



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

9 October 2008

Dear Madam President,

I would like to inform you that the General Assembly, at its twenty-second meeting held on 8 October 2008, under its agenda item 71, adopted resolution 63/3 (A/63/L.2) entitled "Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo is in accordance with international law". Certified true copies of the resolution, in English and French are attached.

In this resolution, the General Assembly decided, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, to render an advisory opinion on the following question:

"Is the unilateral declaration of independence by the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo in accordance with international law?"

I would also like to inform you that pursuant to Article 65, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, the Secretariat has begun to prepare a dossier containing all relevant documents on the question. The dossier will be transmitted to the Court as soon as possible.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ban Ki-moon".

BAN Ki-moon

Her Excellency
Ms. Rosalyn Higgins
President of the International Court of Justice
The Hague



General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 October 2008

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 71

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.2)]

63/3. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo is in accordance with international law

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind its functions and powers under the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling that on 17 February 2008 the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo declared independence from Serbia,

Aware that this act has been received with varied reactions by the Members of the United Nations as to its compatibility with the existing international legal order,

Decides, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations to request the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 65 of the Statute of the Court to render an advisory opinion on the following question:

“Is the unilateral declaration of independence by the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo in accordance with international law?”.

*22nd plenary meeting
8 October 2008*

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'D. ...', written over a horizontal line.

New York, NY 9 October 2009



Assemblée générale

Distr. générale
8 octobre 2008

Soixante-troisième session
Point 71 de l'ordre du jour

Résolution adoptée par l'Assemblée générale

[sans renvoi à une grande commission (A/63/L.2)]

63/3. Demande d'avis consultatif de la Cour internationale de Justice sur la question de savoir si la déclaration unilatérale d'indépendance du Kosovo est conforme au droit international

L'Assemblée générale,

Tenant compte des buts et principes des Nations Unies,

Ayant à l'esprit les fonctions et les pouvoirs que lui confère la Charte des Nations Unies,

Rappelant que le 17 février 2008, les institutions provisoires d'administration autonome du Kosovo ont déclaré l'indépendance du Kosovo de la Serbie,

Consciente du fait que cet acte a suscité des réactions diverses de la part des Membres de l'Organisation des Nations Unies quant à la question de savoir s'il était conforme à l'ordre juridique international actuel,

Décide, conformément à l'article 96 de la Charte des Nations Unies, de demander à la Cour internationale de Justice, en application de l'article 65 de son Statut, de donner un avis consultatif sur la question suivante :

« La déclaration unilatérale d'indépendance des institutions provisoires d'administration autonome du Kosovo est-elle conforme au droit international ? ».

22^e séance plénière
8 octobre 2008

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New York, NY 9 October 2009