

Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations

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STATEMENT BY

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

DURING THE 70TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON AGENDA ITEM 82: UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

NEW YORK, 23 OCTOBER 2015

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the Republic of South Africa on behalf of the Group of G77 and China as well as that by Sierra Leone on behalf of the African Group.

We wish to thank the Secretary-General for his Report contained in document A/70/423 which provides valuable information on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2015 and recommendations regarding the subsequent years.

We also commend the Chair of the Advisory Committee and express our gratitude to the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for their relentless effort in implementing the Programme.

Mr. Chairman,

Since its creation in 1965 the Programme of Assistance has made remarkable contribution, created positive impact on students, scholars and practitioners of international law worldwide. The increase in number of participants, confirms that awareness in international law is greater than ever before upholding that the programme remains relevant and important.

Tanzania recognizes the programme of assistance as one of the many tools that assist in providing understanding of the complex issues relating to international law. As part of a concerted effort in promoting international law and strengthening the rule of law, we are pleased to note that the Codification Division has continued to cooperate and provide guidance to the African Institute of International Law. We value the attendance of the Secretary of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance at the inauguration of the African Institute on 16 February 2015, in Arusha, that witnessed the launching of the first training course of the Institute on "Bilateral Investment Treaties and Arbitration". We have confidence that this cooperation will continue to grow in the succeeding years.

We are equally grateful, that a regional seminar on international law was successfully organized in Addis Ababa, in February 2015. We commend the African Union, the Government of Ethiopia, Member States, International Institutions and all those whose voluntary contributions enabled the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in our region. We would like to see the convening of similar course in other regions as well.

As an important resource tool in the study of international law, we are grateful that the Audiovisual Library of International Law has continued to provide high quality training at a relatively low cost.

Mr. Chairman,

We, however, note with displeasure the financial difficulties that barred the implementation of Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2015, as well the Hamilton Shirley Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea. Furthermore, the lack of resources also forced the Codification Division to discontinue its desktop publishing. This trend clearly threatens the future of the Progamme, we reiterate the General Assembly resolution 69/117 which recommended that the necessary resources be made available to resume this successful initiative. We therefore support the recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding the continuation of the Programme in the biennium 2016-2017 and we urge its full financial support through the UN regular budget.

Mr. Chairman,

As a member of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, we wish to continue to remind Member States to support the activities of the Programme in ensuring its sustainability both in terms of quality and effectiveness. Undeniably, the enhancement of the dissemination and sustainability of the programme would be the best way as we mark the fiftieth anniversary of this Programme.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.