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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 [75/134](#). 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 2022 and the related administrative and financial implications.



I. Introduction

1. By its resolution [75/134](#), 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/75/389](#)), submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session. In paragraph 28 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report at its seventy-sixth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2021 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 2022 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 United Nations Regional Courses in International Law and the International Law Fellowship Programme, 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 secretariat services to the Advisory Committee and the Sixth Committee on the related agenda item.

4. The present section contains an overview of the implementation of the activities under the Programme of Assistance as they relate to the training programmes (in chronological order), the Audiovisual Library, international law training materials, desktop publishing, dissemination and the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea. The outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continued to have a significant impact on the implementation of activities of the Programme during the period under review, as set forth in more detail below.

A. Training programmes

1. United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

5. The three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean provide an important vehicle 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.¹ The Regional 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

¹ Since 2011, the Codification Division has conducted the Regional Courses 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.

of common interest to their region, with a view to promoting greater understanding and cooperation on such issues.

(a) Asia and the Pacific

6. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was scheduled to be held at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok from 16 November to 11 December 2020 and was to be conducted in English.

7. Applications were received from 92 candidates (44 men and 48 women) from 27 countries.

8. Owing to the circumstances under COVID-19, the Regional Course could not be held as planned. While cognizant that the in-depth exchanges and long-lasting bonds created with in-person training could not be replaced, the Codification Division, in order to address the exceptional circumstances resulting from COVID-19, designed and provided applicants with a remote self-paced learning curriculum in English as an interim means of capacity-building until the Regional Course could next be held. The curriculum included the core topics of international law typically covered in the Regional Course and drew on available resources such as the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments* and the Audiovisual Library.

(b) Africa

9. The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was scheduled to be held at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa from 10 February to 9 March 2021 and was to be conducted in French.

10. Applications were received from 189 candidates (128 men and 61 women) from 27 countries.

11. Owing to the circumstances under COVID-19, the Regional Course could not be held as planned. While cognizant that the in-depth exchanges and long-lasting bonds created with in-person training could not be replaced, the Codification Division, in order to address the exceptional circumstances resulting from COVID-19, distributed the remote self-paced learning curriculum it had developed in French as an interim means of capacity-building until the Regional Course could next be held. The curriculum included the core topics of international law typically covered in the Regional Course and drew on available resources such as the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments* and the Audiovisual Library.

12. In addition, all of the applicants were offered the opportunity to attend a pilot online Regional Workshop on International Human Rights Law. A total of 104 applicants (69 men and 35 women) expressed interest. Eighty applicants (58 men and 22 women) from 20 countries ultimately participated in the Workshop. They were from: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and Togo.

13. The Regional Workshop was held from 9 to 11 March 2021 and was conducted in French. The Codification Division facilitated interactive sessions led by Ms. Hélène Tigroudja, Professor of International Law at Aix-Marseille University and member of the Human Rights Committee.

(c) Latin America and the Caribbean

14. The Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean was scheduled to be held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the

Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago from 12 April to 7 May 2021 and was to be conducted in English.

15. Applications were received from 32 candidates (8 male and 24 female) from 17 countries.

16. Owing to the circumstances under COVID-19, the Regional Course could not be held. In addition to distributing to all applicants the remote self-paced learning curriculum developed by the Codification Division as an interim means of capacity-building, 20 applicants (4 men and 16 women) were offered the opportunity to attend an online Regional Workshop on the Law of State Responsibility. The 22 participants (8 men and 14 women) who had been selected for the 2020 Regional Course, which did not take place due to COVID-19, were also invited to attend. Ultimately, 26 participants (7 men and 19 women) from 14 countries attended the Regional Workshop, which was held from 4 to 7 May 2021 and conducted in English. The participants were from: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

17. The Codification Division facilitated the interactive sessions and a case study led by Mr. Jorge E. Viñuales, Harold Samuel Professor of Law and Environmental Policy at the University of Cambridge and Chair of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, as well as interactive sessions led by ECLAC officials on “The law and institutions of the Latin America and Caribbean region”.

