





permanent venues for the Regional courses in international law would provide enhanced efficiency and greater certainty. Ethiopia and Thailand have had the opportunities to host several regional courses in international law which have all been conducted successfully.

Mr. Chairman,

The UN Audiovisual Library of International Law is another essential tool that enables international lawyers all over the world to access low cost and high-quality legal training through the Internet. We believe that it is important to continue promoting the access and the utilization of the UN Audiovisual Library by scholars and academics in developing countries. We are also pleased to learn that the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs is finalizing the preparation of the publication of the handbooks on international law in English and French for distribution and dissemination next year.

Mr. Chairman,

The Programme of Assistance plays a vital role in promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels. The

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promotion of the rule of law is one of the targets of Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. The various activities under the Programme of Assistance provide the opportunity for individuals to acquire greater knowledge of international law. These capacity-building activities will contribute to the improvement of the participation of developing countries in different multilateral frameworks and instruments and ultimately help strengthen the rule of law. The Group of 77 and China remain committed to that objective as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the 40th Annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 on 23 September 2016, particularly the commitment to include the International Law Fellowship Programme, the seminars and regional training on treaty law and practice and the legal publications and training materials, as well as t

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Secretariat for its tireless efforts to promote knowledge in international law in an inclusive manner. We would also like to extend appreciation to all Member States which have contributed to the continued success of the Programme. While budgetary funding has been obtained, voluntary contributions, including in-kind contributions, remain vital.

Thank you Mr. Chairman

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