



IRELAND

Statement by

Mr. Trevor Donohoe, ~~Minister~~
Assistant Legal Adviser
Department of Foreign Affairs

at the

Sixth Committee
United Nations General Assembly
68th Session

New York, 18 October 2013

Agenda Item 80:

The United Nations Programme of Action

Check against delivery

Mr Chair,

As the Secretary-General of the International Law Commission, I am pleased to see that your country has committed resources to implement this Commission's

Ireland aligns itself with the statement of the European Union which was adopted earlier today.

We are grateful to the Secretary-General for the information he has provided in his report in document A/58/531 and to the Office of Legal Affairs and the Office of the High Commissioner, in particular, for its work in implementing the Programme of Assistance in the areas of teaching, study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

We congratulate the Codification Division for its extensive International Law Fellowship Programme, the holding of Regional Courses in Addis Ababa and Bangkok and for its consideration of the suggestion of the High Commissioner's Division to provide suitable permanent venues for such courses without prejudicing the possibility of holding courses at another location as a means of enhancing efficiency, greater enjoyment and costs savings. In this regard, we are also very pleased to see that the Government of Ireland has concluded a host state agreement with the ILC for the organization of a Regional Course for Latin America and the Caribbean.

My delegation commends the International Law Commission for its work and wishes to express a new and more open and friendly attitude, so that we may improve our relations with you where most appropriate. The impressive growth in membership is a testament to the quality and innovative means of imparting legal information.

The Programme of Assistance has been a cornerstone of the ILC's efforts to promote international law since 1965, consistently in an inclusive manner. Last year, Ireland was pleased to see the work of the Programme recognised by the General Assembly on 24 September, as we believe that a proper understanding of international law has a crucial role to play in furthering the rule of law at the national and international levels.

It is for this reason that Ireland has consistently made a moderate contribution to the Programme over the past several years, providing some financial contribution to the ability to carry out its functions in an efficient manner. We would like to see other States to consider making regular contributions.

Thank you Mr Chair.