2. International Law Fellowship Programme

18. 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.² 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.

19. A total of 150 applications (104 male and 46 female) were received from candidates from 44 countries (124 applications were received from Africa, 5 from Asia-Pacific, 5 from Eastern Europe and 16 from Latin America and the Caribbean).

20. The Fellowship Programme was scheduled to be held in The Hague from 28 June to 6 August 2021 and was to be conducted in French. Regrettably, owing to the circumstances under COVID-19, it could not be held as planned.³ In order to address the exceptional circumstances resulting from COVID-19, applicants were provided with the remote self-paced learning curriculum developed by the Codification Division as an interim means of capacity-building.

21. In addition, 48 applicants (31 men and 17 women) were offered the opportunity to attend an online Workshop on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes. A total of 31 participants (21 men and 10 women) attended the Workshop. The participants were from: Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad,

² 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).

³ The Hague Academy of International Law also announced that, in the light of the spread of COVID-19, its 2021 summer courses on public and private international law would be held online only.

Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Haiti, Liberia, Mauritania, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine and Yemen.

22. The Workshop was held from 28 June to 2 July 2021 and was conducted in French. The Codification Division facilitated the following online interactive sessions: the inaugural session on the peaceful settlement of international disputes delivered by Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, member of the International Court of Justice and former President of the Court; peaceful settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea led by Ms. Alina Miron, professor of international law and co-director of the Master of International and European Law programme at the University of Angers; and peaceful settlement of disputes relating to trade law and investment law delivered by Mr. Makane Moïse Mbengue, professor of international law and director of the Department of International Law and International Organization at the University of Geneva. The Codification Division also conducted a case study with participants.

23. Participants also attended the public international law session of the online Summer Course of The Hague Academy of International Law, held from 5 to 23 July 2021.⁴ The programme of the Summer Course included the following lectures: “The growth, challenges and future prospects for investment dispute settlement” (inaugural lecture) (Ms. Meg Kinnear, Secretary-General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes); “International law as a body of private law and public law” (general course) (Mr. Robert Kolb, University of Geneva); “The changing dimensions of international investment law within the framework of public international law” (Mr. Manjiao Chi, University of International Business and Economics, Beijing); “The international law of cybersecurity” (Mr. Théodore Christakis, Grenoble Alpes University); “The evolution of the law of international watercourses” (Mr. Stephen McCaffrey, University of the Pacific); “The principle *iura novit curia* in international judicial and arbitral proceedings” (Mr. Attila Tanzi, University of Bologna); “The extraterritorial use of force against non-State actors” (Mr. Dire Tladi, University of Pretoria, member of the International Law Commission); and “Aggravated responsibility in contemporary international law” (Mr. Jorge Viñuales, University of Cambridge).

3. Alumni network of participants of the training programmes organized under the Programme of Assistance

24. 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. The Codification Division supported the establishment of such a network and in light of the circumstances under COVID-19, seized the opportunity to provide alumni with online continuing education activities. The Division organized and held the following online interactive sessions for alumni on lectures on the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law: “Domestic courts in international law” with Mr. Antonios Tzanakopoulos, Associate Professor of Public International Law at the University of Oxford and Secretary-General of the International Law Association; “Universal and regional systems of protection of human rights: harmonization, complementarity or fragmentation” and “Rights of women and elimination of discrimination” (in French) with Ms. Hélène Tigroudja, Professor of International Law at Aix-Marseille University and member of the Human Rights Committee; “The prohibition of the use of force in international relations” with Mr. Dapo Akande, Professor of Public International Law at the University of Oxford and Co-Director of the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict; and “The international law of climate change

⁴ One of the participants did not wish to be enrolled in the Summer Course of The Hague Academy.

after the Paris Agreement” with Mr. Jorge E. Viñuales, Harold Samuel Professor of Law and Environmental Policy at the University of Cambridge and Chair of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. The Division also established and made available to the alumni network a shared online repository of international law materials and publications.

B. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law

25. 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.

26. 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, which includes the Mini-Series; the Historic Archives; and the Research Library.

27. The Lecture Series contains more than 600 lectures, accompanied by lists of related materials linking to reference documents available online, on a broad range of topics of international law. The lectures and related legal materials are intended to provide a comprehensive educational resource for academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. The Mini-Series consists of a series of lectures delivered by leading international law scholars that is aimed at providing a general overview of core topics of international law, primarily intended for users with basic or little knowledge of international law. All lectures in the Lecture Series are available both on the website and on the podcast of the Audiovisual Library.

28. During the period under review, nine lectures were recorded for the Lecture Series, including a lecture in English, French and Spanish in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division did not conduct off-site recording sessions during the reporting period.

29. The Historic Archives contain introductory notes written by leading authorities, as well as procedural histories, related documents and archival audiovisual materials prepared by the Division on more than 100 legal instruments.⁵ During the period under review, the Division added 13 introductory notes, as well as four procedural histories and their related documents, to the Historic Archives.

30. The Research Library provides an extensive online library consisting of treaties, jurisprudence, publications, documents, scholarly writings and training materials, including the *International Law Handbook*, a four-volume publication of the Division in English and French used as the main resource in the four in-person training programmes. Furthermore, during the period under review, the 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 Library lectures and materials were

⁵ Legal materials for the Historic Archives and the Lecture Series are provided in all official languages of the Organization.

added for the 2020 edition of the African Human Rights Moot Court Competition, and for the 2021 editions of the African Human Rights Moot Court Competition, the Concours Charles-Rousseau, the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition, the Jean-Pictet Competition, the Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

31. Since its creation in 2008, the Audiovisual Library has been accessed by nearly 2.5 million users in 193 Member States and non-member States.⁶ Information concerning new content included in the Library continues to be disseminated through the *Journal of the United Nations*, iSeek, social media and specialized international law blogs.⁷ In addition, the Division has made significant efforts to facilitate access to the lectures for users with limited high-speed Internet on computers and mobile devices through the Library podcast.

C. International law training materials

32. The Codification Division researches, collects and prepares legal materials in hard copy, in consultation with the lecturers, for its international law training programmes. 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.⁸ The training materials are also made available for academic use on the websites of the respective training programmes and on the website of the Audiovisual Library, free of charge.

33. The Division continues to use the *International Law Handbook*, in both its English and French versions, in paper and digital format, as the main resource for its training programmes, including the online workshops conducted in the context of COVID-19. The *Handbook* is also disseminated 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, and may be reproduced for academic purposes to further the teaching and dissemination of international law.⁹

D. Desktop publishing

34. Since 2003, the Codification Division has been 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 and published the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* (vol. XXXIII).¹⁰ Work also advanced on the preparation for publication of the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (2016 and 2017) and the *Reports of International*

⁶ While the podcast was created primarily for the benefit of users in developing countries, it continues to be accessed primarily by users in developed countries.

⁷ Aquiescencia; EJIL: Talk!; International Law Reporter; MULTIPOL – Réseau d'analyse et d'information sur l'actualité internationale; and Opinio Juris.

⁸ The Codification Division purchases legal publications and other essential United Nations publications, including the Charter of the United Nations, for use in its training programmes.

⁹ Available at <http://legal.un.org/avl/handbook.html>.

¹⁰ See General Assembly resolutions 64/113, 65/25, 66/97, 67/91, 68/110, 69/117, 70/116 and 71/139, 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 that successful initiative.

Arbitral Awards (vol. XXXIV). The Division will continue to explore ways of sustaining its desktop publishing efforts in 2022 and beyond, subject to the availability of resources.

E. Dissemination

35. 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).

F. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

36. Ms. Linda Bana of Ghana was awarded the 2020 Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea. However, owing to COVID-19 and, in particular, the restrictions on international travel and the closure of the United Nations premises in New York, the scheduled March 2020 commencement of the fellowship has now been postponed to 2022. Ms. Bana expressed a preference to defer the fellowship to 2022, rather than undertake the fellowship virtually in 2021. In the interim, Ms. Bana has been provided with an opportunity to access a virtual training series offered by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.¹¹ The cost of each individual fellowship varies from year to year, from approximately \$35,000 to \$60,000, excluding the 13 per cent programme support costs and 15 per cent operational reserve (for the fund balance, see para. 38). The differences are due to 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.¹²

III. Guidelines and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2022

37. In 2022, 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/75/389](#), sect. V) and approved by the General Assembly.

38. 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 \$111,500.

¹¹ See www.un.org/Depts/los/nippon/OnlineAlumniActivities.pdf.

¹² 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 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”.

IV. Administrative and financial implications of the Programme of Assistance

A. During the reporting period

39. In its resolution [75/134](#), the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2021, 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 Audiovisual Library, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget, as well as, when necessary, voluntary contributions.

40. Regarding the funding provided for the Programme of Assistance, a total of \$1,097,400 was requested for the regular budget for 2021 under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, for the Fellowship Programme, the Regional Courses and the Audiovisual Library.

41. In its resolution [75/134](#), 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, a note verbale was sent in February and July 2021 to Member States to draw their attention to resolution [75/134](#), and requesting voluntary contributions.

42. Since the previous report, voluntary contributions have been made for the activities under the Programme of Assistance as follows: (a) for the Programme in general: from China (\$27,000), France (€100,000), Iraq (\$3,000), Panama (\$2,200), the Philippines (\$7,500), Portugal (\$12,225), Qatar (\$3,000) and Saudi Arabia (\$5,000); (b) for the Audiovisual Library: from Czechia (\$2,241), Finland (\$8,638), Ireland (\$7,500), Slovakia (\$12,178) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$6,868); (c) for the Regional Courses: from Finland (\$8,638) and Ireland (\$7,500); and (d) for the Fellowship Programme: from Ireland (\$7,500).

43. Owing to the circumstances under COVID-19, contributions related to in-person training programmes, such as venue, administrative and operational support, accommodations and cultural visits typically made by host countries, regional commissions and partners were not required.¹³ Nevertheless, with regard to the Regional Courses in International Law, the respective host countries, regional commissions and partners provided generous support in the early preparations for

¹³ In previous editions of the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific, the Government of Thailand provided accommodation and weekday breakfast and dinner for fellows and ground transportation in Bangkok for participants and lecturers, hosted a welcome dinner and organized cultural visits; and 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. In previous editions of 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, including a briefing delivered by its Legal Counsel; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand provided hard copy publications free of charge for distribution to the participants; and ECA provided the training venue, office space for staff of the Division, dining facilities, equipment and significant administrative and operational support. In previous editions of the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Government of Chile provided a welcome reception at the premises of ECLAC, a closing ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a cultural visit; and 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.

each training programme. Regarding the Workshop on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, The Hague Academy of International Law generously provided a reduced tuition rate for its Summer Course which included access to the online sessions as well as the collection of The Peace Palace Library.¹⁴

Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

44. Since the previous report, a contribution to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea has been received from Ireland (\$7,500).

B. During the 2022 budget period

45. Pursuant to the requests made by the General Assembly in its resolution 75/134, resources totalling \$1,026,400 have been proposed in the regular budget for 2022 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 Regional Courses in International Law and the further development, dissemination and maintenance of the Audiovisual Library.

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

46. 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 2022 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.

47. The Codification Division will continue to make every effort to increase the number of fellowships provided under the regular budget for the 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

48. The resources included in the programme budget will provide for two full-time positions, namely one Legal Officer (P-3) and one Video Producer (General Service (Other level)), funded from general temporary assistance. The positions are essential to ensure the further development, dissemination and maintenance of the Audiovisual Library in 2022, including its Lecture Series and Mini-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

¹⁴ For previous editions of the International Law Fellowship Programme, The Hague Academy of International Law provided a reduced tuition rate to its Summer Course. 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.

