

**OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
A GENEVE**



**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AT GENEVA**

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The United Nations Office at Geneva (Legal Office) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to inform that, pursuant to the decision of the General Assembly, the fifty-third session of the Seminar on International Law will take place at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 to 21 July 2017, in connection with the sixty-ninth session of the International Law Commission (ILC), to be held from 1 May to 2 June and from 3 July to 4 August 2017.

In its last annual report to the General Assembly, the International Law Commission again underlined the importance it attaches to the Seminar. The attached note contains information on the objective and participation in the Seminar, and programme of work of the Commission. The United Nations Office at Geneva kindly requests the Permanent Missions to bring this information note to the attention of the competent authorities (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Justice and Universities), with a view to identifying qualified candidates.

The Office wishes to draw the attention of the Permanent Missions to the fact that participants must be between 24 and 38 years of age. To ensure equitable geographical representation among the 25 participants, not more than one national from any country will be accepted. Preference will be given to candidates with a strong profile in public international law, as shown by their studies, publications, and professional experience. Staff of Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva are not eligible for Seminar participation.

The International Law Seminar is not intended to be an introduction to public international law. Candidates must prove a solid knowledge of international law, on the basis of either their postgraduate studies or professional experience.

Candidates can apply online at the following website www.ilsgeneva.ch. The deadline for submission of applications is 29 March 2017. Applications received after that date will not be considered.

While participation in the Seminar is free of charge, the United Nations is unable to cover the cost of travel or subsistence for all participants. Governments have however contributed to the Trust Fund of the Seminar which awards scholarships every year to deserving participants, primarily from developing countries. In this respect, the International Law Commission, in its last report to the General Assembly, invited Member States to contribute, even if only symbolically, to the Trust Fund of the Seminar*.

The United Nations Office at Geneva would like to thank Permanent Missions in advance for their support and cooperation.

Geneva, 12 January 2017

* Bank information for voluntary contributions

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In favour of "International Law Seminar – ILS Grant (M1-32CLA-000003)