

18. *Emphasizes* the importance of economic revitalization and reconstruction for the successful consolidation of the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

19. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the arbitration process in Brčko and to respect the decisions reached through the arbitration process, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement;

20. *Demands* that all parties comply fully with the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control, including the accurate reporting of existing levels of armaments and the destruction of the required amounts of armaments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, and urges Member States and the appropriate regional organizations to assist in the implementation and verification of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement;

21. *Stresses* the need for timely information about the level of cooperation and compliance with the International Tribunal and its orders, the status and programme for the return of refugees and displaced persons to and within Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the status and implementation of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control;

22. *Commends* the efforts of the international community, including the Council of Europe, the European Union, the European Community Monitoring Mission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Monetary Fund, the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the Islamic Development Bank, the multinational Implementation Force led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, non-governmental organizations, the office of the High Representative, the office of the Special Rapporteur for Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Peace Implementation Council, the United Nations International Police Task Force, the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the World Bank, in their roles in the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda at its fifty-second session the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

*88th plenary meeting
17 December 1996*

51/204. Observer status for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Stressing the importance of the uniform interpretation or application of the provisions of the United Nations Convention

on the Law of the Sea,¹⁸⁶ the agreements related thereto and any other agreement which may confer jurisdiction on the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea,

Aware of the need for States to settle any disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention by peaceful means,

Welcoming the establishment of the Tribunal in Hamburg, Germany,

Noting the decision of the Meeting of States Parties at its fifth session to seek observer status for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in order to enable it to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly¹⁸⁷ and the decision of the Tribunal at its first session to seek such observer status,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

*88th plenary meeting
17 December 1996*

51/205. Proclamation of 21 November as World Television Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it stated, *inter alia*, that the United Nations cannot achieve its purposes unless the peoples of the world are fully informed of its aims and activities,

Recalling also its resolutions concerning information in service of humanity and United Nations public information policies and activities,

Reaffirming its commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media,

Underlining that communications have become one of today's central international issues, not only for their relevance for the world economy, but also for their implications for social and cultural development,

Recognizing the increasing impact that television has on decision-making by alerting world attention to conflicts and threats to peace and security and its potential role in sharpening the focus on other major issues, including economic and social issues,

¹⁸⁶ *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

¹⁸⁷ See SPLOS/14, para. 36.

Underlining that the United Nations faces ever-increasing demands to address the major issues facing humankind and that television, as one of today's most powerful communications media, could play a role in presenting these issues to the world,

Noting with satisfaction the holding at Headquarters, on 21 and 22 November 1996, of the first World Television Forum, where leading media figures met under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss the growing significance of television in today's changing world and to consider how they might enhance their mutual cooperation,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 21 November World Television Day, commemorating the date on which the first World Television Forum was held;

2. *Invites* all Member States to observe World Television Day by encouraging global exchanges of television programmes focusing, among other things, on such issues as peace, security, economic and social development and the enhancement of cultural exchange;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments and appropriate non-governmental organizations.

*88th plenary meeting
17 December 1996*