



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS
Legal Counsel's Speeches

DATES	LOCATIONS	TITLES	Link to speech
23 September 2019	United Nations, New York	High-level Side Event on “Investing in Humanity through Multilateralism” Opening remarks on behalf of the Secretary-General	Click here
2-3 September 2019	The Hague, Netherlands	Opening remarks at the Second World Meeting of the Societies for International Law	Click here
13 August 2019	Security Council Chamber, New York	Security Council meeting	Click here
25 July 2019	Kingston, Jamaica	Remarks at the Special Commemorative Session of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, Convened to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the establishment of the International Seabed Authority.	Click here
7 June 2019	Peace Boat, New York	Statement for the evening reception onboard the Peace Boat to celebrate World Oceans Day	Click here



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7 June 2019	United Nations, New York	Statement to the 2019 United Nations World Oceans Day Celebration and Panel Discussion	Click here
4 June 2019	New York, New York/Geneva, Switzerland	Statement at the 3473rd meeting of the International Law Commission	Click here
31 May 2019	New York, New York	Introductory remarks at the ECCC event	Click here
23 May 2019	New York, New York	Remarks at the event “The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties at 50: an Anniversary Celebration”	Click here
25 April 2019	Beijing, People’s Republic of China	Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation - Sub-Forum on Clean Silk Road, Welcome speech	Click here
24 April 2019	Beijing, People’s Republic of China	International Law at the United Nations – A conversation with the United Nations Legal Counsel	Click here
10 April 2019	United Nations, New York	Opening remarks at the Sixth Annual Meeting of International Organizations International Organizations: Their Role in International Regulatory Co-operation	Click here



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20 March 2019	New York, New York	Address at the 36th Annual Seminar on International Humanitarian Law for Legal Advisers and other Diplomats Accredited to the United Nations which was jointly organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the New York University School of Law.	Click here
11 March 2019	United Nations New York	Human rights, accountability and justice: contributions to international peace and security Arria-formula meeting of the UN Security Council United Nations, New York, NY	Click here
17 January 2019	The Hague, Netherlands	Building an international accountability system	Click here
19 November 2018	Bangkok Thailand	Regional Course in International Law United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Click here
16 November 2018	Phnom Penh Cambodia	United Nations Legal Counsel's statement to the media on the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia's Verdict of the Trial judgement in Case 002/02	Click here
22 October 2018	United Nations New York	International Law Week and 29th Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers	Click here



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18 October 2018	Paris France	Un pôle au cœur de la justice pénale internationale : quelle place pour la justice nationale ?	Click here (in French, en français)
16 October 2018	Dakar Sénégal	CICR - 4ème édition du Cours francophone de droit international humanitaire	Click here (in French, en français)
15 October 2018	Banjul The Gambia	Launching of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission of The Gambia	Click here
10 October 2018	Tokyo Japan	Introductory remarks on the peaceful settlement of disputes At the 57th Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization	Click here
8 October 2018	Tokyo Japan	Keynote address at the 57th Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization	Click here
04 September 2018	United Nations New York	1st Session of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) on an International Legally Binding Instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)	Click here



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17 July 2018	The Hague Netherlands	Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Click here
5 July 2018	Geneva Switzerland	International Law Commission Seventieth anniversary	Click here
28 June 2018	United Nations New York	UIA Bar Leaders' Briefing Special Focus on Modern Day Slavery	Click here
28 June 2018	United Nations New York	New York Convention Celebration 28 June 2018	Click here
25 June 2018	United Nations New York	51st Session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	Click here
11 June 2018	United Nations New York	Twenty-Eighth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Click here



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8 June 2018	United Nations New York	World Oceans Day	Click here
24 May 2018	United Nations New York	MSS_ILC70_gender_side_event-24-May-2018	Click here
22 May 2018	United Nations New York	Thirteenth round of informal consultations of States Parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (ICSP-13)	Click here
21 May 2018	United Nations New York	International Law Commission Seventieth anniversary	Click here
9 May 2018	United Nations New York	International Law Commission	Click here
8 May 2018	United Nations New York	The International Law Commission and the fight against impunity	Click here



