

 Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
United Nations in New York

 **Permanent Mission of Sweden
to the United Nations, New York**

The Permanent Missions of Sweden and Austria to the United Nations
cordially invite you to the annual

Interactive Dialogue

between the Sixth Committee and the International Law Commission

25th October 2023, 4.30 pm – 6 pm

Trusteeship Council Chamber

With the presence of the following Members of the ILC:

Nilüfer Oral: Sea-level rise in relation to international law

Marcelo Vázquez-Bermúdez: General principles of law

Rolf Einar Fife: Future work of the ILC

Moderated by **Elinor Hammarskjöld, Director-General for Legal Affairs of the Swedish
Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

The interactive dialogue aims to provide a platform for an informal exchange and discussions between Members of the ILC and the 6th Committee, including visiting Legal Advisers from capitals. Members of the audience are encouraged to ask questions and make comments on the work of the ILC.

This year discussions will focus on the following topics:

Sea-level rise in relation to international law:

This year, the Commission had before it an additional paper to the first issues paper which focused on the law of the sea. The additional paper addressed the meaning of “legal stability” in relation to sea-level rise, with a focus on baselines and maritime zones; immutability and intangibility of boundaries; fundamental change of circumstances; effects of the potential situation whereby overlapping areas of the exclusive economic zones of opposite coastal States, delimited by bilateral agreement, no longer overlap; effects of the situation whereby an agreed land boundary terminus ends up being located out at sea; principle that “the land dominates the sea”; historic waters, title and rights; equity; permanent sovereignty over natural resources; possible loss or gain of benefits by third States; nautical charts and their relationship to baselines, maritime boundaries and the safety of navigation; and relevance of other sources of law.

General principles of law:

This year, the Commission considered the report of the Drafting Committee and adopted on first reading 11 draft conclusions on the topic, together with commentaries thereto. The Commission decided to transmit the draft conclusions, through the Secretary-General, to Governments for comments and observations by 1 December 2024.

Looking to the future:

At the beginning of a new quinquennium it would appear timely to discuss and reflect on

- topics on the long-term programme of work,
- possible future topics which Member States may find useful for the ILC to address.

We look forward to an interactive discussion!