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### **United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**

## **United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### *Summary*

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/201](#). It covers the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law during the reporting period, as well as the activities planned for 2020 and the related administrative and financial implications.



## I. Introduction

1. By its resolution [73/201](#), the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his report on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law ([A/73/415](#)), submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-third session. In paragraph 28 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the Programme in 2019 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme in subsequent years.

2. The present report provides information concerning the implementation of the Programme of Assistance during the reporting period, as well as the activities planned for 2020 and the related administrative and financial implications.

## II. Implementation of the Programme of Assistance

3. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs is responsible for the implementation of the Programme of Assistance. The Division performs various functions in connection with the implementation of the Programme, such as organizing and conducting the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law, preparing and issuing publications, developing and maintaining the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and the website of the Programme of Assistance, preparing reports of the Secretary-General and providing services to the Advisory Committee and the Sixth Committee on the related agenda item.

### A. International Law Fellowship Programme

4. The International Law Fellowship Programme provides comprehensive training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners from different regions and legal systems for professionals from developing countries and countries with emerging economies.<sup>1</sup> The participants attend seminars organized by the Codification Division on a broad range of core topics of international law, as well as the Public International Law Summer Course of The Hague Academy of International Law. Study visits are also arranged by the Division for the participants.

5. The International Law Fellowship Programme was held in The Hague from 1 July to 9 August 2019 and was conducted in English. A total of 808 applications were received from candidates from 125 countries (including 376 from Africa, 290 from Asia-Pacific, 52 from Eastern Europe, 76 from Latin America and the Caribbean and 14 from Western Europe and other countries). A total of 22 participants (11 men and 11 women) attended the Programme, with 21 receiving fellowships and one attending on a self-funded basis.

6. The participants were from: Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde, Eritrea, Ghana, Jamaica, Jordan, Lithuania, Mongolia,

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<sup>1</sup> Since 2010, as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships provided through the regular budget, the Fellowship Programme in The Hague has been conducted by the Codification Division (see [A/65/514](#), para. 12).

Montenegro, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Uganda, Uzbekistan and State of Palestine.<sup>2</sup>

7. The seminars organized by the Codification Division consisted of (in chronological order): “Introduction to international law” (L. Boisson de Chazournes, University of Geneva); “Law of treaties” (M. Kohen, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies); “State responsibility” (A. Tzanakopoulos, University of Oxford); “Research in international law” (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); “International peace and security” and “Peaceful settlement of international disputes” (O. Elias, Registry, International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals); “Law of the sea” (A. Soons, Utrecht University); “The International Court of Justice” (J. Donoghue, International Court of Justice); “International human rights law” (F. Hampson, University of Essex); “International humanitarian law” (A. Lagerwall, Free University of Brussels); “International criminal law” (I. Hrdličková, Special Tribunal for Lebanon); “International environmental law” (J. Viñuales, University of Cambridge); “Diplomatic and consular relations” (A. Miron, University of Angers); “International organizations” (N. Blokker, Leiden University); “International trade law” and “International investment law” (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva).

8. The Hague Academy lectures consisted of (in chronological order): “The flow of multilateralism” (inaugural lecture) (Y. Daudet, University of Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne); “The art of international law” (general course) (H. Charlesworth, Melbourne Law School, Australian National University); “Immunities of state officials in international law” (C. Escobar Hernández, National University of Distance Education, Madrid, International Law Commission); “Perspectives on treaty-based investor-state arbitration” (S. Hamamoto, University of Kyoto); “The argument of self-defence in relation to ‘unwilling-or-unable’ States” (S. Mahmoudi, Stockholm University); “International law of biodiversity” (S. Maljean-Dubois, Aix-Marseille University); “African international courts” (G. Niyungeko, African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights (former member)); and “International law on the protection of cultural heritage” (K. von der Decken, Kiel University).

9. Study visits with briefings by officials were arranged for the participants at the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. An official of The Hague Conference on Private International Law also provided a briefing to the participants.

