



866 Second Avenue, 3rd Floor • New York, N.Y. 10017

Check against delivery!

STATEMENT
BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR TEKEDA ALEMU,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS
AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 70TH SESSION OF UN
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON
AGENDA ITEM 82
“UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE
TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER
APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW”

October 26, 2015

New York

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, at the outset, to associate my delegation with the statements made by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China as well as on behalf of the African Group.

My delegation thanks the Secretary General for his report on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

My delegation recognizes that the Programme of Assistance contributes greatly to the promotion of a better knowledge of the concept of international law. The firm understanding and dissemination of international law is a key component in strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States, as well as the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels. Hence, it is a matter of necessity not that of choice to intensify our commitments to the implementation of the Program.

Mr. Chairman,

It is regrettable to witness that the Programme of Assistance is still being challenged by lack of sufficient funding, to the extent that it is only possible to implement some parts of the Programme. The Regional Courses in International Law for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean were not held in 2014 and in 2015 due to insufficient funding. We would like to echo the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the Secretary General be authorized to carry out the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016 and in 2017 as well as the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget and included by the Secretary-General under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

My delegation takes this opportunity to commend the Chair of the Advisory Committee, as well as all its Members, for the job well done. We also wish to commend the Codification Division of

the Office of Legal Affairs, particularly Ms. Virginia Morris, for their efforts in implementing the activities under the Programme of Assistance.

Mr. Chairman,

We recognize the contribution made by the Programme of Assistance to the teaching and dissemination of international law over the past half century; and it is our responsibility to ensure the successful continuation of the Programme for the benefit of present and future generations of lawyers. It is in this vein we call upon the United Nations to continue to organize the Regional Courses in International Law on a regular basis. Such courses would give ample opportunity for lawyers from developing and least developed countries to grasp current developments in international law and promote cooperation among Member States. Frankly speaking, at the end of the day, it is impossible to deny how, not only commitment, but sufficient knowledge of international law is indispensable to ensure peace and stability and harmony among nations.

Ethiopia has demonstrated its commitment to support the efforts of the United Nations by hosting five Regional Courses in International Law for Africa from 2011 to 2015. We will continue to host the Regional Course and collaborate with the United Nations in this regard. We have concluded the necessary host country agreement and would be pleased and honored to host the Regional Course for Africa on a permanent basis. We rely on the continued support of the United Nations and Member States to realize the purpose and objectives of the African Regional course.

Thank You!