



## **STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**delivered by**  
**MARIA ANGELA A. PONCE**  
**Minister and Legal Adviser**  
**Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations**

**Item 79: United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and  
Wider Appreciation of International Law  
Sixth Committee**

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

We align with the statement of the Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Nations and by Guyana on behalf of the Group of 77.

The Philippines expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report. We commend the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for the resilience and adaptability it has shown in its implementation of its programs amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. These include the provision of interim means of capacity-building to applicants and alumni of the training programs.

Over the years, Filipino nationals have benefitted from and participated in various activities of the Programme of Assistance, including the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law. This has helped in the strengthening of our capacities in international law and in the establishment of vital networks of contacts in the international law field.

These experiences have taught us of the continuing need for traditional in-person training programs.

We particularly welcome the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific held at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in Bangkok, from 18 November to 13 December 2019, which benefitted 25 participants, including a representative from the Philippines.

We also find value in the UN Audiovisual Library of International Law, including its lecture series and historic archives. We do note however that the list of lecturers needs to be more geographically diverse, and we suggest that efforts be made to ensure that there be more lecturers from the Asia-Pacific region. There is also a need for more gender balance.

Recognizing the invaluable work of the Programme, the Philippines has contributed to the Programme, and encourages all Member States with the means to do so to make voluntary contributions as well.

Thank you.