

በተባበሩት መንግሥታት የኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ
ዲሞክራሲያዊ ሪፐብሊክ ናይ መኅበትኛ
ጽሕፈት ቤት፤ ኒው ዮርክ



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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

Check against delivery!

STATEMENT
BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR MAHLET H. GUADEY
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
AT
THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
ON
AGENDA ITEM 77
UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN
THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER
APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

71ST SESSION OF THE UNGA

20 OCTOBER, 2016

NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, at the outset, to associate my delegation with the statements made on behalf of the African Group as well as the G77 and China. My delegation thanks the Secretary General for his detailed report on the activities undertaken to implement the Programme of Assistance.

My delegation stresses that the Programme of Assistance contributes greatly for the promotion of a better knowledge of the concept of international law, which in turn results in strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States. The Programme of Assistance also plays an important role in promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels.

In this regard, my delegation appreciates that the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 included additional funding for the Programme of Assistance. This will enable the International Law Fellowship Programme and the three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America to be conducted on a regular basis.

One thing that needs to be emphasized here is the importance of maintaining the funding for the Programme of Assistance in the proposed programme budget for the next and future bienniums. We should not also forget that the Codification Division is still dependent on voluntary contributions to recruit temporary staff to perform functions relating to the training courses. It is a serious concern given the uncertainty of voluntary contributions. We have to recognize the need to consider ways to resolve this situation.

Mr. Chairman,

The report of Secretary General proposes indentifying permanent venues for the Regional Courses in International Law to facilitate the organization of the courses on a regular basis. It argues that the permanent venues would provide enhanced efficiency, cost savings and greater certainty with respect to the Regional Courses; and indicates that Ethiopia would provide a suitable venue for the Regional Course for Africa.

I would like to seize this opportunity to reiterate Ethiopia's readiness to serve as a permanent venue for the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa. As indicated in the report of the Secretary General, six Regional Courses in International Law for Africa were successfully conducted annually in Ethiopia from 2011 to 2016. We have also concluded the necessary host country agreement.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law is another essential tool of the Program of Assistance that gives the United Nations the capacity to provide, at a relatively low cost, high-quality training to an unlimited number of individuals and institutions around the world through the Internet. Even if the Audiovisual Library was created primarily for the benefit of lawyers in developing countries, it continues to be accessed primarily by lawyers in developed countries as indicated in the report of the Secretary General.

In this regard, we strongly support the efforts of the Codification Division to make the lectures available as podcasts and on USB flash drives for academic institutions in developing countries. We also encourage the

codification Division to strengthen its efforts in promoting the greater awareness of the Audiovisual Library in developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation appreciates the work of the Codification Division in the preparation of the international law training materials. We welcome the preparation of a new handbook on international law in English and French containing a collection of legal materials for the training courses. We wish to stress the importance of ensuring that the Codification Division has the necessary resources to finish this publication and to distribute hard copies of this important educational resource to academic institutions in developing countries in order to promote international law education.

As I conclude, **Mr. Chairman**, let me take this opportunity to commend the Chair of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, as well as all its Members. We also wish to commend the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, especially Ms. Virginia Morris and her team, for their efforts in implementing the activities under the Programme of Assistance.

I thank you!