



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

327 East 58<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022  
TEL: (212) 336-0777 FAX: (212) 759-7672



*Please check against delivery*

STATEMENT BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY MR. SOVANN KE**  
AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON BEHALF OF  
THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

SIXTH COMMITTEE  
AGENDA ITEM 78

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

74<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2019

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman,**

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

ASEAN would like to thank the Secretary General for his report on the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. The report highlights the important role that the Programme of Assistance plays in our common efforts to promote rules-based multilateral systems.

Since its beginning in 1965, the Programme of Assistance has steadily contributed to the strengthening of international peace and security, advancement of friendly relations among nations, and promotion of rule of law at the national and international levels. The Programme has enhanced capacities at all levels of governance, thereby promoting the attainment of SDG Goal 16. ASEAN appreciates the Programme's effective implementation by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs.

The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law is vital for the dissemination of international law globally. The Programme has granted scholars and practitioners across the world valuable access to training materials and resources on international law.

As such, ASEAN appreciates the International Law Fellowship Programme, which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 1 July to 9 August 2019. The Fellowship serves an important purpose of engaging practitioners on broad-ranging topics of international law. The format of the Fellowship Programme allows participants to share their experiences and exchange ideas, thus improving intercultural understanding, and bringing people closer together through dialogue.

Moreover, ASEAN welcomes the Regional Course on International Law for the Asia-Pacific region to be held in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand from 18 November to 13 December 2019. We also appreciate the Regional Course for Africa, to be held in Ethiopia in early 2020, as well as the Regional Course for Latin America and the Caribbean, which already took place in Santiago, Chile in April and May of this year.

The importance of the Programme of Assistance cannot be overstated, yet in previous years the financing options for the valuable initiatives carried under the Programme were lacking. It is only recently that regular budget funds became available, which has allowed for continuity in Regional Courses, bringing certainty and success along with it.

As such, ASEAN strongly believes that the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law must be financed from the regular United Nations budget. We will continue to advocate for continued financial support in this manner, as well as encourage additional financing of the Programme through voluntary contributions so as to enable the maximum number of participants across the Programme.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Programme of Assistance helps uphold the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, promoting peaceful settlement of disputes and strengthening respect for the rule of law globally. The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship contributes greatly in this regard as it helps scholars and practitioners expand their world view on all matters of Law of the Sea, including the appreciation for settlement of disputes through negotiation and compromise.

The Programme of Assistance serves an important purpose by enhancing capacities at the national, regional and international levels. In this context, ASEAN welcomes the use and application of advanced technologies in the dissemination of international law-related information to the academics, practitioners as well as the general public in developing and developed countries alike. The Audiovisual Library of International Law is a cost-effective widely-accessible resource, which promotes legal knowledge across the globe and further creates the much needed institutional knowledge in international law. We are pleased to see new lectures being added to the Library this year.

Indeed, ASEAN attaches great importance to the promotion of international law through the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wide Appreciation in International Law. ASEAN will continue its support of the Programme with a view to further strengthening multilateral cooperation and friendly relations among nations.

**Thank you.**