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AD HOC COMMITTEE OF LEGAL ADVISERS
ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
(CAHDI)

17th Meeting
Vienna, *Hofburg*, 8-9 March 1999

CENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE
DISCUSSION OF THE SPECIAL REPORTS :
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES:
PROSPECTS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Secretariat memorandum
Prepared by the Directorate of Legal Affairs

Foreword

1. Within the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law, the Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation are called upon to organise and co-ordinate the Centennial of the First International Peace Conference.

2. In paragraph 3 of Resolution 52/154 of 15 December 1997 the United Nations General Assembly "encourages" the competent United Nations organs, subsidiary organs, programmes and specialised agencies, including the International Court of Justice, the International Law Commission and the Secretariat, within their respective mandates, competence and budgets, as well as other international organisations:

- (a) To co-operate in the implementation of the Programme of Action and to co-ordinate their efforts in this respect;
- (b) To consider participation in the activities envisaged in the Programme of Action".

3. Pursuant to this Resolution and the Programme of Action (UN doc. A/C.6/52/3), the executive Secretary of the Centennial of the First International Peace Conference transmitted to the Secretariat of the CAHDI the text of the preliminary report on ***Peaceful Settlement of Disputes: Prospects for the twenty-first century*** and requested its consideration by the CAHDI.

4. In addition to the CAHDI, this report was transmitted for consideration to:

- the International Court of Justice (ICJ),
- the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA),
- the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC),
- the International American Commission of Jurists of the Organization of American States (IAJC), and
- the International Law Commission (ILC).

5. The Executive Secretariat of the Centennial of the First International Peace Conference would appreciate to have the views of the members of the CAHDI in order for the rapporteurs to include them in the revision of the reports for final discussion at the expert meetings at The Hague (18-19 May 1999) and St. Petersburg (23-25 June 1999), as well as for distribution to other interested fora.

6. The reports, other relevant information and individual comments already made to the reports can be consulted at the following internet address:
<http://www.minbuza.nl/English/Conferences>.

7. Some comments to this report were already made at the last meeting of the CAHDI. They are included in the meeting report, document CAHDI (98) 24, para. 97 and following.

Action required

Members of the CAHDI are called upon to consider the attached report and to comment on it. Comments can be provided directly to the Executive Secretariat of the Centennial of the First International Peace Conference or shared with other members of the CAHDI at the next meeting.