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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

866 Second Avenue, 3rd Floor • New York, N.Y. 10017

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STATEMENT

BY

H.E. AMBASSADOR TEKEDA ALEMU,

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 70TH SESSION OF UN
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

ON

AGENDA ITEM 86

**“RULE LAW OF AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
LEVELS”**

October 15, 2015

New York

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me to start by associating my delegation with the statements made by South Africa and Iran on behalf of the Africa Group and Non-Aligned Movement, respectively. I will make the following few remarks on my national capacity.

My delegation takes note of the report of the Secretary General on Strengthening and Coordinating United Nations Rule of Law Activities as contained in document A/70/206.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Assistant Secretary General for Legal Affairs as well as the Chief of the Treaty Section for their opening remarks.

Mr. Chairperson,

Ethiopia attaches great importance to the advancement of the rule of law both at the national and international levels. The rule of law at the international level is essential for promoting international peace and security. It is needless to say that lack of compliance with principles of international law is the root cause for inter-state misunderstanding and the widespread conflicts across the world. There is no doubt that strict adherence to principles of international law can lay the basis for the resolution and prevention of conflicts.

My delegation reiterates that the challenge in this regard is not that of expressing commitment to the rule of law and to legal obligations but ensuring its implementation. That is where a real deficit exists and not too many can claim that they have no shortcomings in this regard.

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation realizes that the rule of law is also a means to advance socio-economic development and promote the protection of human rights at the national level. My Government has been striving to make the necessary effort to help ensure that rule of law is implemented and promoted as effectively as possible. Over the last twenty years we have made major progress to see to it that the rule of law is the basis of governance and citizens count on the state carrying out its obligations in this regard. Even though Ethiopia has made a considerable leap forward in the implementation of the rule of law, we are the first to acknowledge that the stage we are in now is

far from the goal we aspire to achieve. We welcome and appreciate any assistance and support from the United Nations as well as its member states in this regard, taking into account our national priorities and strategies.

Mr. Chairperson,

Regarding the sub-topic for this year's session, my delegation recognizes the vital role multilateral treaty plays in promoting and advancing the rule of law. However, the focus should not be formally concluding a multilateral treaty. We need to make sure that the rules we set on broad range of subjects and the commitments we made are thoroughly implemented. In this sense, I would like to assure you that Ethiopia will participate in good faith in multilateral treaty making process and exert maximum efforts to discharge all its obligations.

Before I conclude, Mr. Chairperson, I would like to mention the important role of the United Nations Program of Assistance in Teaching, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International law in advancing the Rule of Law at the national and international levels. Ethiopia is pleased and honored to host the African Regional Courses for international law under this program and reiterates our firm commitment to strengthen the effectiveness and further development of the Regional course.

I Thank You!