32
B. Preparation of Conferences and Conventions	35
The Hague Peace Conferences	36
Postal Conferences	36
Conferences for the Unification of Private International Law	38
Conferences on Sea Transport	39
International Telecommunications Conferences	41
Air Transport Conferences	41
Public Air Law	41
Private Air Law	42
C. The International Naval Conference	43

* Documents and following note provided by Dr. Yuen-Li Liang of Division of Development and Codification of International Law of United Nations Secretariat.—M. E.

By Resolution 94 (1), adopted on 11 December 1946, the General Assembly of the United Nations, acting in pursuance of Article 13 of the Charter of that organization, established a Committee on the Progressive Development of International Law and its Codification, to consist of seventeen members and assigned to study the methods by which the General Assembly should encourage that development and codification, methods suitable for securing the coöperation of the several organs of the United Nations and for enlisting the assistance of other national or international bodies in that task.

In the Resolution of the General Assembly the Secretary-General of the United Nations was requested to provide such assistance as the Committee might require for its work. The memoranda on the development and codification of international law which follow were accordingly prepared by the Division of the Development and Codification of International Law of the Secretariat of the United Nations for the use of the Committee. These memoranda embodied (1) a historical survey of the development of international law and its codification by international conferences (A/AC.10/5), (2) a history of the codification of international law in the Inter-American system (A/AC.10/8), (3) a note on the private codification of public international law (A/AC.10/25), (4) a memorandum on the methods for enlisting the coöperation of other bodies, national and international, concerned with international law (A/AC.10/22), (5) a working bibliography on the codification of international law (A/AC.10/6), and (6) a memorandum on the methods for encouraging the progressive develop-

PART II

THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS	49
A. General Survey of the Legislative Activities of the League of Nations	49
Preparation of General Conventions to be Negotiated under the Auspices of the League of Nations	49
The Committee of Experts	49
Resolution of the Assembly of 3 October 1930	51
Special Preparatory Procedures	51
Standard Preparatory Procedure	51
The Subject Matter of General Conventions Concluded under the Auspices of the League of Nations	53
Method of Adopting Conventions	59
Ratifications	59
Participation of Non-Members States	59
Conference on the Treatment of Foreigners	60
B. The International Labour Conference	61
Preparatory Procedure	61
Preparatory Conference	62
Double-discussion Procedure	62
Single-discussion Procedure	63
Voting	64
Ratification	64
Follow-up Procedure	65
Revision of Conventions	65
Subject Matter of Conventions	65

PART III

THE FIRST CONFERENCE FOR THE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW	66
A. Origins	66
The Advisory Committee of Jurists	66
Action by the League	66
Committee of Experts	67
Task of Committee of Experts	67
First Meeting of the Committee of Experts	68
Second Meeting of the Committee of Experts	68
Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts	70

ment of international law and its eventual codification (A/AC.10/7); of these items (4) and (5) are omitted here.

While most of the memoranda were intended for the purposes of reference, the Memorandum on the Methods for Encouraging the Development of International Law and its Codification (A/AC.10/7), containing observations which the Secretariat presented to the Committee, was specially designed to facilitate the discussion of the problems involved. This memorandum, as proposed in a memorandum of the Rapporteur of 16 May 1947 (A/AC.10/26), was taken by a decision of the Committee at its seventh meeting on 21 May as a general basis for discussion.

A Report was adopted by the Committee to be considered by the General Assembly during its Second Session in September, 1947; this document was reproduced in this Supplement at page 18, above. The value of the memoranda to the Committee, and the work of the Secretariat in their preparation, was suitably acknowledged both by individual members of the Committee and by the Rapporteur on the conclusion of his task.

** Memorandum prepared by the Secretariat; doc. A/AC.10/5, 29 April 1947.

Some Comments Made by Governments	71
Question of Procedure	73
The Report of the Council of the League of Nations, 13 June 1927	74
The Resolution of the Assembly of the League of Nations, 27 September 1927	75
Comparison Between the Report of the Council and the Resolution of the Assembly	77
The Preparatory Committee	78
The Calling of the Conference	80
B. The Conference for the Codification of International Law	80
Questions of Procedure	80
C. Results of the Conference	82
The Recommendations of the Hague Conference with Regard to Preparatory Work for Future Codifications Conferences	83
Reasons for Failure of the Conference	84
Basis of Discussion	84
Scope of the Conference	84
Time at the Disposal of the Conference	84
Voting	84
Selection of Subjects	85
Codification v. Legislation	85
Diplomatic Preparation	85
D. Action of the League of Nations Subsequent to the Hague Codification Conference	86
The Resolution of the Council of the League of Nations, 15 May 1930	86
Resolution of the Assembly of the League of Nations, 8 October 1930	86
Various Draft Resolutions	87
Council's Request for Comments on the Hague Conference	87
Replies of Governments	87
Procedure for Future Codification Conferences Adopted by Assembly, 25 September 1931	91
Conclusions	92
Appendix 1. Resolution Adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, 3 October 1930	93
Appendix 2. Resolution Adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, 25 September 1931	97
Appendix 3. Standing Orders of the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization	99
Appendix 4. Standing Orders of the International Labor Conference as Adopted at the Twenty-seventh Session on 22 October 1945	100
Appendix 5. Resolution of the Advisory Committee of Jurists, 24 July 1920.....	102
Appendix 6. Resolution Adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, 22 September 1924	103
Appendix 7. Resolution Adopted by the Council of the League of Nations, 12 December 1924	104
Appendix 8. Resolution Adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, 27 September 1927	105
Appendix 9. Extracts from the Rules of Procedure of the Conference for the Codification of the International Law	107
Appendix 10. General Recommendations with a View to the Progressive Codification of International Law Adopted at the Conference for the Codification of International Law	108
Appendix 11. Resolution Adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations, 25 September 1931	110