



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE MR. NUR JAZLAN BIN MOHAMAD,
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
ON AGENDA ITEM 80: UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN
THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF
INTERNATIONAL LAW AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 66TH SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
NEW YORK, 14 OCTOBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement delivered by Vietnam on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). My delegation also wishes to express its appreciation to the Secretary General for his report on the “United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law” as contained in document A/66/505. At this juncture, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to thank the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for its tireless efforts in faithfully implementing the various activities outlined in the Programme of Assistance in 2011.

Mr. Chairman,

2. After an absence of five years, regional courses resumed with the Republic of Korea hosting a regional course for Asia last year. In this regard, we are heartened to note that Thailand has agreed to host the next regional course in international law for lawyers from developing countries. More impressive is that after a hiatus of 10 years, a regional course in international law was held in Addis Ababa in February this year. Malaysia welcomes this positive development as well as the continuation of regional courses for Africa with the convening of a regional course in 2012. We commend the generous contribution made by the African Union (AU) to sponsor the regional courses in Africa. Not only are regional courses important for the participants to enhance their understanding of a broad range of subjects of international law, they are also important to encourage greater interaction; the sharing of experiences; and, the

exchanging of ideas in various legal matters in the respective regional contexts.

3. On the International Law Fellowship Programme, Malaysia welcomes the successful convening of it, which saw 19 fellowships awarded for this year. We note with appreciation and admiration of the various cost saving measures that were undertaken to ensure that a maximum number of fellowships are awarded to get the most out of this Programme.

Mr. Chairman,

4. While we are inspired by the efforts of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, we are equally concerned of the impending budget predicament facing the Programme of Assistance as a whole despite voluntary contributions made and assistance rendered by Member States, organisations, universities and institutions. Set against the backdrop of an uncertain global economic outlook, member states that are in a position to do so, are encouraged to make voluntary contributions towards the unhindered continuation of the activities of the Programme. In supporting the promotion of international law, Malaysia for its part, contributed USD 50,000 in 2010 to the UNITAR Fellowship Fund, which among others, were used to fund participation from the developing world in courses conducted by UNITAR, including courses in international law. Malaysia also continues to collaborate with UNITAR by hosting various courses at its Permanent Mission in New York.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Malaysia wishes to reiterate its support for increased funding for the Programme of Assistance to ensure that the activities under it continue for the benefit of all. At the same time, Malaysia also supports exploring the possibility of using the revenue generated by the sales of legal publications prepared by the Codification Division to offset insufficient resources obtained from the regular budget. It is hoped that these efforts, as well as others, will result in the Codification Division being able to carry out the activities of the Programme of Assistance more effectively, which in turn would allow nations, especially those from the developing world, to gain a greater understanding and to better appreciate all the principles and obligations of international law.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.