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16 April 2018	United Nations New York	Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction	Click here Français
14 March 2018	George Washington University, Law School Washington, DC	Reflections of the United Nations Legal Counsel on the work of the Office of Legal Affairs	Click here
28 February 2018	United Nations New York	Tenth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects	Click here
5 February 2018	United Nations New York	Forty-sixth session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here
13 December 2017	United Nations New York	20th anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute	Click here



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8 December 2017	United Nations New York	Anniversary of the Genocide Convention and the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide	Click here
8 December 2017	United Nations New York	Universal ratification of the Genocide Convention	Click here
4 December 2017	United Nations New York	ICTY Commemoration: Reflections on 24 years of fighting impunity through international courts and tribunals	Click here
23 October 2017	United Nations New York	International Law Week. Meeting of the Sixth Committee	Click here
23 October 2017	United Nations New York	28th Annual Informal Meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the United Nations	Click here



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20 October 2017	Hong Kong China	The necessity of cooperation between international organizations	Click here
17-18 October 2017	Hong Kong China	2nd UNCITRAL ASIA PACIFIC JUDICIAL SUMMIT Opening remarks at the International Conference of the Judicial. How UNCITRAL dispute settlement standards enable judicial collaboration	Click here
26 September 2017	United Nations New York	UN Oceans side event "Fit for purpose? Looking to the future of UN-Oceans"	Click here
25 September 2017	United Nations New York	Side event "The International (UN) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development"	Click here
13 July 2017	United Nations New York	High-Level Political Forum Session 12 Review of implementation: SDG 14	Click here



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10 July 2017	United Nations New York	Fourth Session of the Preparatory Committee established by General Assembly resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction	Click here
6 July 2017	Geneva Switzerland	International Law Commission	Click here
4 July 2017	Vienna Austria	Congress on “Modernizing International Trade Law to Support Innovation and Sustainable Development” hosted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	Click here
3 July 2017	Vienna Austria	Opening of the UNCITRAL's 50th session	Click here
24 June 2017	Sarajevo Bosnia-Herzegovina	ICTY Legacy Dialogues	Click here



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15 June 2017	United Nations New York	Strengthening the Rule of Law for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development Session VI: Symposium on the Rule of Law and Sustaining Peace	Click here
14 June 2017	United Nations New York	Choice of procedure under article 287 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Click here
12 June 2017	United Nations New York	Twenty-seventh Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Click here
9 June 2017	United Nations New York	Partnership Dialogue 7 - Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Click here
8 June 2017	United Nations New York	Plenary Meeting World Oceans Day Reception Secretary-General's statement	Click here Click here



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7 June 2017	United Nations New York	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme 2017 - Alumni Meeting2. The Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme 2017- Reception: "Our Oceans, Our Islands, Our Future: Partnering for the Implementation of SDG 14"	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Click here2. Click here
5 June 2017	United Nations New York	UN-Oceans side event "Ocean in the 2030 Agenda: UN-Oceans harbouring SDG 14"	Click here
5 June 2017	United Nations New York	Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment. Side event on "The World Ocean Assessment: Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface"	Click here
18 May 2017	United Nations New York	UN-Oceans' statement to the Eighteenth meeting of the United Nations Openended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	Click here
2 May 2017	United Nations New York	The United Nations Legal Counsel's message on World Tuna Day	Click here
26 April 2017	Santiago de Chile ECLAC	Regional Course in International Law	Click here



