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(check against delivery)
Mr. Chairman,

Brazil aligns itself with the statements delivered both by Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China and by the Domincan Republic on behalf of CELAC. I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General for his report and deliver some remarks from a national perspective.

The preamble of the Charter of the United Nations states that one of the priorities of this Organization is to "establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained". This points to a notion whose relevance can not be overstated: that peace can be achieved through law. The aspiration to implement this ideal is what led the General Asssembly to establish the Programme of Assistance. Over more than five decades, its fellowships, regional courses, publications and audiovisual library have been contributing to educate successive generations in International Law, especially in developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

The inclusion of the funding for all three Regional Courses in the regular budget of Organization for the current biennium was no minor achievement. Given the importance of these Regional Courses for the training of lawyers from developing contries,

Mr. Chairman,

The Audiovisual Library is another crucial instrument of the Programme of Assistance, since it allows the United Nations to provide, at a relatively low cost, high quality training to an unlimited number of individuals around the world. Considering that the AVL continues to be accessed primarily by users in developed countries, Brazil welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat to consider options to enhance its access in regions where there is limited access to high-speed internet through making the materials available in DVDs and USB flash drives. Advancing the multilinguism of the AVL is equally important in this regard.

Brazil notes that no legal publication has been issued since 2014, due to the lack of proper resources. We regret this situation, especially considering that hard copies are still of value to those who do not have affordable access to internet. The UN should count with adequate resources to resume desktop publishing, avoiding the increasing backlog in the issuance of these publications.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman,

The debate on the rule of law has been gaining prominence in the UN. If we are to be coherent, we have to ensure adequate resources for all activities of the Programme of Assistance. The inclusion of the Regional Courses in the regular budget for the current biennum was a major step in the right direction. We should continue following this path. At a time when we all emphasizes the importance of prevention, let us not forget that education in International Law is a cornerstone of lasting peace.

Thank you.