

# THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OF AMERICAN STATES

## FIRST SUPPLEMENT

1933-1940

CONVENTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND  
MOTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SEVENTH AND EIGHTH IN-  
TERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OF THE AMERICAN STATES,  
THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR THE MAIN-  
TENANCE OF PEACE, AND THE FIRST AND SECOND  
MEETINGS OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE  
AMERICAN REPUBLICS FOR CONSULTATION, AT PANAMA  
AND HABANA, TOGETHER WITH DOCUMENTS RELATING TO  
THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCES AND INFORMA-  
TION CONCERNING TECHNICAL PAN AMERICAN CONFER-  
ENCES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER BODIES

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1940



EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF AMERICAN STATES

LIMA

DECEMBER 9-27, 1938

XV

PERFECTION AND COORDINATION OF INTER-AMERICAN PEACE  
INSTRUMENTS <sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS:

The juridical measures to prevent war in America are scattered in numerous treaties, conventions, pacts and declarations which it is necessary to coordinate into an organized and harmonious unified instrument;

The Mexican project of a Peace Code represents an appreciable effort to meet the need for such coordination, for which reason the Montevideo Conference recommended it for the consideration of the American Governments. It was also taken up by the American Scientific Congress at Mexico City <sup>2</sup> and was referred by the Conference for the Maintenance of Peace to the Committee of Experts, who approved the idea of codification and introduced important modifications into the project before reporting on it to this Conference;

The American Governments, in spite of the recommendation of the Montevideo Conference, have not expressed their opinions and proposals with regard to the subject matter of the Code, opinions and proposals which are indispensable for a successful and efficient organization of measures to prevent war in America;

In the desire to improve American peace machinery, interesting projects containing excellent suggestions and points of view have been presented to this Conference, and there have been considered at the same time the technical rules and the dictates of experience. Among these projects should be mentioned that on the Consolidation of American Peace Agreements presented by the Delegation of the United States, by which there would be built up a process of pacific solution of differences between American States through the consolidation in a single instrument of the regulations contained in the eight treaties now in force;

Once the opinion of the governments has been determined regarding the revised project of the Peace Code and with respect to the other projects mentioned, this matter must pass to an organization of a technical character, in order that this organization may undertake the work of coordination, taking into account the points of view of each State, the principles of American Law and the harmonizing of each of these with the legal systems of a universal character or tendency.

The Eighth International Conference of American States

RESOLVES:

I. That the Mexican project of a Peace Code, together with the ante-project of the Committee of Experts, the project of the United States of

<sup>1</sup> *Final Act*, p. 38. For the text of the Mexican Peace Code, as submitted to the Seventh Conference, see *supra*, p. 50.

<sup>2</sup> For information regarding this Conference, see *infra*, Appendix A, no. 89.

DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

America on the Consolidation of American Peace Agreements and the other projects and reports presented to this Conference concerning measures to prevent war, be referred to the Pan American Union in order that the latter institution may classify and transmit them to each one of the American Governments, requesting their opinions and proposals which may serve as a basis for the codification of those instruments.

2. That the American Governments, within a reasonable length of time, transmit their replies to the Pan American Union and that the latter send them without delay, together with all the material referred to in the previous paragraph, to the International Conference of American Jurists which will undertake the definitive work of the Peace Code.

3. That the International Conference of American Jurists render a detailed report at the time of the meeting of the next International Conference of American States regarding the status of their labors in this matter.  
(Approved December 21, 1938).