## **B. United Nations Regional Courses in International Law**

10. The three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean provide an important mechanism for expanding the international law training opportunities available to participants from developing countries, given the limited number of participants who can be accommodated in the International Law Fellowship Programme.<sup>3</sup> The Regional

<sup>2</sup> Additional information about the participants is available at [http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/pdf/ilfp\\_2019\\_participants.pdf](http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/pdf/ilfp_2019_participants.pdf). A fellow from Tunisia and a self-funded participant from China had also been selected but were unable to attend.

<sup>3</sup> Since 2011, the Codification Division has conducted the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships and better meet the increasing demand for international law training. All administrative, financial and practical arrangements, such as travel and accommodation, were previously entrusted to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which required funding for its Professional and General Service staff members who performed those services over a period of approximately six months for each Regional Course.

Courses provide training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners on a broad range of core topics of international law. They also provide participants with an opportunity to focus on contemporary issues of international law of common interest to their region, with a view to promoting greater understanding and cooperation on such issues.

## 1. Africa

11. The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was held at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in Addis Ababa, from 11 February to 8 March 2019. The Regional Course was conducted in French. Applications were received from 252 candidates from 27 countries. A total of 25 participants (13 men and 12 women) attended the course, with 21 participants receiving fellowships<sup>4</sup> and four attending on a self-funded basis.

12. The participants were from: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Togo.<sup>5</sup>

13. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (A. Pellet, Paris Nanterre University, International Law Commission (former Chair and member)); "Research in international law" (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "Law of treaties" and "African Union law and institutions" (H. Gueldich, University of Carthage); "State responsibility", "Diplomatic and consular relations" and "International organizations" (A. Miron, University of Angers); "International peace and security" and "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (P. Galvão Teles, Autonomous University of Lisbon, International Law Commission); "International human rights law" (H. Tigroudja, Aix-Marseille University); "Law of the sea" (Y. Cissé, Alassane Ouattara University, International Law Commission); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (E. Salmón, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru); "International environmental law", "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva). A study visit to the African Union was also arranged during which the Legal Counsel of the African Union briefed participants on the work of her Office.

## 2. Asia-Pacific

14. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was held at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in Bangkok, from 19 November to 14 December 2018. The course was conducted in English. Applications were received from 120 candidates from 28 countries. In total, 29 participants (13 men and 16 women) attended the course, with 20 receiving fellowships and nine attending on a self-funded basis.

15. The participants were from: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and Yemen.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> One fellowship was funded through voluntary contributions.

<sup>5</sup> Additional information about the participants is available at [http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/africa/participants\\_2019.pdf](http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/africa/participants_2019.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Additional information about the participants is available at [http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/asia/participants\\_2018.pdf](http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/asia/participants_2018.pdf). Two fellows were selected from Indonesia and Iran (Islamic Republic of), however, they notified the Secretariat that they could not attend the Regional Course.

16. The seminars delivered at the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): “Introduction to international law” (M. Kawano, Waseda University); “International organizations” and “Diplomatic and consular relations” (P. Galvão Teles, Autonomous University of Lisbon, International Law Commission); “International law in Asia-Pacific” (H. Tan, National University of Singapore); “Law of treaties” and “State responsibility” (P. Bodeau-Livinec, Paris Nanterre University); “International peace and security” and “Peaceful settlement of international disputes” (D. Tladi, University of Pretoria, International Law Commission); “International humanitarian law” and “International criminal law” (K. Riordan, Court Martial of New Zealand, Armed Forces of New Zealand, Victoria University of Wellington); “International human rights law” (H. Tigroudja, Aix-Marseille University); “Research in international law” (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); “Law of the sea” (H. Kim, Yonsei University); “International environmental law”, “International trade law” and “International investment law” (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva).

