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Sixth Committee

Agenda item: 83

*"The rule of law at the national and international levels"*

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. OD OCH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
MONGOLIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Mr. Chairman

At the outset, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your well-deserved election and pledge my delegation's full support in discharge of your important duties. Our sincere felicitations also go to the other members of the Bureau.

Mr. Chairman,

Two weeks ago, during the High level meeting on "Rule of law at national and international levels" the world leaders recognized the universal character of the rule of law. The Declaration which was adopted as outcome document of this High level meeting clearly indicated the way forward to strengthen the rule of law.

The universal character of rule of law refers to the codification of international legal norms addressing to the emerging challenges through the adoption international norms, as well as to the implementation of and compliance with these norms in accordance with the UN Charter principles.

These principles of the UN Charter such as the sovereign equality of States, the fulfillment in good faith of international obligations, the peaceful settlement of disputes or the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, constitute the essence of an international affairs based on the supremacy of the law, equality before the law, and accountability under the law.

Therefore, since its inception, United Nations is the universal center for international standard setting in various fields of international law. Mongolia highly commends the leading role of the United Nations, in particular, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon towards strengthening of the rule of law.

We also applaud his proposal on adoption a programme of action for the rule of law, which aims to the development its goals and other key mechanism. My country will make its tireless efforts to carry out this programme.

Mr. Chairman,

In 2005, the World Leaders acknowledged that “good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger” and that human rights, the rule of law and democracy “are interlinked and mutually reinforcing”.

Therefore good governance, democracy and respect of human rights have been, in our view, inherently woven into the MDGs. Proceeding from this premise Mongolia was the first country to adopt in 2005 its MDG-9 on “Strengthening human rights, fostering democratic governance and zero tolerance to corruption”.

As a member of the international community, today Mongolia is a party to more than 240 multilateral conventions, including international core human rights treaties and conventions lasting the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. By ratifying the Second Optional Protocol we are undertaking step-by-step measures to amend the existing legislation with the aim of abolishing the death penalty in law and practice.

Since the adoption of its Constitution of 1992, which promulgated new provisions on application of international treaties, Mongolia has been actively engaged in carrying out an extensive legal reform aimed at bringing the body of national laws in line with the international standards.

The reform has envisaged both the revision of existing laws, as well as enactment of new standards related to reforming the national judiciary system, fighting against corruption, ensuring good governance, reforming public service, and creation favorable conditions for business enterprises etc.

This extensive exercise has laid down, by and large, sound legal background for the protection and promotion of human rights. In this regard, the Government endeavors to meet international norms and standards set by human rights bodies in order to ensure fully enjoyment of human rights. Also it holds an informal legal training on a regular basis for public in order to improve their legal knowledge, as well as their education. Only educated people can fully enjoy their rights and freedom. By educating people we are empowering them. By empowering people we can maintain international peace and security and strengthen the rule of law.

Knowledge-based participation by the public in political and economic life is fundamental for durable democracy. This is the underlying reason why Mongolia defined the promotion of democracy education as its top priority. We also set forth important objectives of fostering interaction with civil society, strengthening regional cooperation, sharing experience and supporting countries in transition and fighting for zero tolerance to corruption.

Mr. Chairman,

We are of view that the promotion of the rule of law among nations also requires specific consideration by the international community of special needs of countries in disadvantageous position.

Thus, as one of the active members of Landlocked Developing Countries Group Mongolia has been actively promoting the special interests of LLDCs in all relevant international forums and negotiations. Back to 2009 an International Think Tank was launched in Ulaanbaatar followed by the endorsement of a Multilateral Agreement on the Think-Tank at the Ministerial meeting of landlocked developing countries in 2010.

The Think Tank will fully operationalize as soon as the Agreement enters into force with its ratification by ten member countries. Taking this opportunity, I wish to appeal to those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so, to accede to the Agreement at their earliest convenience.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I wish to reiterate that we will provide our strong support for a fruitful outcome of this session under your able guidance.

I thank you.