New York. In addition, the resources will be used to obtain necessary technical supplies and materials.

49. 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 the further development of the Audiovisual Library, including to promote 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

50. The General Assembly, by its resolution [74/185](#), decided to appoint the following 25 Member States as members of the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023: Argentina, Canada, Chile, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

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

51. The fifty-sixth session of the Advisory Committee, held on 6 October 2021, was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, Harold Adlai Agyeman. A Principal Legal Officer in the Codification Division served as Secretary.

52. The session was attended by the following members of the Advisory Committee: Argentina, Canada, Chile, France, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Singapore, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States. Thailand attended as observer in its capacity as host country for the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific. The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the United Nations Legal Counsel, also participated in the session and delivered remarks.

53. The Secretary made a statement updating information contained in the draft report and drew attention to the impact of COVID-19 on planned activities as well as efforts to adapt to the situation. She expressed regret that the scheduled training programmes could not be held in person in the light of the risks associated with the pandemic and informed the meeting about the remote self-paced curricula developed by the Codification Division, as well as the interactive online workshops conducted during the reporting period as interim capacity-building measures. The Secretary noted initiatives launched to support the continuing education of alumni. She also noted the challenges with access to reliable Internet connectivity, which hindered the effective participation in the virtual programmes by both the lecturers and participants. The Secretary noted that, while the pandemic afforded fewer opportunities to record lectures to augment the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, work had been advanced on the Historic Archives and on the project of revamping its website.

54. The Advisory Committee commended the Codification Division for its dynamism and adaptability to address the challenges posed by COVID-19. The

Committee appreciated the innovative efforts of the Secretariat to sustain the momentum of the programme through the introduction of the online training programmes as well as the dissemination of desktop resources to applicants and alumni of the training programmes. The Committee further underscored the importance of in-person interactions to the objective of the Programme of Assistance to enhance the knowledge of international law through cooperation and building friendly relations among States and recommended that the traditional in-person format of the training programmes be resumed as soon as the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic improved and it was safe to bring people together again. With respect to the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, the Committee welcomed the work carried out in developing its content and encouraged close collaboration with the membership of the Committee to explore additional opportunities for its further dissemination. The importance of ensuring a diversity of legal traditions, gender balance and academic and professional expertise in the faculty of the Programme of Assistance was noted. The need for greater linguistic diversity of content in the Audiovisual Library was acknowledged, while it was noted that, in the immediate term, resources need to be directed to the six official languages of the United Nations. The Committee highlighted the importance of the publications prepared by the Codification Division and stressed the need for the continuous dissemination of the publications in both digital and printed format.

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	https://legal.un.org/poa/
International Law Fellowship Programme	https://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/
United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean	https://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/
United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States	https://legal.un.org/poa/seminar.html
United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law	https://legal.un.org/avl/
United Nations legal publications portal	https://legal.un.org/cod/publications.shtml
Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs	https://legal.un.org/repertory
United Nations Juridical Yearbook	https://legal.un.org/unjuridicalyearbook
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice	https://legal.un.org/icjsummaries
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the Permanent Court of International Justice	https://legal.un.org/PCIJsummaries
Reports of International Arbitral Awards	https://legal.un.org/riaa
United Nations Legislative Series	https://legal.un.org/legislativeseries
Codification and Progressive Development of International Law	https://legal.un.org/cod
Sixth Committee of the General Assembly	https://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/
International Law Commission	https://legal.un.org/ilc
Diplomatic conferences (official records of proceedings)	https://legal.un.org/diplomaticconferences
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	https://legal.un.org/committees/charter
Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission	https://legal.un.org/committees/criminal_accountability
Ad Hoc Committee on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations	https://legal.un.org/committees/admin_of_justice
Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996	https://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism

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