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24 April 2017	Quito Ecuador	Asamblea Plenaria de la Conferencia de Ministros de Justicia de los Países iberoamericanos (COMJIB) Conferencia inaugural	Click here
17 April 2017	United Nations New York	Eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects	Click here
9 April 2017	Greentree Estate, Manhasset NY	Authors' Meeting The Oxford Handbook of United Nations Treaties	Click here
27 March 2017	United Nations New York	Third session of the Preparatory Committee established by General Assembly resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction	Click here
16 March 2017	Oceano Azul Foundation Lisbon, Portugal	1. Launch of the Oceano Azul Foundation with Board of Trustees and Directors 2. Meeting of the Group of Estoril and other Ocean Leaders	1. Click here 2. Click here
15 March 2017	New York University School of Law Arthur T. Vanderbilt Hall 40 Washington Square South, New York	34th Annual Seminar for Diplomats on International Humanitarian Law	Click here



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10 March 2017	United Nations New York	Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here
1 February 2017	United Nations New York	Briefing on the preparations for the Oceans Conference	Click here
13 December 2016	United Nations New York	Talking point for a Briefing to Member States on the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	Click here
25 November 2016	Arusha Tanzania	Inauguration Ceremony of the Premises of the International Residual Mechanism For Criminal Tribunals - Secretary-General's Message	Click here
2 November 2016	United Nations New York	Message of the United Nations Legal Counsel to the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization on the Fight Against Impunity in the Current Context	Click here



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24 October 2016	United Nations New York	Meeting of the Legal Advisers	Click here
11 October 2016	United Nations New York	71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly Sixth Committee	Click here
8 September 2016	San Remo Italy	39th Round-table on Current Issues of International Humanitarian law “Weapons and the International Rule of Law”	Click here
27 June 2016	United Nations New York	Forty-ninth Session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	Click here
20 June 2016	United Nations New York	Opening Remarks at the Twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Click here



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16 June 2016	United Nations New York	UN-Oceans' statement to the Seventeenth meeting of the United Nations Openended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	Click here
14 June 2016	United Nations New York	Message To Commemorate Of International Criminal Justice Day	Click here
13 June 2016	United Nations New York	Opening Remarks at the 17th meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	Click here
8 June 2016	United Nations New York	World Oceans Day Secretary-General's statement	Click here
3 June 2016	Lisbon Portugal	Keynote address to the Oceans Meeting International Conference Secretary-General statement Ministerial Declaration	Click here



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23 May 2016	United Nations New York	Resumed Review Conference on the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	Click here
17 May 2016	Geneva Switzerland	2016 International Law Commission Statement	Click here
May 2016	Geneva Switzerland	2016 Meeting of Legal Advisers of Specialized, Related and other Organizations (UN System) 2016 Meeting of Legal Advisers and Legal Liaison Officers of UN Offices, Funds and Programmes and other entities	Click here
18 April 2016	Palais de la Paix La Haye	70ème Anniversaire de la Cour Internationale de Justice « Rétrospectives et Perspectives »	Click here
15 April 2016	Rome Italy	“Practising International Law at the United Nations” To commemorate the 90th anniversary of UNIDROIT	Click here



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28 March 2016	United Nations New York	First session of the Preparatory Committee established by General Assembly resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument, under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.	Click here
22 March 2016	United Nations New York	Twelfth round of informal consultations of States Parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (ICSP-12)	Click here
16 March 2016	New York University School of Law Arthur T. Vanderbilt Hall 40 Washington Square South New York	33rd Annual Seminar for Diplomats on International Humanitarian Law Jointly organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross	Click here
18 February 2016	New York Law School	“Building an international rule of law” Annual Otto L. Walter Lecture	Click here
13 February 2016	American University, Washington College of Law - Tenley Campus, Washington D.C.	UN70 – The Legal Dimension	Click here



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8 February 2016	United Nations New York	Fortieth session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here
1 December 2015	Arusha Tanzania	Secretary-General's Message marking the official closure of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda <i>Delivered by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, UN Legal Counsel, Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares</i>	Click here
6 November 2015	Fordham University School of Law	International Law Weekend 2015 "UN70 – Contributions of the United Nations to the Development of International Law"	Click here
2 November 2015	United Nations Trusteeship Council Chamber New York	Informal Meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs	Click here
21 October 2015	United Nations New York	E-commerce in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Click here



