



RRU CENTRE
for
RCIL
INTERNATIONAL LAW

RCIL INTERNATIONAL LAW NEWS COVERAGE

*Issue 20/2023
14 June – 9 July
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UN INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

1. **Report** by the Chair of the Drafting Committee Mr. Mārtiņš Pāpariņš on ‘Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law’ concerning titles and texts of draft conclusions 1 to 3 provisionally adopted by the Drafting Committee.
2. **Ms. Patrícia Galvão Teles** assumes the position of ‘Chair’ for the second-part of the 74th Session of International Law Commission.
3. **Mr. George Rodrigo Bandeira Galindo**, Vice-President of the Inter-American Juridical Committee addresses the International Law Commission on 4th July 2023.
4. **Prof. Hajer Gueldich**, Chair of the African Union Commission on International Law and **Prof. Kevin Ferdinand Ndjimba**, African Union Commission on International Law addresses the International Law Commission on 6th July 2023.



Group photograph of the Members of the International Law Commission and the ILC Secretariat.

UNGA SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL)

1. The UN Sixth Committee is scheduled to meet from 2 October to 17 November 2023 during its 78th session. The Committee's [provisional programme of work](#) with reference to the work of the ILC, as proposed by its Bureau is as follows:

23 October – 27 October 2023	Report of the ILC on the work of its 73 rd and 74 th sessions
31 October – 2 November 2023	

23/10	24/10	25/10	26/10	27/10
ILC <i>Cluster 1</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 1</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 1</i>	<i>[ICJ debate in GA]</i>	<i>[ICJ President statement]</i> ILC <i>Cluster 2</i>
<i>[Legal advisers]</i>	<i>[Legal advisers]</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 1</i> <i>[Interactive dialogue]</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 2</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 2</i>
30/10	31/10	1/11	2/11	3/11
<i>[ICC debate in GA]</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 2</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 3</i>	<i>Reserved</i>	<i>WG: International Terrorism</i>
	ILC <i>Cluster 3</i>	ILC <i>Cluster 3</i>		

Bureau of the UN Sixth Committee (Legal) –

Chair		
H.E. Mr. Suriya Chindawongse (Thailand)		
Vice-Chairs		
Ms. Alis Lungu (Romania)	Mr. Jhon Guerra Sansonetti (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)	Mr. Enrico Milano (Italy)
Rapporteur		
Mr. Moussa Mohamed Moussa (Djibouti)		

UN TREATY COLLECTION – DEPOSITORY NOTIFICATIONS

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES 25 AND 26 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES

1. **Panama** accepts the amendments which shall enter into force on 4 October 2023 in accordance with its article 21(4).

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXVII-5-b – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

2. **Panama** accedes to the Convention on 6 July 2023, which shall enter into force for Panama on 4 October 2023 in accordance with its article 26(3).

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXVII-5-b – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

DECLARATIONS RECOGNIZING AS COMPULSORY THE JURISDICTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE UNDER ARTICLE 36, PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE STATUTE OF THE COURT

1. Islamic Republic of Iran adopts the declaration on 26 June 2023.

Treaty Reference: Chapter I-4

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

1. The Government of Peru extends the state of emergency in the Puno Department for a period of 60 calendar days beginning 10 June 2023 in order to continue to strengthen the all-out action to combat the organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking and related crimes, which threaten peace and security and the goals set by the National Government. The

constitutional rights relating to liberty and security of person, inviolability of the home and freedom of assembly and movement in the territory, included in articles 9, 12, 17 and 21 of the ICCPR, are suspended.

Treaty Reference: Chapter IV-4 – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

1. Malawi ratifies the Convention on 21 September 2023, in accordance with its article 31(2)..

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXVII-5-b – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

NAGOYA-KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

1. Malawi accedes to the Convention on 23 June 2023, which shall enter into force for Malawi on 21 September 2023 in accordance with its article 18(2).

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXVII-8-c – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS

1. Saudi Arabia accedes to the agreement on 22 June 2023, which shall enter into force for Saudi Arabia on 22 July 2023 in accordance with its article 40(2).

Treaty Reference: Chapter IV-15 – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Solomon Islands ratifies the Convention on 22 June 2023, which shall enter into force on 22 July 2023 in accordance with its article 45(2).