### 3. Latin America and the Caribbean

17. The Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean was held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in Santiago, from 29 April to 24 May 2019. The course was conducted in English. Applications were received from 173 candidates from 25 countries. A total of 21 participants (7 men and 14 women) attended the course, with 20 receiving fellowships and one attending on a self-funded basis.

18. The participants were from: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).<sup>7</sup>

19. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): “Introduction to international law” (J. Viñuales, University of Cambridge); “International organizations” and “Diplomatic and consular relations” (N. Blokker, Leiden University); “Research in international law” (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); “Law of treaties” and “State responsibility” (C. Vitucci, University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli); “International peace and security” and “Peaceful settlement of international disputes” (D. Akande, University of Oxford); “Law of the sea” (D. Azaria, University College London); “International human rights law” (H. Tigroudja, Aix-Marseille University); “International humanitarian law” and “International criminal law” (E. Salmón, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru); “International environmental law” (M. Fitzmaurice, Queen Mary University of London); “The law and institutions of the ECLAC region”<sup>8</sup> (G. Acuña and C. de Miguel, ECLAC); “International trade law” and “International investment law” (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva).

### 4. Venues for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

20. During the period under review, the Regional Courses were held at the regional commissions.<sup>9</sup> The regional commissions provide not only classroom and office space free of charge, but also significant administrative and logistical support during the planning and conduct of the courses. Such support results in enhanced financial and

<sup>7</sup> Additional information about the participants is available at [http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/laac/participants\\_2019.pdf](http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/laac/participants_2019.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> The ECLAC seminars were delivered in Spanish with English interpretation.

<sup>9</sup> The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was held at ECA in Ethiopia. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was held at ESCAP in Thailand. The Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean was held at ECLAC in Chile.

administrative efficiency and greater certainty and consistency for the courses, without excluding the possibility of holding the courses at other locations in the future.

#### **5. Alumni networks of participants of the training programmes organized under the Programme of Assistance**

21. In its resolution [73/201](#), the General Assembly encouraged the Secretary-General to support the establishment of alumni networks of participants of the training programmes organized under the Programme of Assistance. To that end, the Codification Division has compiled a list of former participants since 2010. The Division contacted former participants to ascertain their interest in participating in the network, to secure their authorization to share their personal details with the network and to update their professional information. The Division has also conducted a needs assessment among interested former participants, liaised with existing networks of other programmes to assess lessons learned and studied the feasibility of using available social media platforms.

### **C. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law**

22. Traditional in-person training programmes offer unique advantages in terms of promoting in depth discussions, interaction and cooperation among participants. In response to the increasing demand for international law training that could not be met solely by its traditional training programmes, the Codification Division created the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2008. With the Audiovisual Library, the United Nations has the capacity to provide, at a relatively low cost, high-quality training to an unlimited number of individuals and institutions around the world, free of charge through the Internet.

23. The Audiovisual Library is a virtual training and research centre featuring content from leading international law scholars, judges and practitioners from different countries and legal systems who contribute to its three pillars: the Lecture Series, the Historic Archives and the Research Library. The Lecture Series contains over 575 lectures, accompanied by lists of related materials linking to reference documents available online. The Lecture Series contains individual lectures on a broad range of topics of international law. The lectures and related legal materials are intended to provide a more comprehensive educational resource for academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. During the period under review, 45 new lectures were recorded for the Lecture Series. In order to promote a broader geographical and linguistic representation of lectures and to record lecturers who are not regularly in New York, during the reporting period the Codification Division undertook two off-site recording sessions. One off-site mission was conducted in Latin America, specifically in Argentina and Peru, to record lectures in Spanish by scholars and practitioners from the region.<sup>10</sup> The other mission was conducted in the Russian Federation to record lectures by Russian academics and practitioners in Russian.<sup>11</sup>

24. The Historic Archives contain introductory notes by leading authorities, as well as procedural histories, related documents and archival audiovisual materials

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<sup>10</sup> Lectures were recorded at the at the University Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires and the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru in Lima. The recording facilities were provided free of charge by the universities, for which the Secretary-General is grateful.

