



# MYANMAR

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**Statement by Mr. Kaung Htet, Advisor of the Myanmar delegation to the  
74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
on Agenda Item 78 “United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study,  
Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law”  
at the Sixth Committee**

**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation associates itself with the statement derived by the distinguished delegate of Palestine on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

I would like to thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on this agenda item. The report encompasses the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law and the recommendation as well as guidelines for the implementation of the programme for upcoming 2020-2021.

My delegation would also like to commend the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the Codification Division **for** their hard work and dedication to their mandate in implementing the Programme of Assistance annually.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Government of Myanmar is fully committed **to** the rule based international system. We believe that multilateralism can only succeed if the inter-state relations is based on the rule of law. The primarily responsibility of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security by strengthening the rule of law at both international and national levels.

My delegation is of the view that the proper maintenance of such rule based international system is largely contributed by the level of knowledge and commitment on international legal norms and values amongst the Member States. There is a direct link between strengthening of rule of law at the national and international levels and wider dissemination and appreciation of international law.

The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law has greatly contributed the strengthening of the rule of law at both national and international through various arrangements especially capacity building scheme since its inception in 1965. Furthermore, the use of advanced ICT for the Audio Visual Library and its numerous archived lecture series play a much greater role in the wider dissemination of international law today.

Mr. Chairman,

Myanmar strongly believes that the Programme of Assistance, including the regional courses, is a useful tool in enhancing developing countries towards achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, particularly goal no. 16. In this connection, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all the host countries for hosting Regional Courses annually. We also would like to express our deep appreciation to all the member states that provide voluntary contributions to the activities under the Programme of Assistance.

We have noted from the Secretary-General's annual report that the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was held in Bangkok from 19 November to 14 December 2018 and 29 participants from 28 countries, including my country Myanmar, participated. In this regard, we would like to thank the Government of Thailand and ESCAP for their support for the course. We are confident that the course contributes to promote greater understanding and cooperation on the legal matters in the region.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of Myanmar is nurturing democratic norms and values through promotion of rule of law in the country since it has embarked on democratic transition. We are of the view that wider dissemination of international law and legal norms within our societies, especially among the youth, is critical to our ongoing democratization process. Therefore, we consider believe that the United Nations Programme of Assistance continuation and expansion of its Programme would contribute to dissemination of legal knowledge as a nascent democracy.

My delegation welcomes the allocation of budget for the Programme of Assistance for the next year. In this connection, we would like to highlight that adequate funding is vital for the effective implementation of the Programme.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, my delegation would like to reiterate our firm believes that the dissemination of the knowledge, study, and teaching of international law is linchpin to maintain a world based on the rule of law. In light of the above, it is time to redouble our collective commitment to ensure that the Programme has adequate funding that is critical to its continuation and expansion.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.