

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



STATEMENT by

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

FOR THE 68TH SESSION OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL

AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

9 OCTOBER 2013

Mr.Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentelmen,

“The rule of law” has already been on our agenda for some years. We believe that the adoption of the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels in New York on 24 September 2012 marked a new phase in our work. The said meeting created a unique opportunity for Member States, non-governmental organisations and civil society to discuss and agree on a forward looking agenda on strengthening the rule of law. It seems that the Declaration will continue to usher all stake holders in years to come. But we are not done with it yet. The principles enshrined in the Declaration can be improved with an aim to develop its context.

We welcome the report of the Secretary-General report on “Measuring the effectiveness of the United Nations system’s support to the promotion of the rule of law” published under the symbol S/2013/341. This succinct document is an important tool that we all can benefit from. We believe that three-tier system created to strengthen the ability of the UN to deliver its rule of law activities, is useful and practical.

Mr. Chairman,

The rule of law goes hand in hand with the principles of human rights, democratic values, justice and international law. The principles are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations. All states need to fulfill their obligations to promote respect for and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. But, the rule of law is not limited to these values. We also need to recognize the close relations between the rule of law and sustained and inclusive

economic growth, sustainable socio-economic development, equitable development, employment, eradication of poverty and hunger, generating investments and facilitating entrepreneurship, all of which in turn reinforce the rule of law. In that context I would like to draw attention to a recent meeting co-hosted by Turkey on the Global Dialogue on Rule of Law and Post-2015 Development Agenda during the week of the 68th General Assembly.

We believe that there is no dividing line between rule of law at the national and international level. These two tiers are closely interlinked and national ownership lies at the hearth of the matter. We believe that the UN has a unique role in playing as the common denominator of all the states. The principles that we agreed in the declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly is a testament of the determination of all states to adhere and promote the rule of law in every aspect.

Mr. Chairman,

Today, upholding the rule of law is not an option but is a must which is incumbent on us. We all have a historic responsibility to our people and our future generations to create the conditions for a secure, just and prosperous world where the rule of law prevails.

The question now that we need to answer is what else UN can do to promote the rule of law at national and international levels. Taking into account strong relationship between the development goals, the promotion of human rights, and maintenance of peace and security and the rule of law, creation of a UN Rule of Law Implementation Task Force can help Member States to implement and promote the principles of RoL.

Thank you.