Check against Delivery
Statement of Virginia Morris 24 October 2012

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

The Sixth Committee's consideration of the Programme of Assistance has always been of great importance to government lawyers, teachers and students around the world, particularly those in developing countries, who depend on this programme for their international law training and research materials.

The Sixth Committee's consideration of this item this year is of particular importance because it will have a significant impact on the future of this programme.

As you know, the Codification Division began a comprehensive review of the activities under the Program in 2005 which marked the 40th anniversary
of its creation in 1965.

The goal is to strengthen these activities to better respond to the increasing demand for international law training and research materials in developing countries as well as developed countries by the time the Programme celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2015.

I would like to express appreciation for the support and guidance that we have received from the Advisory Committee and the Sixth Committee over the past eight years which has made it possible for us to make significant progress in strengthening this program.

Next year we will propose the programme of activities for the Programme of Assistance for the next biennium and for the future taking into account the support of Member States, including financial support, for these activities.

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There has always been a high degree of satisfaction with the content of our legal publications.

As you now, the Codification Division has created and maintains over 20 websites relating to various legal committees and legal publications.

This year we created two new websites for the PCIJ publication and the Legislative Series.

These websites are created and updated as needed.

We have successfully completed our efforts to expand the dissemination of legal materials via the internet without any

There have been three main problems in the past: host country agreements, inefficiencies resulting from holding the courses in different countries and insufficient funding.

We are attempting to revitalize these courses by finding places in each of these regions where these courses can be held on a regular basis.

This would avoid the delays inherent in the negotiation of a new host country agreement and the inefficiencies inherent in "reinventing the wheel" with each new regional course.

This would not preclude the possibility of holding a regional course in another country in the region from time to time.

Our efforts to strengthen the regional course for Africa have been completed. ·

We have held two successful regional courses in Ethiopia in 2011 (in English) and in 2012 in French.

Only 5 Member States made voluntary contributions to support this regional course in 2012, namely, Congo, Finland, Ghana, Israel and New Zealand. The AU also made a contribution of 30,000.

Information concerning voluntary contributions is provided in the e-room and on paper smart.

We have just extended the host country agreement with Ethiopia to provide for the next regional course in April 2013 ifwe receive the necessary funding. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Ethiopia for its support for this regional course.

It is my pleasure to inform you that the African Union has included 50,000 for this regional course in its regular budget for 2013.

We still need to raise 150,000 plus programme support costs to cover the remaining costs of this regional course.

I appeal to all Member States to provide the necessary voluntary contributions for this regional course.

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We have already begun the dissemination process for the regional course.

I would kindly request the Member States from the African Group to send the information and application form which are available in the e-room and on paper smart to the relevant government offices and universities in your countries and also to your embassies in Addis Ababa.

The deadline for applications is November 30th•

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The extent of support by Member States for

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With respect to the Historic Archives, we are not only running out of money we are running out of time. In many instances, it is already too late to preserve these audiovisual materials due to the passage of time.

We plan to discontinue our work on the Historic Archives at the end of the year.

We also plan to discontinue our work on the Research Library of the A VL at the end of the year.

We plan to continue the Lecture Series of the A VL if we receive the necessary voluntary contributions.

This year 6 Member States have provided voluntary contributions for the A VL, namely Finland, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Mexico and Switzerland have also indicated that