



**Statement
on behalf of the
Republic of South Africa**

by

Romi Brammer

**State Law Adviser (International Law), Department of International
Relations and Cooperation of South Africa**

before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly

under Agenda Item 81

**“United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study,
Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”**

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Chair

Thank you for affording me the floor. South Africa associates itself with the statements delivered by the representatives of The Gambia on behalf of the African Group, and Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Allow my delegation to start by recognising the Codification Division, all Member States who have made contributions to the Programme of Assistance, the lecturers who contribute to the regional courses and to the Audiovisual Library, as well as the delegation of Ghana for its clear leadership as the Chair of the Advisory Committee, and the efforts of its members.

South Africa also wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to all those that contributed towards the successful presentation of international law courses, including through the provision of administrative support.

South Africa commends the United Nations Programme of Assistance for its invaluable contribution to the development of international law and its role in the strengthening of international peace and security. The Programme of Assistance remains instrumental in the dissemination of international law and in doing so, the promotion and strengthening of the rule of law.

Chair

South Africa is pleased to see the geographical distribution of fellows selected to participate in the International Law Fellowship, as well as the gender parity represented throughout all the regional courses in international law and the International Law Fellowship.

The Audiovisual Library facilitates information sharing and training which are easily accessible and available in many languages. It is particularly valuable to developing nations, in that it delivers access to information and training far beyond the ordinary reaches through the use of the internet and by making information available free of charge.

Whilst reliable access to internet remains a challenge, efforts are clearly being made to overcome this hurdle, for instance, through the use of podcasts and converting video files into audio files. Nevertheless, the provision of hard copies remains essential to those who do not have adequate access to the internet.

South Africa commends the efforts undertaken by recording fifty new lectures for the Lecture series and for the off-site recording sessions to promote a broader geographical and linguistic representation in the recorded lectures.

In conclusion, the Programme of Assistance has done much, and continues to carry out commendable work, and it is for this reason that my delegation consistently supports the proper funding of the Programme of Assistance through the regular budget of the United Nations.

I thank you for your attention.