

## PREFACE

Actively involved in the training of specialists in multilateral diplomacy, and particularly in peaceful settlement of disputes, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in 1977 published a major reference book on *Dispute Settlement through the United Nations*. This year, UNITAR published Dr. Victor Umbricht's book on *Multilateral Mediation*, which presents the author's valuable experience in this important area and is a welcome addition to the existing literature on dispute settlement.

At the International Roundtable organized by UNITAR in Moscow, in September 1988, on the Future Role of the United Nations in an Interdependent World, a greater role of the International Court of Justice was advocated in view of the importance of the rule of law in the development of peaceful relations among all nations. The need to make greater use of that United Nations organ and to revitalize it was expressed by most participants.

We are therefore pleased to publish the fourth and latest edition of Professor Shabtai Rosenne's book on the International Court of Justice, which provides the reader not only with basic and useful information on the World Court, but also presents a summary of various cases that have been examined by that important organ of the United Nations since its establishment. Professor Rosenne's book is thus an indispensable tool for all those interested in dispute settlement through the United Nations.

Of course, the views and conclusions contained in the book are those of the author. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Trustees or officials of UNITAR.

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