

CANZ notes with concern recurring issues raised in these reports, including an ongoing backlog of cases, continued high rates of self-representation, concerns with efficiency, and underlying systemic issues, including those related to gender and race.

We are pleased, however, to note some positive developments.

CANZ commends the work that has taken place ensuring greater access to

While there remains a significant backlog of cases in the formal administration of justice system, CANZ notes with appreciation the efforts made to reduce this backlog.

CANZ takes note of

Of course, as with all international legal institutions, ongoing and significant efforts to ensure gender equity and representation within the UN internal justice administration will be crucial to strengthen the quality of justice delivered.

The Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services has identified effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as a key concern, creating issues both within the workplace and outside of it. CANZ welcomes the

importance of good management during times of crisis to avoid workplace conflicts and additional strain on staff.

In these unprecedented times, CANZ is also pleased to see that attention has been drawn to the needs of non-staff personnel, who work side-by-side with and experience the same workplace concerns as regular staff personnel.

CANZ welcomes the efforts made by the Office to improve the working environment at the UN so that all staff members can thrive in an atmosphere of dignity and mutual respect.

including the events rolled out across 2020 and continuing into 2021.

Improving workplace environments, including virtual environments, leads to better morale and productivity of staff members, in addition to preventing some workplace conflicts. It is up to all Member States and the UN to work together to ensure the development of a transparent, fair, impartial and efficient system of administration of justice.

CANZ countries will continue to engage constructively with Member States on this important issue.

Thank you.