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8 September 2015	United Nations New York	Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole Opening Remarks	Click here
8 June 2015	Centre de conférences ministériel XVe arrondissement de Paris, France	Colloque: "Formes du Droit International : Réflexions sur le devenir des travaux de la Commission du droit international des Nations Unies" «La Formation du droit international, vue de la perspective des Nations Unies»	Click here
15 June 2015	United Nations New York	Responsibility of States: State of Play and the way forward (Part II)	Click here
8 June 2015	Paris France	IOC-UNESCO event on Oceans and Climate Round Table 3: The Ocean as Part of the Solution? - Aspects of Governance - Mobilizing all sectors	Click here
6 June 2015	Nuremberg Germany	International Opening of the International Nuremberg Principles Academy Accountability – 70 years after the Nuremberg Trials "An Age of Accountability"	Click here



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4 June 2015	Lisbon Portugal	Law of the Sea Conference: Blue Week 2015 "Challenges in the new ocean order: a legal perspective"	Click here
27 May 2015	Saint Petersburg Russia	Saint Petersburg International Legal Forum	Click here
5 May 2015	Palais des Nations Geneva	International Law Commission	Click here
27 April 2015	United Nations New York	Legal Counsel hosts ABA Day 2015	Click here
14 April 2015	Beijing People's Republic of China	Remarks to the Colloquium on the United Nations Charter and the Post-War International Order	Click here



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13 April 2015	Beijing People's Republic of China	Remarks to the 54th Annual Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO)	Click here
12 - 19 April 2015	Doha State of Qatar	13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice High Level Special Event on Rule of Law, Human Rights and the Post 2015 Development Agenda	Click here
13 – 17 April 2015	Beijing People's Republic of China	Secretary-General's Message to the Fifty-Fourth Annual Session of the AsianAfrican Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) <i>Delivered by the UN Legal Counsel Miguel de Serpa Soares</i>	Click here
8 April 2015	United Nations New York	UN-Oceans' statement to the Sixteenth meeting of the United Nations Openended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	Click here
6 April 2015	Conferenc Room 1 United Nations New York	United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea	Click here



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17 March 2015	Mauritius	Signing Ceremony of the Transparency Convention	Click here
14 March 2015	Entebbe Uganda	Regional workshop for Field Legal Officers "Accountability for International Crimes in Africa"	Click here
7 February 2015	OLA/DOALOS Conference Room United Nations New York	Thirty-seventh session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here
20 January 2015	New York	General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction	Click here
8 December 2014	New York	Secretary-General's Message to the Opening of 13th Session of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court <i>Delivered by the UN Legal Counsel Miguel de Serpa Soares</i>	Click here



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28 November 2014	Tokyo, Japan	United Nations – Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme Global Alumni Meeting 2014	Click here
7 November 2014	Arusha, Tanzania	ICTR Legacy Symposium The Lasting Impact of the ICTR on International Justice after the Closure of the ad hoc Tribunals - Secretary-General's message marking the 20th Anniversary of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda	Click here
5 November 2014	Arusha, Tanzania	ICTR 7th Colloquium of International Prosecutors Closing session	Click here
29 October 2014	Trusteeship Council Chamber United Nations New York	Informal Meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs	Click here
27 October 2014	Trusteeship Council Chamber United Nations New York	Informal Meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs	Click here



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24 October 2014	United Nations New York	“International Law Today: Perspectives and Challenges” A panel discussion organized by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) “Promoting and applying international law: some personal observations”	Click here
7 October 2014	United Nations New York	Statement to the Sixth Committee	Click here Cliquez ici
11 September 2014	Lisbon University Law School, Portugal	International Law Association Regional Conference 2014 Session 1: “The growing role of international courts and jurisdictions: The Permanent Court of International Justice, the International Court of Justice, and beyond” “From absence to abundance: Tracing the development and impact of international courts”	Click here
03 September 2014	Apia, Samoa	Multi-stakeholders' Dialogue on Oceans, Seas and Biodiversity Small Island Developing States Conference	Click here



