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**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE ON THE
TEACHING, STUDY, DISEMMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

PRESENTED BY

HAROLD ADLAI AGYEMAN
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE

**DURING THE SIXTH COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION OF
THE AGENDA ITEM AT THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

20th October, 2022
Trusteeship Council Chamber,
United Nations, New York

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me the floor.

1. I have the honour, once again, to address the Sixth Committee and report on the work of the fifty-seventh session of the Advisory Committee on the *United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law* held on the morning of 4th October, 2022. I encourage delegations to refer to the report of the Secretary-General contained in document *No. A/77/515* for the full version of the Committee's report.
2. I would like to begin by acknowledging the presence of Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel, Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares and thank him for his participation and valuable contributions to the discussions of the session.
3. As indicated during the session, the Committee welcomes the proposal to bring under your direct managerial oversight, the activities related to the promotion and dissemination of international law, including, the activities of the Programme of Assistance. We are confident that the initiatives to streamline and rationalize the provision of legal technical assistance would help to better respond to the needs of Member States in that respect.
4. I must also thank the staff of the Codification Division for their responsiveness to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the efforts which have ensured the pre-eminence of the Programme of Assistance in the field of international law training.
5. Pursuant to its mandate, the Advisory Committee reviewed the activities undertaken during the reporting period and took note of proposed activities for the year 2023, including the resulting administrative and financial implications.

6. The programme of Assistance continues to enjoy the overwhelming support of all members of the Committee who alluded to its intrinsic value to the realization of the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.
7. In my remarks to the Committee, I underscored the utmost importance of continuing education in international law at this time of our global history where the headwinds of unilateralism threaten to dismantle the established norms and values that have held together our international order over the past seven decades. The programme of Assistance, in our view, is important for enhancing the legal capacities of national experts and more so, for strengthening our collective commitments to peace and development.
8. The report on the International Law Fellowship Programme held in The Hague from 4th July to 5th August, 2022, was well received as members recalled the opportunities presented through the organic interactions of the in-person programmes often resulting in lasting relations among experts from different experiences and backgrounds.
9. The Committee took note of the persisting challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic as a result of which the Regional Courses in International Law could not be held and welcomed the online regional workshops held for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbeans as interim programmes.
10. The Committee underscored the importance of diversity in the languages and legal traditions as well as gender balance among the faculty of the International Law Fellowship and the Regional Courses and welcomed the commitments made by the Secretariat in this

regard. Similarly, wider geographic representation and gender balance among the participants of the training programmes were emphasized.

11. In respect of the Audio-visual Library in international law, the Committee was informed about the recording of 40 (forty) lectures during the reporting period and the efforts by the Secretariat to improve the gender balance and linguistic diversity of the lecturers. The Committee recommended the use of new and enhanced online technologies and platforms, including social media, to support the wider dissemination of its content. Calls were also made for the enhancement of the website of the Audio-visual Library to make it more user-friendly.
12. The Secretariat informed the Committee of the publication of the 2016 United Nations Juridical Yearbook, and Volume XXXIV of the Reports of the International Arbitral Awards.
13. It was noted that the awardee of the 2020 Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea is expected to undertake the fellowship in 2023 after its postponement as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
14. The Committee also expressed its support for the funding of the activities of the Programme from the regular budget of the Organization, while also highlighting the importance of voluntary contributions for expanding and enhancing the activities. In this respect, I wish to re-iterate the Committee's appreciation for the contributions received from the Czech Republic, Finland, Poland, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

15. The Committee also acknowledges the in-kind contributions of Member States and is, particularly, grateful to the host countries of the training programmes for their organisational support which have always been vital to the success of the programmes.
16. Before bringing my report to a close, allow me to re-iterate Ghana's long-standing commitment to the realization of the objectives of the Programme of Assistance and our chairmanship of the Advisory Committee. We highly value the support and cooperation demonstrated over the years by all member States and remain committed in our service.
17. Ms. Khalilah Hackman, the legal Adviser of the Permanent Mission of Ghana would be introducing the zero draft at the close of the debate with the intention of undertaking in-person consultations at scheduled times to be indicated by the Secretariat. We look forward to your distinguished participations in the consultations and count on your cooperation.

I thank you for the kind attention.