General observations

1. As in past examinations, all topics in the course were covered in the examination questions. In this regard, it was imperative that candidates covered the full range of Prescribed Topics: Scope of public international law; Sources of public international law; Public international law and municipal law; State jurisdiction; Immunity from jurisdiction; and State responsibility.

2. It was the expectation of the examiner that candidates would be conversant with the commentary in the Law Extension Committee’s subject guide together with the scholarly literature, decided cases, statutes and treaty provisions in the Supplementary Materials and the Public International Law Materials. In answering the questions, candidates generally displayed a sound understanding of the principles of public international law and the practical application of those principles.

3. Forty one candidates sat the examination. Final marks were in the range 60% to 84%. Fifteen candidates (36.59%) were awarded a Pass Distinction grade, twenty five candidates (60.98%) were awarded a Pass Merit grade and one candidate (2.44%) was awarded a Pass grade.

4. As the examination was a confidential examination, these comments cannot identify the specific issues in the questions.

Questions 1, 3 and 4

Each of these questions was divided into two parts (a) and (b) worth equal marks. The division of the questions into parts which addressed different areas of public international law ensured candidates had covered the full range of Prescribed Topics. The questions were well answered.
Question 2

The focus of this question was a decided case which formed part of the basic reading. The question required a critical appraisal of issues ranging across several of the prescribed topics. The question was well answered.