

## PREFACE

The Court's fiftieth anniversary, as noted by the Secretary-General in his Foreword, is, indeed, an important and significant occasion, worthy of celebration. The goal of this colloquium – agreed upon in the early stages of planning – has been not only to commemorate the many past achievements of the Court but, even more importantly, to proactively consider what is needed to make the International Court of Justice and the adjudication of international law itself more effective in the future. This goal is reflected in the title of the colloquium and of this volume.

This book has been organized into chapters associated with each topic on the programme schedule, including the opening and closing plenary sessions and the twelve topics which were scheduled concurrently in two simultaneous sessions over two days. As well, the addresses from the ceremonial sitting of the Court, which followed the colloquium and which was organized by the Court itself, have been reproduced herein.

The editors wish to thank the speakers and commentators for their valuable contributions and timely assistance in submitting their papers and in reviewing the versions prepared for publication. It should be noted that papers have been edited slightly to provide a greater consistency of style and to make the volume more accessible. The discussion sections were transcribed from audio tapes recorded by the Court. Although there was simultaneous translation during the colloquium in the Court's two official languages, French and English, the English version of the discussion was the only language recorded, due to limitations in the Court's facilities. Thus, in keeping with previous volumes published by Kluwer Law International, including the Congress on Public International Law, prepared and edited by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, entitled *International Law as a Language for International Relations*, the papers are produced in the language in which they were delivered and the discussion is presented in English. Thus, when French was spoken in the discussion, the text represents the English translation by the Court's translators. The discussion has been slightly edited to remove redundancies, but has

been largely left in its original version so that the meaning intended by the speaker would not be distorted. Discussion sections, therefore, read somewhat colloquially, as is characteristic of spoken language. Nonetheless, these sections are so rich in content that, in spite of the minor difficulties in expression, recording and translation, they are presented in full. Due to the need to publish the book within a reasonable timeframe, the spoken interventions presented in the discussion section were not sent to or edited by the authors. The audio tapes were carefully transcribed and double-checked. Should any inaccuracies still be present, the editors accept responsibility and apologize. Mention should also be made of the patient and meticulous work of the typesetter, Mr. Richard O'Regan.

Finally, the editors wish to thank the publishers, Ms. Annebeth Rosenboom and Mr. Alan Stephens for their most helpful and supportive assistance in bringing this volume to a wider audience.

*Connie Peck & Roy S. Lee*  
*Editors*