

**Statement by Hiroko Muraki Gottlieb, Senior Counsellor
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to the United Nations**

**Agenda Item 84: The rule of law at the national and international level
at the Sixth Committee of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

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Mr. Chairman,

This is the first time that the International Chamber of Commerce is taking the floor as a Permanent Observer of the General Assembly. ICC is grateful for the government of France for the sponsorship and for the co-sponsorships we received from numerous Member States last session. We also truly appreciate the hard work of the Chairman and the Bureau of the 6th Committee of the 71st session. It is ICC's privilege and an honor to participate in this new capacity and we are committed to constructively and actively contributing to the work of this Committee.

ICC joins other delegations in congratulating you on your appointment as well as the appointment of the members of the Bureau and assures you of my delegation's full support. It is evident from your leadership that you and your team will ensure the success of this Committee's work. ICC also appreciates the Secretary General's comprehensive report and the Deputy Secretary General's remarks on this agenda item. Their meaningful contributions have led to our robust discussions.

Mr. Chairman,

Enhancing the rule of law at the national and international levels will accelerate the progress in promoting respect for the rule of law, which is the foundation for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among all humankind.

As the Secretary General's report states, the rule of law enables solutions to global challenges. In this regard, ICC vigorously champions the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement. ICC also partners very closely with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. We are grateful for the excellent work of UNCITRAL and this committee to promote and enhance open international trade and investments and we look forward to deepening our partnership through ongoing collaborative work.

Mr. Chairman,

We have heard from distinguished delegates from developing States with limited resources and human capacity that assistance beyond access to international law is imperative. Training, workshops and bilateral or multilateral assistance which further the understanding and application of the rule of law would greatly accelerate the use and compliance with international law. In this regard, ICC fully supports and appreciates various resources that continue to be made available by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs.

Further, ICC welcomes the innovative capacity building initiative, *Investment Support Programme for the Least Developed Countries*. As discussed by the distinguished delegate of the International Development Law Organization, this programme was developed as the result of a partnership between the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and IDLO, with the generous support of the government of Italy. This initiative has the objective of establishing an international scheme for legal aid and expert assistance to LDCs to provide on-demand legal and professional assistance on investment-related negotiations and dispute settlement. This programme involves many stakeholders, including the private sector, with a goal to foster international trade and investments that will contribute to the economic growth of LDCs. ICC is eager to explore how best the private sector can collaborate with IDLO and other stakeholders to contribute to the success of this programme. Innovative and inclusive programmes that maximize the potential of partnerships, such as this initiative, will complement and strengthen the work of the UN.

Mr. Chairman,

International law plays a vital role in ensuring that the goals of 2030 Agenda are achieved by providing a framework for order and justice. The role that the UN plays in fostering international law is essential as we face complex and difficult global challenges, such as climate change. Moreover, to meet the goals of Agenda 2030, an inclusive, multilateral and multi-stakeholder engagement is critical. ICC looks forward to finding innovative ways to enhance private sector engagement and to establish genuine and durable partnerships with various stakeholders through collaborative work.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.