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXI-7 – [Document \(Certified True Copy\)](#)

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)

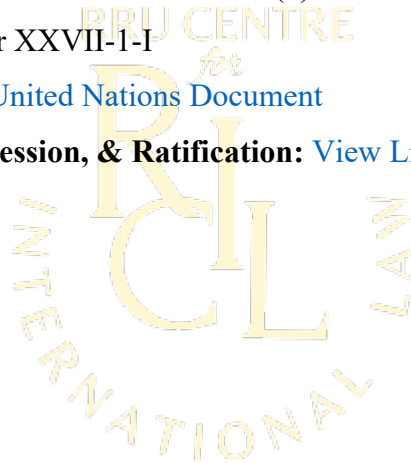
***AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT OF AND ANNEXES OTHER THAN III AND VII TO
THE 1998 PROTOCOL ON HEAVY METALS***

1. Latvia accepts the amendments on 13 June 2023, which shall enter into force on 11 September 2023 in accordance with its article 13(3).

Treaty Reference: Chapter XXVII-1-I

Depository Notification: [United Nations Document](#)

Details of Accession, Succession, & Ratification: [View List](#)



UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

1. Secretary-General Condemns Deadly Air Strikes in Sudan

He reiterates his call for the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces to cease fighting and commit to a durable cessation of hostilities. He also urges these parties to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law to protect civilians and to enable humanitarian action.

2. Expressing Concern about Developments in Jenin, Secretary-General Stresses That All Military Operations Must Adhere to International Humanitarian Law

The Secretary-General is deeply concerned about the developments in Jenin. He affirms that all military operations must be conducted with full respect for international humanitarian law.

3. Taking up Security Council's Annual Report, General Assembly Speakers Call for More Substantive Content, Point to Impact of Veto on Global Peace

Prior to adopting 18 Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) draft texts, the General Assembly today took up the 2022 Security Council report, with some delegations appealing for a more substantive and analytical account of the 15-nation organ's work, while others spotlighted the Council's limitations due to the veto, which was preventing a timely response to threats to international peace and security.

4. Security Council Terminates Mandate of United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2690 (2023)

The Security Council decided today to terminate the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) as of 30 June 2023, ceasing its operations, transferring its tasks and withdrawing its personnel by 31 December 2023.

5. Condemning Fatal Attack against Peacekeepers in Mali, Secretary-General Calls on Transitional Authorities to Bring Perpetrators to Justice

The Secretary-General reiterates that settlements are a flagrant violation of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions. He once again urges the Government of Israel to

halt and reverse the expansion of settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, to immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and to fully respect its legal obligations in that regard.

6. Disarmament Chief Tells Security Council Arms Supply Accelerated ahead of Reported Counteroffensive in Ukraine, Stresses Weapons Registers Are Key

Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, warned that the supply of weapons into any armed conflict raises significant concerns about the potential escalation of violence and the risks of diversion. There are reports, she noted, that the supply of arms and ammunition has accelerated ahead of the reported Ukrainian counteroffensive, as well as of States transferring or planning to transfer weapons to the Russian armed forces for use in Ukraine.

7. General Assembly Adopts Resolution Establishing Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria, as Speakers Debate Text's Merit

Prior to adopting two draft texts by consensus, the General Assembly voted on a contentious resolution that created a new mechanism to respond to the missing persons crisis in Syria, with some speakers arguing it could contribute to national reconciliation and sustainable peace and others stressing that, not only was Damascus not consulted, but the mechanism interferes with Syria's internal affairs.

8. Secretary-General Appoints Aarti Holla-Maini of United Kingdom Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

Ms. Holla-Maini brings to this position over 25 years of professional experience in the space sector, including in managerial and advocacy functions. Most recently, she was Executive Vice-President for Sustainability, Policy & Impact at NorthStar Earth & Space, prior to which she spent over 18 years as Secretary-General of the Global Satellite Operators Association.

9. Mission Drawdown in Democratic Republic of Congo Must Not Create Stability Vacuum, Jeopardize Civilian Protection, Senior Official Tells Security Council

Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, Assistant Secretary-General for Africa in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, said that the security situation in

the country's eastern region has continued to deteriorate in Ituri and North Kivu. Also, the withdrawal of M23 from the occupied areas has been tactical as it still controls a large part of the Masisi and Rutshuru territories and its offensive repositioning in recent weeks has raised fears that hostilities could flare up again at any moment.

10. Special Committee on Decolonization Approves Resolution Reaffirming Puerto Rico's Inalienable Right to Self-determination, Independence

By the terms of the resolution titled "Decision of the Special Committee of 20 June 2022 concerning Puerto Rico" — which was approved without a vote — the Special Committee supported a process enabling the Puerto Rican people to take decisions in a sovereign manner, to address their urgent economic and social needs, including unemployment, marginalization, insolvency and poverty, and the problems related to education and health, which have been aggravated by the ravages of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, and the earthquakes affecting the south-western part of the island.

