



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 78
“UN PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY,
DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL
LAW”**

BY CATHERINE NYAKOE, LEGAL ADVISER,

DURING THE

78TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 OCTOBER 2023

Thank you Chair

1. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by; the Representative of Uganda on behalf of the African Group; the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement; and the Representative of Cuba on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Chair,

2. The United Nations Programme of Assistance for the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law plays a profound role in enabling effective participation of Member States in participation in multilateral legal discourse.
3. The capacity building element of the programme, therefore, also contributes significantly to the objectives of the Organisation through providing solid bases for the participation of all mankind in our joint aspirations.
4. In this regard, we commend the Office of Legal Affairs and the Codification Division for their implementation role highlighted in the Secretary-General's report contained in document A/77/515. We also acknowledge the able

stewardship by Ambassador Harold Adlai Agyeman, Permanent Representative of Ghana, of the Advisory Committee for the Programme.

5. My delegation welcomes the return of a full cycle of in-person training activities and programmes after the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic. In-person training offers optimum benefits from the programme including providing opportunities to establish and promote friendly relations and co-operation among States.
6. We however encourage that the Codification Division, in consultation with Member States, considers useful elements from the experience of remote and hybrid programmes that may be incorporated into the implementation of the Programme of assistance, strictly without prejudice to in-person activities. This is strictly with a view of considering ways of having wider reach within available resources.

Chair,

7. My delegation lauds the codification Division for the innovative audiovisual library and the availability of legal publications and other resources through the internet. However, the information and communication technology infrastructure; both hardware and software, which is a prerequisite for the utilisation of these resources is grossly inadequate or non-existent in some developing regions.
8. Therefore, we recommend that in liaison with relevant stakeholders, correspondent considerations be made for regional needs-based programming to help spur development and improvement of this capacity. We encourage institutional, inter-state and inter-regional partnerships in this regard, and recommend that priority be given to already existing regional institutions for this purpose.
9. In view of the funding limitations, we encourage continued voluntary contributions, while emphasising the imperative for predictable funding for the activities of the programme through the regular budget of the United Nations.
10. To conclude, I reaffirm Kenya's support to the Programme of Assistance and our commitment to continue engaging with Members on ways to widen its valuable reach.

Thank you.