

Statement to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly
on the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship
20 October 2022

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea provides you with an update on the implementation of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe (HSA) Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea.

As one of the core mandates of the Secretary-General under relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, capacity-building activities are of vital importance. On numerous occasions, most recently in its resolution 76/72 of 9 December 2021, the Assembly recognized, and expressed its appreciation for, the important contribution made by the HSA Memorial Fellowship to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea.

Indeed, this Fellowship which was established in 1981, aims to assist government officials and other professionals from developing t, and to develop specialized exp in maritime affairs and related disciplines.

As of October 2022, 33 fellows from 30 developing countries undertaken the HSA Memorial Fellowship, of these, 15 are women and men. These professionals are now making important contributions respective countries and regions. We have seen many of them return York, taking active roles on behalf of their States or other national and organisations in important fora and processes related to ocean affairs law of the sea.

In 2020, Ms. Linda Bana of Ghana was awarded Hamilton Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea. However,

COVID-19 restrictions including inability to hold most in-person activities, Ms. Bana expressed a preference to defer the fellowship, rather than undertake the fellowship virtually. Thus, the Fellowship was postponed to 2023. In the