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**Statement of the Acting Secretary of the Advisory Committee on the  
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination  
and Wider Appreciation of International Law  
(20 October 2022)**

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

It is an honour for me to address you today in my capacity as Acting Secretary of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wide Appreciation of International Law.

The Programme of Assistance was established over 50 years ago, but the need for training and educational materials in international law remains just as important today. Thanks to the constant support of the Advisory Committee, chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ghana, and that of the Sixth Committee, the Programme of Assistance has been able to provide responses to those needs.

Mme la Présidente, Mmes et MM. les délégués,

C'est un honneur de vous présenter un bref aperçu de la mise en œuvre du Programme pendant la période considérée, plus particulièrement en ce qui

concerne les programmes de formation et la Médiathèque de droit international, en soulignant l'impact de la pandémie sur ces activités.

Les programmes de formation soit - le Programme de bourses de perfectionnement et les trois Cours régionaux - offrent aux professionnels des pays en développement l'accès à une formation complète en droit international, dispensée par des spécialistes de régions et de systèmes juridiques divers. Ces programmes sont traditionnellement livrés en présentiel ce qui permet des échanges approfondis et l'établissement de liens durables entre les participants.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to inform you that that the training programmes in international are being held once again in person. The International Law Fellowship Programme was held in The Hague in July and August this year, which included the participation of fellows in the public international law session of The Hague Academy of International Law, as well as a guided visit to the Peace Palace and a briefing by the Registrar of the International Court of Justice. The Office of Legal Affairs is currently organising the Regional Course for Asia-Pacific, to be held later this year in Bangkok. We are also planning to hold the Regional Course for Africa in February and March next year in Addis Ababa; and, of course, we are

planning to follow that with the Regional Course for Latin America and the Caribbean in Chile, in May.

As you know, holding these training programmes in person not only provides important international law training for lawyers from developing countries and emerging economies, but also enables them to share ideas, experiences and best practices, and to build relationships for future cooperation among legal colleagues in regional and international for a that can last a lifetime.

Prior to this year's International Law Fellowship Programme, it had not been possible to hold the Regional Courses in person for reasons related to the pandemic. The Office of Legal Affairs conducted three on-line Regional Workshops on the peaceful settlement of international disputes: for Asia-Pacific in November 2021; for Africa in March 2022, which was in French; and for Latin America and the Caribbean in May 2022. We also provided to all applicants to these Regional Courses a remote, self-paced learning curriculum based on lectures and materials in the Audiovisual Library of International Law.

Mme la Présidente, Mmes et MM. les délégués,

La Médiathèque de droit international des Nations Unies offre une formation en ligne gratuite et de qualité à un nombre illimité de personnes du monde entier.

Avec plus de 600 conférences en ligne, la Médiathèque a été consultée par près de 2,7 millions d'utilisateurs. Depuis septembre 2021, nous avons enregistré 41 nouvelles conférences en tenant compte notamment de la parité hommes/femmes des conférenciers, ainsi que de la diversité linguistique et géographique du contenu proposé. Nous avons réalisé une mission d'enregistrement pour la première fois depuis 2019, au cours de laquelle 14 conférences ont été enregistrées au Palais des Nations à Genève, notamment en français, espagnol et anglais. 11 d'entre elles ont été prononcées par des conférencières. 10 de ces conférences constituaient 3 “mini-séries” sur les thèmes "Droit pénal international", "Règlement pacifique des différends internationaux" et "Relations diplomatiques et consulaires".

En matière de publications, au cours de la période considérée, le volume 34 du Recueil des sentences arbitrales et l'Annuaire juridique des Nations Unies 2016 ont été publiés. La Division a également avancé dans la préparation de la 10<sup>e</sup> édition des Travaux de la Commission du droit international, de l'Annuaire juridique des Nations Unies 2017 et 2018, et des éditions révisées des volumes 25 et 26 de la Série législative des Nations Unies, qui contiendra des documents sur la "Responsabilité de l'État pour fait internationalement illicite" et sur “L'application provisoire des traités”.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

The Office of Legal Affairs is very grateful to the General Assembly for including the Programme of Assistance in the regular budget. This allows the organization of several activities on a continuous basis. Nevertheless, in order to achieve the true potential of the Programme, voluntary contributions remain essential. [In this regard, the Office of Legal Affairs would like to thank the following Member States for their generous voluntary contributions: Czechia, Finland, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, and the United Kingdom. In addition, contributions have been received after the end of the reporting period from Czechia, Ireland, Italy and Saudi Arabia. These contributions will be detailed in next year's report.]

Before concluding, I wish to highlight that applications for the Regional Course in International Law for Africa are currently being accepted. The Regional Course will be held in February and March 2023 at the ECA in Ethiopia and will be conducted in English. The deadline for applications is 31 October.

I thank you for your attention and for your continuous support for the Programme of Assistance.

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