IRELAND

Statement by

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at the

Sixth Committee

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Agenda Item 77:

The United Nations Programme of Assistance in Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

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Mr Chair,

As this is the first time that Ireland takes the floor in the Sixth Committee, allow me to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your election and assure you of our full cooperation.

Ireland aligns itself with the statement of the European Union delivered earlier today.

We are grateful to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on this item contained in document A/69/516 and to the Office of Legal Affairs, and the Codification Division in particular, for its work in implementing the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. Whilst we are pleased that the Regional Course on International Law for Africa was able to proceed, it is regrettable that the Courses for Asia and for Latin America and the Caribbean were cancelled due to insufficient funding. In the case of the Course for Asia, this was the second consecutive year in which the course has been cancelled. It is also regretted that the Codification Division has discontinued its desktop publishing due to lack of resources.

The Programme of Assistance has been a cornerstone of the UN' s efforts to promote international law since 1965, consistently offering resources and training in an open and inclusive manner. The recognition of the work of the Programme within the 2012 High Level Declaration on the Rule of Law reflects the fact 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. Just as the