**STATEMENT** ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 78: UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE IN THE TEACHING, STUDY, DISSEMINATION **APPRECIATION** AND WIDER OF **INTERNATIONAL** SIXTH LAW, COMMITTEE,

of the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN): Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

2. ASEAN would like to extend its sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report contained in document A/79/496, which covers the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation

3. We note that the three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean were held in-person, as was the International Law Fellowship Programme. ASEAN greatly appreciates in-person courses, which affords the opportunity for in-depth discussions and interactions between participants and their instructors and looks forward to the convening of the UN Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific in Thailand in November to December. We have previously emphasised that while the provision of remote learning tools was an appropriate short-term means of capacity-building during the pandemic, remote learning should not become a de-facto substitute for in-

- 10. ASEAN strongly supports the funding of activities of the Programme from the regular budget of the United Nations. We encourage voluntary contributions to further expand and enhance the activities. Taking this opportunity, ASEAN would like to thank all member countries who have made their continued contribution to the Programme of Assistance.
- 11. I would like to conclude by reiterating ASEAN's continued commitment and support for the United Nations Programme of Assistance with a view to further promoting international law, while strengthening multilateral cooperation and friendly relations among nations.

Thank you.

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