<sup>11</sup> Lectures were recorded at the at the International and Comparative Law Research Centre in Moscow. The recording facilities were provided free of charge, for which the Secretary-General is grateful.

prepared by the Division on over 100 legal instruments.<sup>12</sup> During the period under review, the Division added and updated several instruments in the Historic Archives.

25. The Research Library provides an extensive online library consisting of treaties, jurisprudence, publications, documents, scholarly writings and training materials, including the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments*, a four-volume publication of the Division in English and French used as the main resource at the four in-person training programmes. In addition, during the period under review, the Codification Division continued to enhance the section relating to moot court competitions held in academic institutions. In this section, the Division compiles relevant Audiovisual Library lectures and materials on the topic of the specific competition to assist participants with their preparation. During the reporting period, relevant Audiovisual Library lectures and materials were added for the 2019 editions of the Concours Charles-Rousseau, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition. The Division continues to explore opportunities with other institutions organizing moot court competitions.

26. Since its creation in 2008, the Audiovisual Library has been accessed by over 1.9 million users in 193 Member States and non-Member States.<sup>13</sup> Information concerning new content included in the Audiovisual Library continues to be disseminated through the *Journal of the United Nations*, social media and specialized international law blogs.<sup>14</sup> In addition, the Codification Division has made significant efforts to facilitate access to the lectures for users without reliable high-speed Internet on computers and mobile devices through a podcast project. Since the previous report, all new lectures are launched simultaneously in video and audio format. The audio files can be accessed free of charge either on the website of the Audiovisual Library or by means of a podcast application. To further facilitate access, the Division has added a tutorial video to the main page of the Audiovisual Library explaining how to use the audio features on the website.

#### D. International law training materials

27. The Codification Division researches, collects and prepares legal materials in hard copy, in consultation with the lecturers, for its international law training programmes.<sup>15</sup> In addition, USB flash drives containing the training materials and legal publications of the Division and other international law materials are provided to facilitate electronic research for participants in developing countries with limited access to the Internet.<sup>16</sup> The training materials are also made available for academic use on the websites of the respective training programmes and on the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, free of charge.

28. The Codification Division continues to use the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments*, which is prepared in both an English and a French version,

<sup>12</sup> Legal materials for the Historic Archives and the Lecture Series are provided in all official languages of the Organization.

<sup>13</sup> While it was created primarily for the benefit of users in developing countries, it continues to be accessed primarily by users in developed countries.

<sup>14</sup> “Aquiencia: blog de derecho internacional de Carlos Espósito”, “EJIL: Talk!: blog of the European Journal of International Law”, “International Law Reporter”, “Multipol: réseau d’analyse et d’information sur l’actualité internationale” and “Opinio Juris”.

<sup>15</sup> In 2019, the Codification Division prepared training materials for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

<sup>16</sup> The Codification Division purchases legal publications and other essential United Nations publications, including the Charter of the United Nations, for use in its training courses.

as the main study material in the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law. In addition to being used by the Division as the main resource for its training programmes, the *International Law Handbook* is intended for distribution to academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law around the world. It is available, free of charge, from the Audiovisual Library,<sup>17</sup> and it may be reproduced for academic purposes to further the teaching and dissemination of international law.

## **E. Desktop publishing**

29. In 2003, the Codification Division began using desktop publishing, on a voluntary basis and subject to available resources, to expedite the issuance of some of its legal publications and to make them available to the international legal community in a timely manner. During the reporting period, the Division continued the desktop publishing activities that it had suspended in 2014 and resumed in 2017,<sup>18</sup> and published the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (2014), *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* (vol. XXXI), the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice* (2013–2017), the *International Instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism* (4th ed.) and the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* (vol. XXXII). Work also advanced on the preparation for publication of the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (2015 and 2016). The Division will continue to explore ways of sustaining such efforts in 2020 and beyond, subject to the availability of resources.

