



PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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**STATEMENT BY THE CUBAN DELEGATION UNDER ITEM 80:
“THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN
THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER
APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW”. New York, 25
October, 2019**

Mr. Chairman,

We appreciate the relevance of the permanence of the Programme of Assistance for the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law of the Organization on the agenda of each session of the United Nations General Assembly, because it is an important contribution to the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels, since the broader understanding of the substantive rules of international law is a necessary prerequisite for their better implementation, even though codification as one of the main sources of international law, is not progressing at the pace we desire.

Furthermore, the issue before us undoubtedly contributes to the strengthening of the purposes and principles of the Charter, in particular international peace and security, and to the promotion of friendly relations and cooperation among States.

Cuba underscores the quality of the regional courses in International Law, as well as the summer school that takes place in The Hague and the Seminar offered by the International Law Commission.

Mr. Chairman,

Since this Programme is an effective tool to promote knowledge of international law, it is necessary to provide funding to experts from small and developing countries, since many of them are unable to participate in the scheduled courses and scholarships, due to the economic realities of their countries.

In the case of Cuba, the abominable and cruel economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed for nearly six decades by the United States

of America, which has been tightened even more every day, is the main obstacle that prevents us from systematically participating in these courses and programs.

In this regard, we underline the importance of including the activities of the Programme of Assistance in the regular budget of the Organization in order to enable the participation of our countries.

Thank you very much.