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

**16th Meeting
(Paris, 17-18 September 1998)**

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**CENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE
DISCUSSION OF THE SPECIAL REPORTS:
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

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 specialized 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 organizations:

(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 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 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.

Action required

Members of the CAHDI are called upon to consider the attached report on peaceful settlement of administrative disputes and to comment on it with a view to providing the Executive Secretariat of the Centennial of the First International Peace Conference with the CAHDI's views.

The Secretariat would be grateful if you could submit any comments in writing before the meeting in order to prepare a draft opinion of the CAHDI on this matter for consideration at the upcoming meeting of the CAHDI.