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Preface

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PREFACE

This special theme issue on the law of Africa inaugurates the Journal's Tenth Anniversary volume. Soon to follow are theme issues on Human Rights and on World Resources. The themes we have selected for these issues are purposely broad in order to attract qualified and interesting authors and to provide the opportunity for a variety of topics and viewpoints within each issue.

Africa: a mighty continent straddling the equator; part bone-dry desert, part rain-drenched forest; part ore-laden mines, part glistening lakes and surging rivers; in all, a land of contrasts. Like an adolescent child, Africa rebels against its colonial parents and strains for maturity through independence and self-determination. Cries of "Uhuru, Freedom" scream across the open veldt and reverberate in the crowded cities. As it faces the twenty-first century, Africa struggles to throw off the shackles of the nineteenth. The bitter anguish pits color against color, tribe against tribe, Moslem against Christian, and neighbor against neighbor, depleting Africa's most precious resource—its people.

This issue is dedicated to the belief that we should not despair over the arid desert of oppression and exploitation that has been Africa. On the contrary, we ought to rejoice over the fertile opportunity for brotherhood that is Africa. Let us join the late Senator Adlai Stevenson and "dream of a world in which all states, great and small, work together for the peaceful flowering of the republic of man."

Topics in this issue run the gamut from political and economic analysis to tools of technology and research. Mr. Pfeiffer discusses the East African judiciary's role since independence in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. The Sklan article points out problems associated with transferring technology involving patents from a developed country to a developing country. Mr. Ebinger focuses on American foreign policy objectives in Africa during the last Republican Administration and the beginning of the present Administration. In his article, Mr. Zagaris analyzes the efforts and impact of the Economic Community of West African States. Professor Martin comments upon the utility of legal literature in East Africa as a research device. Dr. Kennedy's remarks are directed to a review of the Sahel and its starving population.

The student materials section contains two notes on widely divergent topics within the Africa theme. One focuses on the recognition problems involving newly independent Transkei. The other examines the use of assassination as a legal means of intervention. Final-

ly, we have introduced a new section entitled Recent Developments, in which recent decisions affecting international and comparative law will be discussed. In addition, several books are reviewed in the issue and we have noted several books received.

With pride and sincere appreciation to those who have made it possible, we reflect on our past accomplishments. With renewed enthusiasm and hopes for support from those who will continue to make it possible, we look forward to our next ten years.

MIKE J. HOOVER