

STATEMENT

77TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UNDER AGENDA ITEM 76

“United Nations Programme of Assistance in Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”

Mr. Chairperson,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Uganda. At the outset, my Delegation aligns itself with the statements made on behalf of the African Group by the representative of the Kingdom of Morocco, Pakistan on behalf of the G-77 and China and the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

My delegation expresses its appreciation to the Office of Legal Affairs and the Codification Division for their invaluable efforts in implementing the United Nations Program of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Widespread Appreciation of International Law as highlighted in the Secretary-General's report contained in document A/77/515.

My delegation extends its appreciation to the members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law and its Chair, H.E. Harold Adlai Agyeman, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, as well as the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for their continued commitment and support to the programme and its success.

Chairperson,

The General Assembly has since its adoption of resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, recognized that an improved universal knowledge of international law plays an inherent role in assuring international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among states. As such, not only does the United Nations Programme of Assistance directly serve the very objectives and principles of the United Nations and the foundation of the current global order, it also represents an important assistive tool for the implementation of United Nations programmes and activities worldwide.

My delegation would like to express support for the Programme of Assistance and we welcome the resumption of the activities of the Programme that had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, the commencement of the Regional Courses and the International Law Fellowship. My delegation would like to emphasize the need to ensure diversity of legal traditions and gender balance among the among the participants of the regional training programmes. We would also like to express support for the funding

of the activities of the Programme from the regular budget of the United Nations Organization, while also highlighting the importance of voluntary contributions in expanding and enhancing these activities.

The Covid-19 pandemic emphasized the importance of Online initiatives to support the continued uptake of the regional courses and alumni engagement. Unfortunately that a number of the Programme's activities were cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic over the course of these last few years. However, while virtual learning should never replace in-person training, it would be beneficial to plan for the potential need to resort to virtual regional courses prospectively if they are the only route available for instruction under certain circumstances.

Uganda reiterates that the traditional in-person programmes are still the most suitable and optimum vehicle for delivering the envisaged capacity building. Therefore, Uganda welcomes the convening of the International Law Fellowship Programme in person in the Hague from 4 July until 5 August 2022, with the participation of 21 participants, 11 of which were women, which the African Group particularly commends. My delegation was ably represented in the fellowship and greatly benefitted from the lectures and simulation moot court exercises.

In conclusion chair, Regarding the Audiovisual Library, my delegation would like to encourage the use of new technologies, particularly social media, to ensure the wider dissemination of its content. We welcome the revamping of the website of the Audiovisual Library to make it more user-friendly. The Codification Division should continue to enhance the content of the Audiovisual Library, which is an invaluable training resource for individuals and institutions around the world. In this regard, the NAM welcomes the initiative of conducting off-site recording sessions and suggests that the suitable presentations made by the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission to the Committee be uploaded to the library. In addition, adding lectures in more languages would be another way to enrich the content of the library.

I thank you.