



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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STATEMENT BY

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. RY TUY
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OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

SIXTH COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM 77

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

71ST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 17 OCTOBER 2016

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to address this Committee today on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

ASAEN associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Law stands at the center of United Nations' efforts to promote respect for international law worldwide. Instrumental in advancing the rule of law at the national and international levels, the Programme of Assistance has steadily contributed to the strengthening of international peace and security as well as to the promotion of friendly relations among nations.

ASEAN appreciates the work of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and its tireless efforts in implementing the Programme of Assistance, despite the oft-occurring budgetary constraints. In this light, ASEAN would like to thank all Member States that have contributed to the Programme's implementation, and encourage them to continue making voluntary contributions to this effect.

Mr. Chairman,

Since its inception in 1965, the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law has provided comprehensive training and invaluable opportunities for lawyers, particularly from developing countries and countries with emerging economies. The Programme has enhanced capacities at the national, regional, and international levels, as it promotes greater understanding among partners in the international legal sphere.

In this regard, ASEAN appreciates the International Law Fellowship Programme that was held in The Hague this year from 27 June to 5 August. This fellowship programme provides high-quality training to legal practitioners, as much as it affords an opportunity for participants to exchange views and ideas through dialogue, which promotes greater understanding and cooperation on issues of international law.

ASEAN remains hopeful that after a number of cancellations in previous years, due to insufficient funding, this regional course will take place and continue into the future. The Sixth Committee along with the General Assembly should ensure the continuity of this Asia-Pacific course as well as the regional courses for Africa, and Latin America & the Caribbean.

Mr. Chairman,

The Programme of Assistance promotes international law and, amongst others, helps to uphold the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter. In the long run, we believe that the Programme thus contributes to valuable goals such as the strengthening of

international peace and security and the promotion of peaceful settlement of disputes. Furthermore, the Programme helps to shape global understandings of international law, and contributes to deeper ties, improved cooperation and better relations among nations.

The Audiovisual Library of International Law stands central in this regard and should be supported in its operation. Furthermore, ASEAN would like to note the publishing of publication such as the Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice, as well as the websites maintained by the Codification Division, which are indispensable to a wider appreciation of international law, as well as to the conduct of friendly relations among nations and peaceful settlement of disputes.

The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship also plays an important role in developing future generations of practitioners, particularly with respect to the Law of the Sea. It also promotes wider appreciation of international law, the conduct of friendly relations among nations and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Mr. Chairman,

ASEAN attaches great importance to the United Nations' efforts to promote respect for international law through the UN Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. As such, we remain hopeful that continued financial support will remain available to sustain the Programme of Assistance into the future.

In this light, we reiterate our long standing position that the budget for the regional courses as well as for the Audiovisual Library should be made available wholly from the United Nations regular budget, with Member State voluntary contributions only serving as complementary sources of funding.

The Programme of Assistance advances a wider appreciation of international law, and contributes to friendly relations among nations, promotes the rule of law at the national and international levels, and contributes to peaceful settlement of disputes, in accordance with the UN Charter and international law. ASEAN is hopeful that the programme will remain a success long into the future, and we look forward to engaging constructively on this issue.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.