## **F. Dissemination**

30. The dissemination of legal publications and information through the Internet and other electronic media is intended to supplement the limited number of hard copies, without prejudice to the unique value of printed materials for legal research and education, in particular for users in developing countries with limited access to the Internet. The materials are provided free of charge on the Internet to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law (see annex).

## **G. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea**

31. Sougleman Mingoli of Togo is scheduled to complete the 2019 Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea in December 2019. As to the cost of each individual fellowship, such cost depends on several highly variable factors, including the stipend rates applicable in the cities of the host institutions, currency exchange rates, airfare and the duration of the fellowship. Those factors lead to differences in fellowship costs from year to year, which can range from

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<sup>17</sup> Available at <http://legal.un.org/avl/handbook.html>.

<sup>18</sup> See General Assembly resolutions 64/113 of 16 December 2009, 65/25 of 6 December 2010, 66/97 of 9 December 2011, 67/91 of 14 December 2012, 68/110 of 16 December 2013, 69/117 of 10 December 2014, 70/116 of 14 December 2015 and 71/139 of 13 December 2016, in which the Assembly expressed its appreciation for the desktop publishing initiative undertaken by the Division from 2003 to 2013 and recommended that the necessary resources be made available to resume this successful initiative.

approximately \$35,000 to \$60,000, excluding the 13 per cent programme support costs and 15 per cent operational reserve (for fund balance, see para. 33).<sup>19</sup>

### **III. Guidelines and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2020**

32. In 2020, the Codification Division plans to carry out the activities under the Programme of Assistance in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (see [A/73/415](#), sect. V) and approved by the General Assembly.

33. Regarding the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship, the current fund balance available for disbursement, taking into account programme support costs, is estimated to be approximately \$64,883.80.

### **IV. Administrative and financial implications of the Programme of Assistance**

#### **A. During the reporting period**

34. In its resolution [73/201](#), the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2019, the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and to continue to develop the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget as well as, when necessary, voluntary contributions.

35. Regarding the funding provided for the Programme of Assistance, a total of \$2,200,600 was requested for the regular budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law.

36. In its resolution [73/201](#), the General Assembly reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or to otherwise assist in its implementation and possible expansion. Accordingly, notes verbales were sent in February and July 2019 to Member States to draw their attention to resolution [73/201](#), and requesting voluntary contributions.

37. Since the previous report, voluntary contributions have been received for the activities under the Programme of Assistance as follows: (a) for the Programme of

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<sup>19</sup> The administrative assistance initially provided by the Codification Division in the 1980s and early 1990s gradually decreased after the former Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea became part of the Office of Legal Affairs in 1992. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea is entrusted with matters related to the law of the sea, including technical capacity-building, to avoid duplication of work and to ensure the proper administration of the fellowship. Since 2010 the fellowship has been administered solely by that Division as part of its provision of technical capacity-building with respect to the law of the sea. Additional information on the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship will be provided in the annual report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, which will be considered under the agenda item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”.

Assistance in general: from China (\$30,000), Ghana (\$5,000), Iraq (\$3,000), Qatar (\$3,000) and Saudi Arabia (\$5,000); (b) for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law: from Finland (\$5,560), Ireland (\$5,500), Poland (\$5,000), Slovakia (\$5,726), and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$6,280); (c) for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law: from Finland (\$5,560) and Ireland (\$5,500); (d) for the International Law Fellowship Programme: from Ireland (\$5,500); and (e) for the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments*: from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$6,280).

38. With regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme, The Hague Academy of International Law provided a reduced tuition rate for the fellows. The Carnegie Foundation provided the training venue. The Peace Palace Library, managed by the Carnegie Foundation, provided the participants with library access and research support. The Registry of the International Court of Justice provided office space and equipment for staff of the Codification Division and significant administrative and operational support for the Programme.

39. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Africa, the African Union assisted in disseminating information about the course, provided support during the course, conducted a visit of its premises and gave a briefing by its Legal Counsel. ECA provided the training venue, office space for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and significant administrative and operational support. One additional fellowship was awarded through voluntary contributions.

40. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Government of Chile hosted a welcome reception at the premises of ECLAC, held a closing ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and organized a cultural visit. ECLAC provided the training venue and the room for the opening ceremony, office space for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and significant administrative and operational support.

41. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific, the Government of Thailand provided accommodation and weekday evening meals for fellows and ground transportation in Bangkok for participants and lecturers, hosted a welcome dinner and organized two cultural visits. ESCAP provided the training venue and a room for the opening ceremony, office space and equipment for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and significant administrative and operational support.

42. Publications were provided in hard copy free of charge for distribution to the participants in one or more of the training programmes by the following entities: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, ECLAC, the Department of Global Communications and the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs.

*Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea*

43. Since the previous report, contributions to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea were received from Ireland (\$5,500) and Monaco (\$39,823).

## **B. During the 2020 budget period**

44. Pursuant to the requests made by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/201, resources totalling \$1,131,500 have been proposed in the regular budget for 2020 under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, to implement the activities under the Programme of Assistance, namely the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations

Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and the further development, dissemination and maintenance of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law.

#### **1. International Law Fellowship Programme and United Nations Regional Courses in International Law**

45. The resources included in the proposed programme budget will provide for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, to be conducted in 2020 in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions. The resources will be used to fund fellowships (covering travel, accommodation, health insurance, study materials and a stipend for living expenses) for a minimum of 20 professionals from developing countries and countries with emerging economies to attend each of the training programmes, as well as to conduct and facilitate the training programmes.

46. The Codification Division will continue to make every effort to increase the number of fellowships provided by the regular budget for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses in order to meet, to the extent possible, the strong demand for international law training. The Division will also seek voluntary contributions to award additional full or partial fellowships and will, whenever possible, admit a limited number of participants on a self-funded basis.

#### **2. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law**

47. The resources included in the programme budget will provide for two full-time positions (one Legal Officer (P-3) and one Video Producer (General Service (Other level)) funded from general temporary assistance, which are essential to ensure the further development, dissemination and maintenance of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2020, including its Lecture Series, Historic Archives and Research Library. The programme budget will also be used to conduct off-site recordings of lectures at various locations to record lecturers who are not regularly in New York. In addition, the resources will be used to obtain necessary technical supplies and materials.

48. The Secretary-General will continue to request voluntary and in-kind contributions to the Programme of Assistance, in particular to provide for additional fellowships for the training programmes and to ensure the further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, including by promoting greater access in developing countries.

### **V. Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law**

#### **A. Membership**

49. The General Assembly, by its resolution [70/116](#), appointed the following 25 Member States as members of the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2019: Argentina, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czechia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

50. The current membership of the Advisory Committee expires on 31 December 2019. At its seventy-fourth session, the General Assembly will appoint 25 Member States, including six African States, five Asia-Pacific States, three Eastern European States, five Latin American and Caribbean States and six Western European and other States, to serve as members of the Advisory Committee for a period of four years, from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023.

## **B. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee at its fifty-fourth session**

51. The fifty-fourth session of the Advisory Committee, held on 8 October 2019, was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee. Ms. Jessica M. Elbaz, the Principal Legal Officer in the Codification Division, served as Secretary.

52. The following members attended the meeting: Argentina, Canada, Chile, Czechia, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America. The Netherlands and Thailand attended as observers in their respective capacities as host countries for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific.

