



**Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania
to the United Nations**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT BY

**TUVAKO N. MANONGI
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 67TH SESSION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 83: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL LEVELS**

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201 East 42nd Street, Room 425, New York NY 10017
Tel. No. 212-697-3612 | Fax. No. 212-697-3618

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation congratulates you on your assumption of the Chair of the Sixth Committee; our congratulations also go to other members of the bureau.

The United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself with the statement made by Egypt on behalf of the African Group and Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

We welcome the continued consideration of this item by the Sixth Committee. We are pleased that the Committee has continued to provide a useful platform for member states to share and strengthen exchanges on the rule of law. The discussions on this agenda item should continue with the hope that states would eventually come to a common understanding, we urge the Committee to keep this debate alive to afford engagement with all community members on this principle in all its magnitude.

Mr. Chairman,

The rule of law is fundamental in promoting social and economic development. It is core to the foundation of building a democratic, secure and sturdy society. Strengthening of the rule of law remains our common responsibility. At the international level, it is essential to reinforce the rule of law framework as the foundation for promoting international peace and security, good governance and respect for human rights. It is imperative that this concept is clearly understood by different members and groups of the international community. The United Nations plays a pivotal role in promoting the rule of law and is well placed in enhancing and strengthening the national rule of law capacity. We commend the work of the Rule of Law Unit for its dedication in advancing the engagement of the UN and Member States in the area of the rule of law.

Tanzania attaches great importance to advancing the rule of law both at the national and international levels. Efforts to promote the rule of law and implementation of international legal commitments at the national level are of critical importance. This forum provides us another opportunity to reflect and to engage in a constructive dialogue on how we apply the legal tools in strengthening governance and maintaining international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

Tanzania is committed to ensuring that the rule of law is respected at all levels. At the national level, the rule of law is at the heart of the social contract between the state and citizens. The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania has been our *magna carta* in providing guidance and measures to ensure the adherence to the rule of law. The principles of equality before the law, accountability to the law and separation of powers are embodied in our Constitution. Tanzania is committed to its international obligations and complies with numerous multilateral treaties to which it is a party.

Tanzania attaches great importance on the responsibility of states in ending impunity and prosecuting those responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law in conflict and post conflict situations. We re-affirm our commitment and support to the International Criminal Court. In the same context that we applaud the ICTY, the ICTR, the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the ICC which have substantially contributed to the strengthening of the rule of law by removing impunity for individuals accused of committing the most serious crimes. These Courts have played a pivotal role in establishing the rule of law and institutionalization of human rights.

Mr. Chairman,

We commend the Secretary-General for successfully organizing for the first time a High-level Meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels which culminated in the adoption of a historic declaration on the rule of law, that reaffirmed the commitment of member states to the rule of law and the fundamental importance for political dialogue and cooperation among all States," emphasizing that rule of law applies equally to all states".

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to also underscore the need for reform of the United Nations, particularly the Security Council which is an important pillar of the international peace and security which hinges on international law. As we seek to strengthen rule of law at international level, the governing structures of the United Nations must give equal comfort to all its members.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, let me reiterate once again that the Rule of Law at the national and international levels, is an effective tool for promoting democracy, human rights, sustainable development, relations among states, fighting international crimes, terrorism and piracy and making possible for a just, fair, secure and peaceful world.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.