



*Permanent Mission  
of Barbados to  
the United Nations*



**STATEMENT BY**

**MRS. JULIETTE RILEY  
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**ON**

**AGENDA ITEM 82**

**UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE  
IN TEACHING, STUDY DISSEMINATION AND  
WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**OF THE**

**70<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**OCTOBER 26, 2015**

**United Nations Headquarters  
New York**

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. Chairman,

Barbados wishes to align itself with the Statements delivered by the representatives of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, Ecuador on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and Trinidad and Tobago on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

My delegation would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report A/70/423 on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. The report updates the Committee on the steps taken by the Secretary-General to implement the Programme of Assistance during 2015. In this regard, we are pleased to note that the Codification Division was able to successfully convene the Regional Course in International Law for Africa in February 2015 and the International Law Fellowship in The Hague in July 2015. We are also pleased to learn that sufficient funding was made available to maintain the Audio-Visual Library of International Law during this year. The fact that the Library has been utilised by more than 1.3 million users in 193 countries, since its establishment, is testimony to the enduring worth of the Library to lawyers and academics around the world.

We therefore welcome and encourage the efforts of the Codification Division to make much of the information available in the Library, also available on podcast and DVDs.

Barbados supports the efforts of the Codification Division to resume its desktop publishing during the next biennium. We also support the preparation of a handbook comprising a collection of the legal materials for its training courses, as we believe that these initiatives will contribute to the even wider dissemination of these training materials.

Mr. Chairman,

Earlier this Session, the 6<sup>th</sup> Committee debated the role that multilateral treaty-making processes play in promoting and advancing the rule of law. International law is the branch of law that governs multilateral treaties and will be applied by international tribunals and courts to interpret the provisions of the treaty. An understanding and appreciation of international law is therefore essential to the development and implementation of multilateral treaties. In an increasingly globalised and inter-connected world, with an ever growing number of multilateral treaties, it is vital that the Programme of Assistance is given the resources it needs to carry out its mandate.

Barbados therefore welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General to include financing for the Programme within the Regular Budget of the United Nations, especially as successive reports of the Secretary-General have shown that voluntary contributions, though welcomed, are insufficient to finance the Programme adequately.

We also welcome the plans of the Codification Division to convene Regional Courses in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016 and 2017. If convened in 2016, it will mark the first time in ten years that the course would have been held for lawyers, academics and diplomats from the region. Barbados looks forward therefore to nominating an officer to participate in this course.

Mr. Chairman,

While the region has been strong advocates for the respect of the rule of law and the applicability of international law, my delegation is of the view that the United Nations must not become complacent. Given the developing and evolving nature of international law, it is critical that succeeding generations of Latin American and Caribbean lawyers are

exposed to growing and emerging principles of international law. This is especially important in States where multilateral conventions must be incorporated in the domestic law to have proper effect.

In view of the role that the Programme will continue to play in promoting respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels and promoting sovereign equality and friendly cooperation between States, we look forward to the support of all delegations in having the General Assembly approve funding for the Programme within the Regular Budget. This will undoubtedly redound to the benefit of developed and developing countries alike.

In conclusion, as the current mandate of the Advisory Committee will expire this year, allow me to take this opportunity to reiterate my delegation's appreciation to the Advisory Committee for their unwavering advocacy in support of the Programme of Assistance. As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Programme, Barbados looks forward to the Programme continuing for another 50 years and beyond.

I thank you.