

**Statement by Ms Maitê De Souza Schmitz (Brazil), Co-coordinator of the draft resolution on “Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework” (under agenda item 88)**

**Introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/76/L.19 on behalf of the Bureau**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

**Madam Chair,**

Today I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Bureau of the Sixth Committee, the draft resolution contained in document **A/C.6/76/L.19**, entitled “Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework”. My colleague Nathaniel Khng from Singapore, and I had the honour of coordinating the informal consultations on this draft resolution.

**Madam Chair,**

As my co-coordinator indicated at the end of the plenary debate, this item was first included in the agenda of the Sixth Committee at the 73rd session, in 2018, to achieve several objectives: first, to create a platform for the review of the *Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations*; second, to allow Member States to address the current shortcomings in treaty registration; and third, to trigger an exchange of views among Member States regarding their treaty-making practice, identify trends and share best practices, and discuss other treaty-related topics.

The co-coordinators are grateful to all delegations for their constructive engagement in the negotiations, which led to this draft resolution that achieves all three objectives.

Apart from the necessary technical updates to General Assembly resolution 75/144 adopted at the last session, this draft resolution contains a few new paragraphs, and includes the amended Regulations as an annex.

It may be recalled that the resolution adopted at the 73rd session updated the Regulations in line with the latest developments in treaty registration practice and information technology. Although consideration of further proposals on the Regulations had to be deferred to this session, the Committee managed to achieve consensus on the latest amendments to the Regulations after thorough and technical deliberations.

These amendments would update the instruction on the registration of treaties which are provisionally applied prior to its entry into force; clarify the registration process if a treaty designates one or more depositaries; reflect that Member States may submit courtesy translations in any of the six official languages in order to expedite publication; broaden the categories of limited publication as a tool to address the backlog in publication; and reflect the existing practice of using technology to make the *Treaty Series* more accessible to users by making texts and translations available online. As a result, the draft resolution provides for the amended Regulations to apply as from 1 February 2022.

Corrections were also made to the Spanish text of the Regulations to ensure the uniform use of the term “parties” across all language versions.

**Madam Chair,**

As in previous sessions, this draft resolution would once again welcome the organization of workshops on treaty law and practice by the Treaty Section at Headquarters and at the national and regional levels.

To further the objective of addressing current shortcomings in treaty registration, this draft resolution adds language to support the organization of workshops on treaty law and practice at the national and regional levels. The General Assembly would note that such workshops have not been organized since 2016, including due to lack of funds, and invite States and interested organizations and institutions to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of such workshops.

Finally, new language has been added to the draft resolution for the General Assembly to decide to undertake a thematic debate in the Sixth Committee to foster a technical exchange of views on practice relating to the strengthening and promoting of the international treaty framework. The topic chosen for the thematic debate at the 78th session, in 2023, is “Best practices of depositaries of multilateral treaties”.

**Madam Chair,**

I wish to take this opportunity, on behalf of my colleague Nathaniel Khng and myself, to sincerely thank all delegations for their constructive approach and active engagement during negotiations, which was crucial to the successful conclusion of our work on the resolution and the regulations. We would also like to express our gratitude to

the Chief of the Treaty Section, Mr. David Nanopoulos and his team, as well as to the Secretariat of the Sixth Committee, in particular Mr. Carlos Fuentes, for their outstanding support during the negotiations.

This concludes my introduction of draft resolution **A/C.6/76/L.19**. My co-coordinator and I recommend that the Sixth Committee adopt it without a vote.