53. The Secretary of the Advisory Committee made a statement in which she provided an update to the information contained in the draft report and drew attention to the continuing efforts to strengthen the activities under the Programme of Assistance. She emphasized that, for the fourth reporting period in a row, the Codification Division had been able to organize the Regional Courses in International Law in all three regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean), as a result of the funding provided to the Programme under the regular budget for the biennium 2018–2019. She noted that the *International Law Handbook/Recueil de droit international* was used as the main resource for the training programmes. Moreover, she highlighted that the Division took steps to support the establishment of an alumni network of participants of the training programmes. She also noted that the Division continued to increase linguistic and geographical diversity and to take into account gender parity in adding lectures to the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. In addition, following the launch of lectures in audio format as podcasts in 2018, the website had been accessed by a significant number of new users. The Secretary also mentioned the development of mini-series of lectures on core topics of international law. The need to revamp the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law was also raised.

54. The Advisory Committee commended the Codification Division for its efforts in implementing and further strengthening the activities under the Programme of Assistance. The Committee expressed its satisfaction that funding provided by the regular budget had enabled all the mandated activities envisaged for 2019 to be carried out. The Committee welcomed the focus on gender parity, as well as on geographical and linguistic diversity, in carrying out all four in-person training programmes and in expanding the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. The Committee further expressed its appreciation for the support of the Division in the establishment of an alumni network of participants. The Committee welcomed efforts towards disseminating information and materials in international law and considered exploring further opportunities for dissemination. The Committee supported continued efforts to enhance the accessibility of the Audiovisual Library of International Law, including by improving its website.

## Annex

## Websites maintained by the Codification Division

<i>Website</i>	<i>Uniform resource locator</i>
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	<a href="http://legal.un.org/poa/">http://legal.un.org/poa/</a>
International Law Fellowship Programme	<a href="http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/">http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/</a>
United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean	<a href="http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/">http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/</a>
United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States	<a href="http://legal.un.org/poa/seminar.html">http://legal.un.org/poa/seminar.html</a>
United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law	<a href="http://legal.un.org/avl/">http://legal.un.org/avl/</a>
United Nations legal publications portal	<a href="http://legal.un.org/cod/publications.shtml">http://legal.un.org/cod/publications.shtml</a>
Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs	<a href="http://legal.un.org/repertory">http://legal.un.org/repertory</a>
United Nations Juridical Yearbook	<a href="http://legal.un.org/unjuridicalyearbook">http://legal.un.org/unjuridicalyearbook</a>
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice	<a href="http://legal.un.org/icjsummaries">http://legal.un.org/icjsummaries</a>
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the Permanent Court of International Justice	<a href="http://legal.un.org/PCIJsummaries">http://legal.un.org/PCIJsummaries</a>
Reports of International Arbitral Awards	<a href="http://legal.un.org/riaa">http://legal.un.org/riaa</a>
United Nations Legislative Series	<a href="http://legal.un.org/legislativeseries">http://legal.un.org/legislativeseries</a>
Codification and Progressive Development of International Law	<a href="http://legal.un.org/cod">http://legal.un.org/cod</a>
Sixth Committee of the General Assembly	<a href="http://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/">www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/</a>
International Law Commission	<a href="http://legal.un.org/ilc">http://legal.un.org/ilc</a>
Diplomatic conferences (official records of proceedings)	<a href="http://legal.un.org/diplomaticconferences">http://legal.un.org/diplomaticconferences</a>
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	<a href="http://legal.un.org/icc/">http://legal.un.org/icc/</a>
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/charter">http://legal.un.org/committees/charter</a>
Ad Hoc Committee on Criminal Accountability of United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/criminal_accountability">http://legal.un.org/committees/criminal_accountability</a>
Ad Hoc Committee on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/admin_of_justice">http://legal.un.org/committees/admin_of_justice</a>
Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism">http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism</a>

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<i>Website</i>	<i>Uniform resource locator</i>
Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and their Property	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/immunities">http://legal.un.org/committees/immunities</a>
Ad Hoc Committee on an International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/cloning">http://legal.un.org/committees/cloning</a>
Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel	<a href="http://legal.un.org/committees/safety_convention">http://legal.un.org/committees/safety_convention</a>

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