



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

Delegation of Thailand to the United Nations

before the Sixth Committee

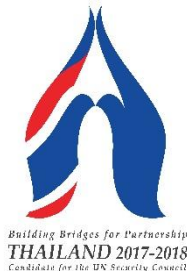
of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda Item 77 : United Nations Programme of Assistance

in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider

Appreciation of International Law

New York, 17 October 2014



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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on behalf of ASEAN, and by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China.

In Thailand's view, the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law constitutes a core activity of the United Nations in providing knowledge on international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and amicable relations and cooperation among Member States. By fostering in-depth understanding of international law, the Programme of Assistance promotes the rule of law at its most basic and fundamental level.

Thailand therefore commends the Secretary-General, through the Office of Legal Affairs and the Codification Division, for carrying out the activities under the Programme of Assistance. We also express our appreciation to countries, international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals who have supported various activities of the Programme of Assistance.

Mr. Chairman,

Exemplary efforts have been carried out by the Codification Division in making publications and research materials available online in the UN Audiovisual Library of International Law to students and practitioners around the world. The Library provides, on a cost-effective basis, access to invaluable historical archives of the United Nations and collections of lecture series by leading scholars and practitioners on a broad range of subjects relating to international law. Lawyers in developing countries have relied on these resources. It will be indeed regrettable if the UN Audiovisual Library will have to be cancelled due to lack of funding.

In addition, the fellowship programmes granted to qualified candidates from developing countries, together with study visits, regional courses and seminars organized by the Office of Legal Affairs are excellent programmes. They have allowed successive generations of legal practitioners around the world to advance their knowledge and develop expertise in various areas of international law.

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to regional courses in international law, Thailand sees them as offering great opportunities for lawyers in developing countries to receive high-quality training from renowned scholars and practitioners. Furthermore, in these courses participants from different legal backgrounds are able to share their experiences and views on contemporary issues of international law, exchange ideas as well as establish valuable connections and networking.

For these reasons, Thailand is pleased to have contributed by hosting the 2012 regional course in international law for the Asia-Pacific region. We strongly regret that the regional course in international law for the region was cancelled in 2013 and 2014 due to lack of funding, despite our contribution and the preparations made by both Thailand and the Codification Division.

In this connection, Thailand wishes to express our concern over the lack of regular budgetary funding for the Programme of Assistance. While Member States have applauded the carrying out of Programme of Assistance, it is surprising that they cannot agree on allocating a very small proportion of the UN's entire budget for the Programme. We hope that this issue will be appropriately addressed and resolved at this session.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, Thailand reiterates our willingness to host the regional course for the Asia-Pacific region in 2015, in accordance with UNGA resolution 68/110, subject to sufficient funding on the part of UN in addition to the costs that the Thai Government covers as the host country.

Thank you.