# STATEMENT BY H.E. THE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

### ON AGENDA ITEM 84: "THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS"

## AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 72<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Mr. Chaiman,

At the very outset, let me express my sincere congratulation to you Mr. Chairman on your election as Chair and also other members of the Bureau on their election.

My delegation wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

My delegation also would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities.

This is an important measure to promote justice, peace and security as indicated in the charter of the United Nations and it is relevant to all the three pillars of the United Nations which have been set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr.Chairman,

Mongolia is convinced that promoting the rule of law at both the national and international levels is the main pillar for sustainable development, fundamental human rights, freedom, as well as for sustaining international peace and security. We reaffirm the commitment to the rule of law and the strengthening of the democratic and open society governed by the rule of law, as a long-standing priority for Mongolia.

#### Mr. Chairman,

The Government of Mongolia attaches also great importance to the Sustainable Development Goal 16 "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels". It is crucial, because no one should be left behind and be deprived of the right for development and growth.

As a country adopted and successfully implemented the MDG-9 on "Strenghtening human rigths, fostering democratic governance and zero tolerance to corruption", Mongolia has had a positive experience of keeping the rule of law as an integral part of the national development agenda. According to the universaly agreed principles of the rule of law, the Government of Mongolia has improved its conformity of domestic laws and regulations with international human rights treaties and conventions and publishes national code of laws, international treaties and conventions to promote and to facilitate access to justice for all.

As a Party to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Parliament of Mongolia has adopted Criminal Law abolishing the death penalty, as well the new Laws on the Rights of the Child and on the Protection of the Child were adopted in 2016, reflected the recommendations of the Council and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

In addition to that Government of Mongolia is paying a particular attention to combating corruption in the public sector. The Parliament of Mongolia has recently adopted a six-year National Anti-Corruption Strategy to be implemented in two stages. To raise public awareness and legal education, and to prevent corruption, the Anti-Corruption Agency organized 176 training programs for over seven thousand public officials in 2016.

We believe that the most important factor in ensuring the rule of law is to promote the legal education system and facilitating access to justice for all.

#### Mr. Chairman,

During the past decade, the President of Mongolia implemented a few initiatives, towards strengthening the rule of law in Mongolia. The most significant action would be the Judicial Reform. Starting from 2010, six laws, such as the Law on Court Administration, Law on Courts, Law on Legal Standing of Judges, Law on Legal Standing of Lawyers, Law on Mediation, and the Law of Citizen Representation in Courts were successfully adopted by the Parliament of Mongolia, and has come into full fruition.

Also, one of the initiatives, named "Law in Glass Account" provides a transparency of the national budget, gives the opportunity to monitor government

spending. Every person has a right to question and report any failure or error of any organizations' spending and requires every office, organization, agency, company and all other government-budget institutions to provide the details of their expenditure online and/or at public announcement boards.

There has been significant reforms undertaken by the Parliament of Mongolia, according to the universally recognized principles of the rule of law such as the Arbitration Law, Law on the Regulation of Public and Private Interests and Prevention of Interest in Public Service, Criminal Code, Law on Violations, Criminal Procedure Law, and other related laws to ensuring accountability, transparency and efficiency.

#### Mr. Chairman,

Mongolia recognizes that multilateral treaties, conventions, and instruments create conducive global order through the establishment of the international framework of norms and standards.

The Government of Mongolia attaches great importance to the role of multilateral treaties in advancing the rule of law at the international level and also gives importance to the work of the international judicial organizations, such as the International Criminal Court, the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, the International Court of Justice, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Mongolia has taken steps to strengthen multilateral cooperation in the judicial sector. The Government of Mongolia has implemented legal aid projects, which is initiated by the United Nations Development Programme, in 2007. Legal aid is crucial, especially for the clients who cannot afford fees and it provides legal assistance and services to the society without leaving no one behind. Today, most Mongolians enjoy greater access to justice and this is in line with our own constitution, which stipulates the right to legal assistance, and national commitments to human rights.

#### Mr. Chaiman,

In conclusion, capacity building at both the national and international levels, multilateral cooperation and technical assistance is important to integrate developing countries to successfully contribute to the implementation of SDG 16.

I Thank You.