



**Check against delivery**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**AMBASSADOR YOSEPH KASSAYE, DEPUTY PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT**

**THE 79TH 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”**

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**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report contained in A/79/496.

We commend the Secretariat for their efforts to implement the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

**Mr. Chairman,**

During the discussion in the 6<sup>th</sup> committee on the rule of law at the national and international level, many delegations, including mine, stressed the importance of dissemination and wider appreciation of international law throughout the globe for the better understanding and respect of rule of law.

The progressive increase of applications to the United Nations Regional Courses in international law, and the Fellowship Programme, is a clear testament to the need to increase the number of accepted trainees. According to the report of the Secretary-General, this year alone for the Regional Course in International Law for Africa, for 20

fellowships, 211 applications were received by the Secretariat from candidates. This is a clear demonstration of the need to do more to meet the growing demand.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Ethiopia has been hosting the regional course on international law for Africa since 2011. We believe that the Programme of Assistance has made huge contributions in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law which in turn has enhanced multilateralism. The trainees for the programme come from a wide spectrum of professional fields which include diplomats, prosecutors, teachers, staff of independent human rights organizations, the African Union and several others. Moreover, the training programme has afforded academics and practitioners of international law the opportunity to create a platform to strengthen interpersonal and professional networks.

Furthermore, my delegation would like to underline the critical importance of the Audiovisual Library of International Law which has become an essential tool of the Program of Assistance in providing training to individuals and institutions around the world, free of

charge, through the internet. Although it was created primarily for the benefit of lawyers from developing countries, it continues to be accessed by lawyers from developed countries as well. We therefore encourage the Codification Division to further strengthen its efforts in promoting the awareness of the Audiovisual Library, particularly in developing countries.

We also strongly support the efforts of the Codification Division to make the lectures available in podcasts for academic institutions in developing countries.

**Mr. Chairman,**

From the report of the Secretary-General mentioned above, we have also learnt that the liquidity situation of the Organization and the cash conservation measures implemented to address the situation have had a significant impact on the implementation of activities of the Programme in 2024. It is our view, however, this should not hinder our efforts of overcoming this challenge and our drive to expand the dissemination and training of international law.

My delegation also encourages the Codification Division to cooperate with the African Institute of International Law, as recognized by the General assembly resolution. This is dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law needed for the development of Africa in the implementation of the relevant activities under the Programme of Assistance, including the Second International Law Seminar for African Universities which will be held in Ethiopia in 2025.

In conclusion, **Mr. Chairman**, let me take this opportunity to commend the Chair of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, all members, and the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs.

We also wish to recognize those that have contributed voluntarily to the Programme of Assistance and encourage them to continue to make additional contributions.

In our part, in Ethiopia, I can assure you of our commitment to continue to provide all the necessary support needed for the successful management, organization and hosting of the regional program for Africa, and the International Law Seminar for African Universities which is scheduled to be held in 2025.

**I thank you.**