

Foreword

From its beginning, the Society established as one of its primary functions the regular collection, publication, and dissemination of important international legal materials. These materials were first published as a section of the *American Journal of International Law*, and since the 1960s as the current stand-alone *International Legal Materials* publication. The publication met a critical need in that earlier era—when access to primary source legal materials was limited. Today, access to information is no longer a problem. Indeed, our challenge is too much information. And therein we find a continuing mission for *International Legal Materials*.

The dramatic growth in the international legal field makes it nearly impossible for scholars and practitioners—let alone the general public—to keep abreast of the most important international legal developments. Fortunately they can rely on our staff and Editorial Advisory Committee to sift through the vast array of documents, identify those that are truly significant, and highlight them in *International Legal Materials* and our bi-weekly electronic bulletin, *International Law in Brief*. The Society's periodic *ASIL Insights* provide additional analysis of particularly high-profile developments.

Beginning in 2007, we have been supplementing all documents published in *International Legal Materials* with an introductory note from one of the many experts ASIL counts among its members. These notes provide summaries of the documents and key insights into their significance. In this volume we feature notes by Rosa M. Celorio, Christiane Bourloyannis-Vrailas, Rhodri C. Williams, Olufemi Elias, John Cerone, Audrey Macklin, Susana SáCouto, Claire Kelly, Ken Anderson, and Dr. David Lindsay. We are extremely grateful to these authors, and we are confident that you will value their contributions as well.

Please send us your comments and suggestions as we continue our efforts to meet the evolving needs of the international legal community.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Andersen
Chair
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International Legal Materials

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATERIALS®

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International Legal Materials is a core publication of The American Society of International Law that reproduces texts of documents reflecting the broad scope and evolution of international law. The range of covered subjects has expanded from traditional topics such as international organizations, jurisdiction, and international trade to include developments in fields such as intellectual property, environmental law, nuclear non-proliferation, human rights, and international criminal law.

International Legal Materials serves as both a bi-monthly information service and a widely recognized archive of international law documents for a diverse, global community of legal scholars, government officials, private practitioners and institutions sharing a common interest in international law. To meet the varied demands of such a readership, documents are selected from world-wide sources on the basis of their present and future legal significance.

International Legal Materials is prepared for publication in Washington, D.C. with both the advice of the Editorial Advisory Committee and the assistance of Corresponding Editors around the world. In order to reproduce the texts of selected documents under tight production schedules, the best available source is used, whether electronic or printed.

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International Legal Materials (ISSN 0020-7829) is published bi-monthly (in January, March, May, July, September and November) by The American Society of International Law, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20008-2864.

For 2010 subscriptions, the rate for Society members in the U.S. is \$155; outside the U.S., \$215 (airmail delivery). The rate for non-members of the Society is \$255; outside the U.S., \$315 (airmail delivery). Subscriptions are on an anniversary basis of twelve months starting from start of subscription.

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Filed November 2009, *International Legal Materials* (issued six times a year, January, March, May, July, September, November, and December), Cadmus Professional Communications, 3575 Hempland Road, Lancaster, PA 17601. Published by the American Society of International Law, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington D.C. 20008-2864. Managing Editor: Djurdja Lazic, American Society of International Law, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington D.C. 20008-2864. Owner, The American Society of International Law. Average number of domestic and international copies per issue, last 12 months: total printed, 1858; mail subscriptions, 722; total paid circulation, 1278; free distribution, 50; total distribution, 2011. For single issue nearest to filing date: total printed, 2011; mail subscriptions, 811; total paid circulation, 1361; free distribution, 5; total distribution, 1416.

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International Law.

Printed by Cadmus Professional Communications,
Lancaster, PA 17601

Periodicals postage paid at Washington, DC and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes and returns to ILM, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008-2864. Return postage guaranteed.

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