

## Statement of Principles Resolution of Dubrovnik, 1956

I. An international river is one which flows through or between the territories of two or more States.

II. A State must exercise its rights over the waters of an international river within its jurisdiction in accordance with the principles stated below.

III. While each State has sovereign control over the international rivers within its own boundaries, the State must exercise this control with due consideration for its effect upon other riparian States.

IV. A State is responsible, under international law, for public or private acts producing change in the existing régime of a river to the injury of another State, which it could have prevented by reasonable diligence.

V. In accordance with the general principle stated in No. III above, the States upon an international river should in reaching agreements, and States or tribunals in settling disputes, weigh the benefit to one State against the injury done to another through a particular use of the water. For this purpose, the following factors, among others, should be taken into consideration:

(a) The right of each to a reasonable use of the water;

(b) The extent of the dependence of each State upon the waters of that river;

(c) The comparative social and economic gains accruing to each and to the entire river community;

(d) Pre-existent agreements among the States concerned;

(e) Pre-existent appropriation of water by one State.

VI. A State which proposes new works (construction, diversion, etc.) or change of previously existing use of water, which might affect utilization of the water by another State, must first consult with the other State. In case agreement is not reached through much consultation, the States concerned should seek the advice of a technical commission; and, if this does not lead to agreement, resort should be had to arbitration.

VII. Preventable pollution of water in one State, which does substantial injury to another State, renders the former State responsible for the damage done.

VIII. So far as possible, riparian States should join with each other to make full utilization of the waters of a river both from the viewpoint of the river basin as an integrated whole, and from the viewpoint of the widest variety of uses of the water, so as to assure the greatest benefit to all.