

BRAZIL

70th Session of United Nations General Assembly Sixth Committee: "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law"

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Mr. Chairman,

Brazil fully associates itself with the statement delivered by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, as well as with the statement delivered by Ecuador on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). Allow me to deliver brief remarks from a national perspective.

The preamble of the UN Charter states that one of the priorities of this Organization is to "establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained". This sentence points to a notion whose relevance cannot be overstated – that we can achieve peace through law. Guided by the aspiration to implement this ideal, fifty years ago the United Nations established its "Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law". Over the last five decades, its fellowships, regional courses, publications and audiovisual library have been contributing to educate successive generations in International Law, especially in developing countries.

When some activities of the Programme became endangered due to lack of resources – in spite of the voluntary contributions by some countries – my delegation was one of the many voicing deep frustration and defending their funding through the regular budget of the Organization. Brazil welcomed therefore Resolution 69/117, which clearly requested the Secretary-General to include additional resources under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for regional courses and for the audiovisual library.

Following that historical decision, it is now for the Fifth Committee to continue the path initiated in the Advisory Committee and in the Sixth Committee. As many who took the floor before me, my delegation is committed to pursue the due approval in the Fifth Committee, so that the Programme of Assistance receives the means it unquestionably deserves.

Thank you.