11. Ongoing Decline in Gulf of Guinea's Piracy, Armed Robbery Encouraging, But Support Needed to Fully Implement Yaoundé Architecture, Briefers Tell Security Council

Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, attributed the decline in piracy and armed robbery at sea to the concerted efforts of national authorities and support received from regional and international partners. Expressing her appreciation for the progress achieved by the Gulf of Guinea States and subregional organizations, such as the Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States and the Gulf of Guinea Commission, she reported that, over the past decade, these entities have demonstrated commendable strides in operationalizing the key pillars of the Yaoundé Architecture.

12. Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Concludes Work Following Landmark Adoption of Historic Treaty

At the outset of the meeting, the Conference concluded its general exchange of views, as several delegations pointed out that the adoption of the agreement is just the beginning and emphasized the importance of the treaty's entry into force and its effective implementation.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

1. The International Court of Justice will hold public hearings in the case concerning *Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic)* starting on **Wednesday 19 July 2023**, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the Court.. ([Press release No. 2023/38](#))
2. On 4th July 2023, **Canada, the Kingdom of Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** filed a joint application instituting proceedings against the **Islamic Republic of Iran** before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, concerning a dispute under the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (the “Montreal Convention”). ([Press release No. 2023/37](#))
3. On 13 July 2023, the International Court of Justice will deliver its Judgment in the case concerning *Question of the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf between Nicaragua and Colombia beyond 200 Nautical Miles from the Nicaraguan Coast (Nicaragua v. Colombia)*. Judge Joan E. Donoghue, President of the Court, will read out the Court’s decision. ([Press release No. 2023/36](#))
4. The **Islamic Republic of Iran** filed a declaration recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 26 June 2023. The declaration, made under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, was deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York. ([Press release No. 2023/35](#))
5. On 27 June 2023, **the Islamic Republic of Iran** filed an application instituting proceedings against Canada before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), concerning alleged violations of its immunities. ([Press release 2023/34](#))

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

1. On Friday, 14 July 2023, Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court (ICC) will deliver an Addendum to the Reparations Order for victims in the case **The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda**. – [English](#), [French](#)
2. On 27 June, Pre-Trial Chamber I of the International Criminal Court issued its decision authorising the ICC Prosecution to resume its investigation in the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela I. The Chamber concluded that, whilst Venezuela is taking some investigative steps, its domestic criminal proceedings do not sufficiently mirror the scope of the Prosecution’s intended investigation. – [English](#), [French](#)
3. Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karim A.A. Khan KC, on the referral by the Democratic Republic of the Congo regarding the situation in its territory – [English](#), [French](#)

Upcoming hearings (July 2023)

1. **Case:** [The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona \(ICC-01/14-01/18\)](#) – [Trial hearing](#)
Date: 11 - 12 July 2023; 14 July 2023;

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

1. On 2 July 2023, Judge Albert Hoffmann, President of the Tribunal, opened the second ITLOS Workshop for Legal Advisers. In his statement, he highlighted the Tribunal's strong commitment to the capacity-building of future generations of law of the sea experts, including government officials, students and researchers, and expressed the Tribunal's appreciation to the Republic of Korea for its support in organizing the workshop. ([Press release 342](#))
2. By Order of 30 June 2023, Judge Albert Hoffmann, President of the Tribunal, fixed 11 September 2023 as the date for the opening of the hearing in Case No. 31 (*Request for an Advisory Opinion submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law*). ([Press release 341](#))
3. Seven Members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea were elected on 14 June 2023 at the thirty-third Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, currently ongoing at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.
Judge Tomas Heidar (Iceland) – re-elected
Ms. Frida María Armas Pfirter (Argentina)
Mr. Hidehisa Horinouchi (Japan)
Mr. Thembile Elphus Joyini (South Africa)
Mr. Osman Keh Kamara (Sierra Leone)
Mr. Konrad Jan Marciniak (Poland)
Mr. Zha Hyoung Rhee (Republic of Korea)

INTERNATIONAL LAW CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

1. **23-24 November 2023:** [ESIL supported Conference on “New Technologies in International Law” \(Charles University\)](#)
2. **24 July to 4 August 2023:** [6th Training Session of China-AALCO Exchange and Research Program on International Law \(Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization\)](#)
3. **25 July 2023:** [International Trade Law and Governance and Climate Change – role, potential and interaction \(National University of Singapore\)](#)

THIS WEEK'S READS

1. [Reflections on Peaceful Maritime Engagement in East Asia and the Pacific Region – Shunji Yanai](#)
2. [Cultural Heritage in International Law – Valentina Vadi](#)
3. [Sustainability through Participation? – National, Supranational and International Legal Perspectives – Eva Julia Lohse and Birgit Peters](#)

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