



STATEMENT

by

**H.E. Penelope Beckles
Permanent Representative of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, New York**

on

**Agenda Item 80: United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching,
Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**

Sixth Committee (Legal Committee)

Seventy-second Session of the United Nations General Assembly

**(10am – 1pm)
Trusteeship Council Chambers
United Nations, New York
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Mr. Chairman,

Trinidad and Tobago aligns itself with the statements delivered by Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China (G77 and China) and by El Salvador on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

We note with appreciation the report of the Secretary General contained in document A/71/139, on this agenda item, which provides useful information on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (Programme of Assistance) for the current year as guidelines and recommendations for the implementation of the Programme for the 2018 – 2019 biennium.

We also wish to express our gratitude to Her Excellency Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, Permanent Representative of Ghana for her dedication and leadership as Chair of the Advisory Committee, as well as Ms. Virginia Morris, Secretary of the Advisory Committee for her report and unwavering commitment to ensuring the implementation of activities under the Programme of Assistance.

Mr. Chairman,

As a member of the Advisory Committee, Trinidad and Tobago remains unwavering in its commitment to supporting the Programme of Assistance and ensuring the full implementation of the activities under the Programme. We therefore reiterate our continued support for and cooperation with the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, as well as Member States, to implementing the activities under the Programme of Assistance.

We recognize the importance of the Programme of Assistance fostering a better understanding and appreciation of international law through its regional law courses and seminars, law fellowship programmes, and the dissemination of legal publications and information through the internet and other electronic means. We also underline the significance of the Programme toward strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States.

Trinidad and Tobago notes with appreciation that many of the activities under the Programme were implemented during the course of 2017, including the International Law Fellowship in The Hague, and the Regional Courses in International Law which were conducted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Santiago, Chile. We also note that the Regional Course in International Law for Asia Pacific will be conducted in Bangkok from November to December 2017. Further, we are thankful that the candidate for the Philippines successfully completed the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship this year. However, it is unfortunate that there are currently insufficient funds for a standard award in 2018.

We commend the Codification Division for its hard work in finalizing the preparation of the English edition of the publication, "The International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments" this year. Trinidad and Tobago recognizes that the publication of the Handbook in other official languages of the UN would require financing and in this context, we call upon those States, in a

position to do so, so contribute toward this worthy cause. We also thank the Codification Division for its efforts to resume Desktop Publishing through the pilot project.

Trinidad and Tobago expresses its gratitude to those Member States which have generously contributed to the activities under the Programme of Assistance. Further, we reiterate our call on Member States and interested institutions, organisations and individuals, which are in a position to do so, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme of Assistance, with a view of ensuring its continued effectiveness and implementation.

Mr. Chairman,

Trinidad and Tobago looks forward to the successful completion of the activities under the Programme of Assistance in 2018, including the International Law Fellowship Programme, Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and the continuation and further development of the Audiovisual Library of International Law, to be financed from the provisions of the regular budget in accordance with resolution 71/139.

In closing, Trinidad and Tobago reiterates its full commitment to ensuring the successful implementation and continuation of the Programme of Assistance for the benefit of present and future generations.