



**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Statement by Mr. Pham Quang Hieu  
Deputy Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the United Nations  
at the 6th Committee of the UNGA 68 Session  
on Agenda Item 85 “The rule of law at international and  
national levels”  
(October 9-10, 2013)**

Mr. Chairman,

Viet Nam aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Permanent Representative of Iran for the Non- Aligned Movement and Permanent Representative of Laos on behalf of ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman,

Viet Nam commends the efforts of the United Nations in promoting the rule of law at both national and international levels. We would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report A/68/213, namely *Strengthening and Coordinating United Nations rule of law activities*. The Report has illustrated the important role of the United Nations in supporting efforts to strengthen the rule of law at the international and national levels. In the past year, with the coordination of the United Nations, concrete progress and endeavour have been made to realize the central role that the rule of law is taking on the national and international stages. The Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and supported by the Rule of Law Unit, has tirelessly contributed to the promotion and implementation of the rule of law.

Mr. Chairman,

Adherence to the rule of law forms legal foundations for the collective responses and solutions needed to deal with the many challenges that the

international community is now facing. Aligned with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, full implementation of the rule of law at national and international levels is fundamental to efforts towards a durable peace, peaceful settlement of disputes, effective protection of human rights and sustainable development, including the post-2015 Development Agenda. In this regard, Viet Nam would like to emphasize that efforts of the international community in implementing the rule of law must be based on principles of sovereign equality of States, peaceful settlement of disputes and respect for territorial integrity.

Mr. Chairman,

Towards the year 2015 when an ASEAN Community is established, from a loose grouping, now ASEAN is on its way to develop into a rules-based organization with its own Charter and legal personality. The importance accorded to the rule of law has been placed to new heights in the ASEAN Charter where the rule of law is officially set as both a purpose and a principle. As a member state, Viet Nam has actively contributed to and remain committed to further intensifying our efforts to realize a politically cohesive, economically intergrated and socially responsible ASEAN Community in 2015. As a rule based Community, ASEAN will not only take advantage of current and future opportunities, but also effectively respond to regional and international challenges, including peace, stability and maritime security in the region. In this regard, we would like to emphasize the importance of full implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), to ensuring the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Mr. Chairman,

On this occasion, Viet Nam wishes to highlight its commitments to uphold the promotion and implementation of the rule of law at the national and international levels in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We also believes that during this session of the Sixth Committee we should focus on discussing the ways to realize the commitments made at the High-Level Meeting on the Rule of Law at national and international levels taken place last year. For its part, Viet Nam is now revising its Constitution aiming to further facilitating the building of a law-governed socialist State of, by and for the people, thus contributing to the cause of national construction and international integration process.

Viet Nam will work and cooperate closely with member states and relevant actors in international community in promoting the rule of law at international and national levels.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.