



**Mr. Chairman,**

At the outset, India would like to thank Mr. Eduardo Valencia-Ospina (Colombia) Chairman of the seventieth session of the International Law Commission, for comprehensive introduction of the Report of the Commission and for guiding its work at this session. We also thank all Members of the Commission for their valuable contribution to the work of the Commission.

This statement of the volume of work the Report reveals that the

Commission has been able to complete work on two topics, namely, "Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties" and; "Identification of customary international law." Eight topics are

Some of the Commission's work on these

**Mr. Chairman,**

Mr. Georg Nolte deserves appreciation for his hard work since 2009 as Chairman of the Study Group in the name of the topic “Treaties over time”,

topic as “Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties” appointing Mr. Georg Nolte himself as the Special Rapporteur. As a result of the consideration by the Commission, of four reports by the Special Rapporteur, in 2016 a set of 13 draft conclusions with commentaries thereto was adopted. At its current year’s session, the Commission considered the fifth report of the Special Rapporteur along with the observations of Governments and adopted the entire set of draft Conclusions

and commentaries thereto, recommending for the General Assembly to take

agreement or practice cannot amend or modify the treaty. Further, according to an observation in paragraph 1 of Conclusion 10, such agreements or practice may, but need not be legally binding. We agree with these observations.

This work would certainly be useful for States and other in need of

guidance as to the import of articles 31 and 32 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We once again congratulate the Commission as a whole and both the  
[redacted] ~~Special Reporters in particular for the completion work on their respective~~

topics and support the recommendations of the Commission relating thereto.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Finally we would also like to congratulate the Commission for having  
celebrated its seventieth anniversary this year both in New York and Geneva. I

(Dr. Vishnu Dutt Sharma) was fortunate enough to be part of the event in  
Geneva on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July. The event was a unique opportunity to exchange and