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AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE PEACEFUL
USES OF THE SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN
FLOOR BEYOND THE LIMITS OF
NATIONAL JURISDICTION

Legal Working Group

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Approved by the Legal Working Group at
its third meeting on 21 June 1968

Consideration of the legal aspects of the study which the Ad Hoc Committee has been requested to prepare for the General Assembly according to resolution 2340 (XXII).

The Working Group has approved the following programme of work:

1. Examination of legal principles relating to the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction, including:

- (a) existing regulations in this field;
- (b) consideration of legal principles which should govern international co-operation with a view to the preparation of an agreement on the use of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, exclusively for peaceful purposes;
- (c) consideration of legal principles which should govern international co-operation in the use, in the interests of mankind, of the resources of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction.

2. Conclusions of a legal nature emerging from the reports on the subject submitted by the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other inter-governmental bodies in accordance with operative paragraph 2 of resolution 2340 (XXII).

3. Consideration of practical legal means, which the Working Group might think fit to recommend to the Ad Hoc Committee in accordance with operative paragraph 2, sub-paragraph (c) of resolution 2340 (XXII), for ensuring:

(a) the use exclusively for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction; and

(b) the use of the resources of this area in the interests of mankind.

4. Other legal aspects of the subject.