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17 July 2014	United Nations Conference Room 2	International Criminal Justice Day The United Nations and the International Criminal Court Partners of Shared Value	Click here
7 July 2014	Conference Room 1, UNHQ New York	Forty-seventh Session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	Click here
16 June 2014	United Nations Conference Room 1	General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction	Click here
9 June 2014	Dag Hammarskjöld Library Penthouse	20th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention and World Oceans Day 2014	Click here



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3 June 2014	United Nations New York	Symposium on the Contribution of Post-Genocide Justice to the Reconciliation in Rwanda	Click here
30 May 2014	Siège des Nations Unies, New York	UNION INTERNATIONALE des AVOCATS (UIA) Sommet UIA des Présidents des Barreaux	Click here (French)
28 May 2014	Peking University People's Republic of China	"My first Eight months as the Legal Counsel of the United Nations"	Click here
27 May 2014	People's Republic of China	International colloquium to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the enunciation of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence Keynote address	Click here
27 May 2014	People's Republic of China	International colloquium to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the enunciation of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence Panel on The Contribution and Role of the Five Principles on the Development of International Law	Click here



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15 May 2014	Brdo, Slovenia	Seminar on the Ratification and Implementation of the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the ICC "TURNING THE KAMPALA AMENDMENTS INTO REALITY"	Click here
14 May 2014	Geneva, Switzerland	International Law Commission	Click here
21 April 2014	Hofstra University – Maurice A. Deane School of Law Hempstead, New York	The Third Annual Philip J. Shapiro Endowed International Visiting Scholar Lecture “Legal Aspects of Modern United Nations Peacekeeping”	Click here
8 April 2014	Economic Commission for Africa Headquarters Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Regional Course in International Law	Click here
1 April 2014	Conference Room 2 United Nations New York	General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction	Click here



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31 March 2014	Conference Room 2 United Nations New York	General Assembly Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole United Nations, Conference Room 2, New York Headquarters.	Click here
31 March 2014	United Nations New York	American Bar Association "ABA Day at the UN"	Click here
19 March 2014	New York University Arthur T. Vanderbilt Hall 40 Washington Square South	31st Annual Seminar for Diplomats on International Humanitarian Law	Click here
10 February 2014	Conference Room 6 United Nations New York	Statement at the Thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here
3 February 2014	Conference Room 7 United Nations New York	"The role of UNCLOS in sustainable development" OLA/DOALOS Side event	Click here



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2 December 2013	Freetown Sierra Leone	Closing Ceremony of the Special Court for Sierra Leone “The Special Court for Sierra Leone – Lessons and Legacy”	Click here
2 December 2013	Freetown Sierra Leone	Swearing-in of the Judges of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone	Click here
26 November 2013	Dar es Salaam Tanzania	Signing of the Headquarters Agreement for the Arusha Branch of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals	Click here
20 November 2013	International Criminal Court The Hague, Netherlands	Message to Opening of 12th Session of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court	Click here
11 November 2013	OLA/DOALOS Conference Room United Nations New York	Thirty-third session of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf	Click here



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5 November 2013	Conference Room 6 United Nations New York	Pledging Conference in Support of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)	Click here
1 November 2013	Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations New York	The UN and EU legal systems after the Kadi judgement: Assessment and way forward - Opening statement.	Click here
29 October 2013	New York Headquarters Trusteeship Council Chamber	International Court of Justice Seminar Opening & Closing statements.	Click here
28 October 2013	New York Headquarters Trusteeship Council Chamber	Informal Meeting of the Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs	Click here
27 September 2013	New York Headquarters	Secretary-General's Message to Event on The Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute <i>[delivered by Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs, The United Nations Legal Counsel.]</i>	Click here



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25 September 2013	New York Headquarters Delegate's Dining Room	Ministerial Breakfast on Peaceful Settlement of Disputes 100 Years Peace Palace: Advancing the Framework for Peaceful Settlement of Disputes	Click here
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