



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY MARCELO ZAMBRANA MINISTER COUNSELLOR OF PERMANENT MISSION OF BOLIVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON ITEM 77 OF THE AGENDA RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION AND WIDER APPRECIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW" (New York, 17 OCTOBER, 2014)**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 77 on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. It is a pleasure to see you chairing this Committee, Mr. Chairman, at the outset we would like to congratulate you and the members of your bureau on your election.

The Group of 77 and China would like also to thank the Secretary-General for his report, which provides a detailed account of activities undertaken to implement the Programme of Assistance, and highlighted the progress made thus far and the es. M

numerous challenges, we cannot stress enough that immense benefits are derived by state officials, of both developing and developed countries who work in international law, especially members of the Group of 77 and China, from the regional courses in international law, the international fellowships, the audiovisual library and publications. At a time where the strengthening of the rule of law is so present in our agendas, the Programme of Assistance continues to be a critical tool for training of international lawyers, particularly government officials, in international law.

The Group of 77 and China commends the Codification Division, whose tireless efforts continue to sustain the Programme despite the difficulties with funding. We also recognize the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for its efforts regarding the Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea.

Mr. Chairman,

It is on this premise that the G77 and China in the last years became deeply concerned over the lack of regular budgetary funding for the programme. The Group notes with concern that this year, the Regional course in International Law for Asia-Pacific, which was to be held in Thailand, had to be cancelled because there was no funding for the course. The regional course for Latin America and the Caribbean, to take place in Uruguay in 2014, has not taken place yet, even though that country is ready to finance 25% of the cost, and there are no resourceu-0ulKascno h place in



