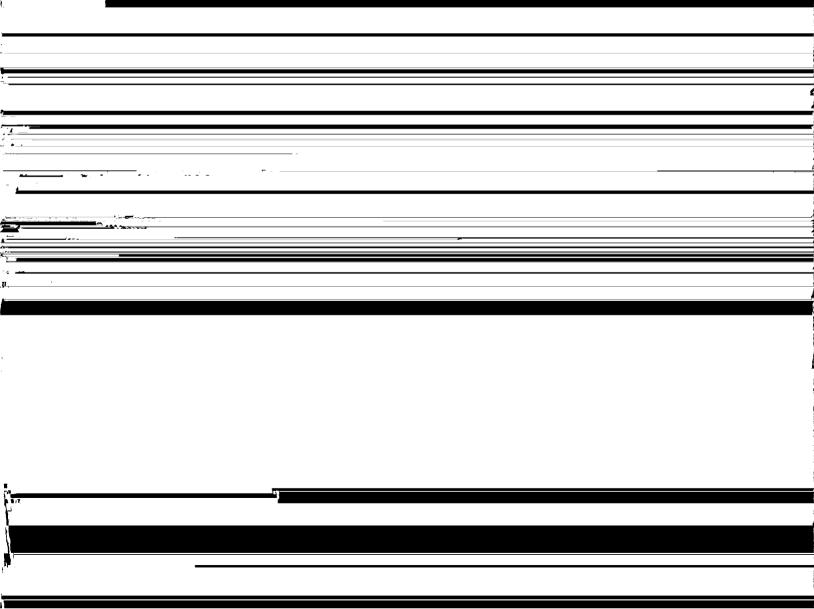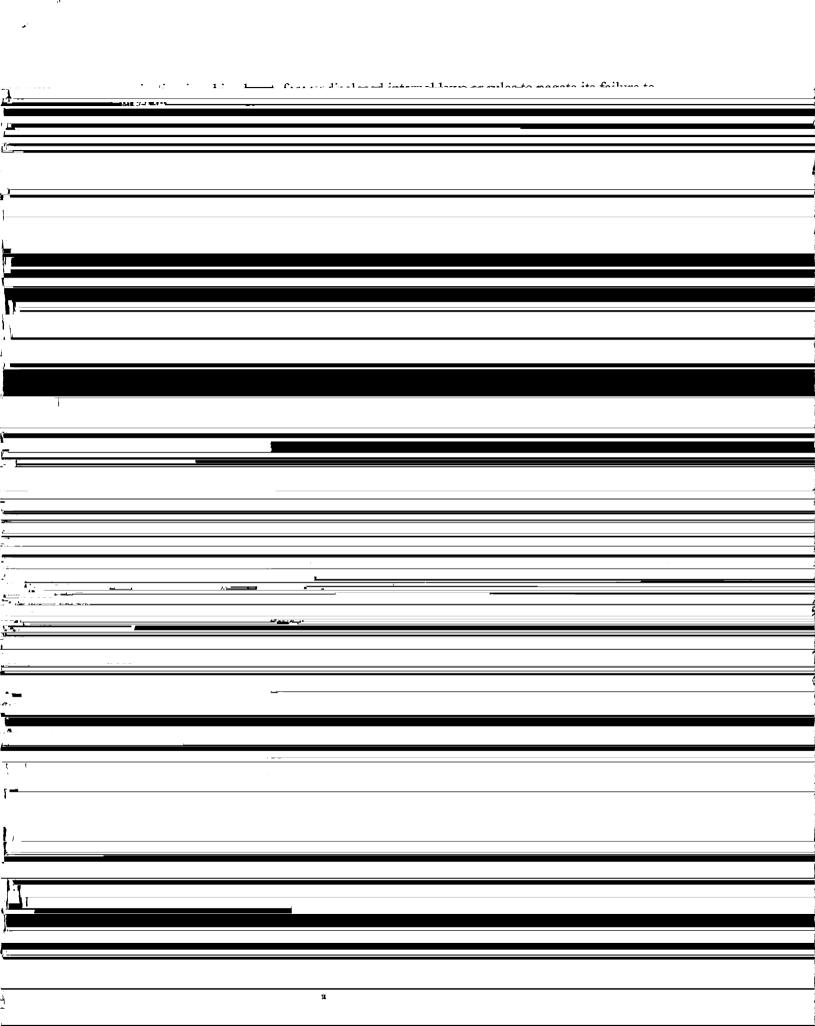the draft guidelines reflect existing rules of international law. Micronesia submitted national Comments to the Commission for this topic in 2014, which underscored the importance of the topic for Micronesia. Today, Micronesia wishes to comment on a number of the draft guidelines provisionally adopted by the Commission.

As a general note, Micronesia appreciates the relative brevity of the draft guidelines as a whole and notes that the Commission has avoided producing draft guidelines that are overly prescriptive, so as to acknowledge the flexibility of States to modify by mutual agreement the normal practice of provisional application. From the outset of the Commission's consideration of this topic, Micronesia has stressed the importance of provisional application as a means to an end—namely, as a method for fostering the speedy implementation of treaties. Micronesia feels that the draft guidelines provisionally adopted by the Commission rightfully encourage this approach, as the general commentary to the draft guidelines attests.

Micronesia notes draft guideline 3 with appreciation. As the commentary for draft guideline 3 makes clear, a State or international organization may provisionally apply a treaty or a part of a treaty that has not entered into force for that particular State or international organization even if the treaty itself has entered into force Micronesia previously raised this matter as one of

Second, sea-level rise poses an existential threat to island States, particularly those with low-lying islands and atolls like Micronesia and its many fellow island States in the Pacific. Sea-

level rise has already been blamed for the disappearance of a number of low-lying islands in the Pacific. The implications of this phenomenon for the ability of a State to persist as a State under

international law are clear: When a State loses its geographical territory, can it still be