

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND
CHINA BY PAKISTAN, IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER AGENDA ITEM 76, "UNITED
NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE
TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER
APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW"**

(New York, 20 October 2022)

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China under Agenda Item 76: "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

I would also like to express the Group's appreciation for the members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law and its Chair, H.E. Harold Adlai Agyeman, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations. We also commend the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for their continued efforts to implement the Programme of Assistance as well as recognize the contribution of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS).

Mr. Chair,

The Group of 77 and China reaffirms its support for the Programme of Assistance which serves as an effective means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States through the dissemination of international law. More than 50 years after its establishment, the Programme continues to be relevant in furthering the objectives of the United Nations by training generations of specialists, particularly those from the developing countries, in the field of international law.

The Group of 77 and China appreciates the necessary resources that are budgeted for the administration of the Programme and reiterates its call for the continued funding of the Programme in years to come. Such funding remains essential for conducting the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law; issuing publications; developing and maintaining the

United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law; and for the award of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea. These capacity-building activities help to improve the participation of developing countries in the multilateral arena. We also express our sincere appreciation to all Member States that have made financial and in-kind contributions to ensure the continued success of the Programme of Assistance.

Mr. Chair,

During the reporting period, the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was scheduled to be held at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok from 15 November to 10 December 2021; for Africa it was scheduled to be held at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa from 14 February to 8 March 2022 and for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago from 9 to 31 May 2022. Unfortunately, the regional courses could not be held as planned owing to the circumstances arising from Covid-19 Pandemic. In this regard, the Group welcomes the efforts of the Codification Division to provide applicants with a remote self-paced learning curriculum as an interim means of capacity-building until the Regional Course could next be held. The Group also notes with satisfaction the online regional workshops on the peaceful settlement of international disputes organized and facilitated by the Codification Division during this time period.

The International Law Fellowship Programme was also held in The Hague from 4 July to 5 August 2022. Participants also attended the public international law session of the Summer Course organized by The Hague Academy of International Law, held in person, from 11 to 29 July 2022.

Mr. Chair,

The importance and utility of the Audiovisual Library of International Law cannot be overstated. It continues to provide virtual high-quality training to an unlimited number of individuals around the world free of charge through the internet. The Group of 77 and China also supports the off-site recording sessions undertaken by the Codification Division in various locations in order to promote a broader geographical and linguistic representation of the recorded lectures and to record lecturers who are unable to travel to New York. During the period under review, 41 lectures were recorded for the Lecture Series. We also commend the Codification Division for its efforts to facilitate access to the lectures for

users with limited high-speed Internet on computers and mobile devices through the Library podcast.

We applaud the efforts of the Office of Legal Affairs to promote knowledge of international law in an inclusive manner and encourage its continued outreach to Member States to inform them of how to access and use available resources.

The Group reiterates the importance of the Programme of Assistance in achieving SDG 16, more particularly, Target 16.3 which calls for the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels. The training activities under the Programme will ensure greater dissemination of international law and, ultimately, strengthen the rule of law.

I thank you.