

administrative and financial unification. After discussion in joint meetings of Committees 2, 3, and 5, the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution, sponsored by New Zealand, calling for consideration of the feasibility of developing a joint system for external audit and for a common collection of contributions.

7. LEGAL QUESTIONS

The International Court of Justice heard one dispute, the Corfu Channel case, but did not deliver judgment during the period under review.* The Court gave an advisory opinion on the question of the admission of new members, which is reported under another section.† Later, the Court took up the question of reparation for injuries suffered in the service of the United Nations, as requested by the Assembly (see below).

The questions considered in this section, all of which were dealt with by the General Assembly, relate not only to the application of international law, but to its development and codification and to legal aspects of the administration of the organization.

(a) Violation by the Soviet Union of Human Rights and Diplomatic Practices

The Chilean Government charged the Soviet Union before the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the Assembly with having violated fundamental human rights and traditional diplomatic practices by preventing the Soviet wives of foreigners, and in particular Mrs de Cruz, daughter-in-law of the former Chilean Ambassador in Moscow, from leaving the country.

The Sixth Committee adopted a resolution which, after declaring that to prevent a wife from joining her foreign husband abroad was not in conformity with the Charter and in the case of a foreign diplomat was contrary to courtesy, diplomatic practice, and the principle of reciprocity, recommended that the measures complained of be withdrawn by the Soviet Union. Only the Eastern European States voted against this resolution, but a further proposal to seek the advice of the International Court on the question of diplomatic privilege was rejected. New Zealand voted for both resolutions. Final decision on this question was deferred until the second part of the Assembly session.

(b) Genocide

The second session of the General Assembly had asked the Economic and Social Council to complete the work already begun on a Convention on Genocide. The sixth session of the Council appointed an *ad hoc* committee, composed of China, France, Lebanon,

* Judgment was given on 9 April, 1949.

† See page 43.