

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



Permanent mission of the Republic of Rwanda to the United Nations

Statement
delivered by
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Rule of Law at the National and International levels
Before the Sixth Committee.

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Sixth Committee

Madam Chairperson

I congratulate you and your team and commend you for way you are chairing our session. I can assure of my delegation's support throughout the session

My delegation aligns itself with the detailed statements delivered on behalf of the NAM and on behalf of the Africa Group respectively.

Chairperson

We thank the Secretary General for his report and recommendation contained therein on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities. The subtopic for this session "*Promoting a people-centred rule of law at the national and international levels as the foundation of our common agenda*" is on point.

Rwanda agrees with the Secretary General's vision that our systems and institutions must deliver for people, it should remain at the heart of global efforts to regain public trust.

Indeed, trust between the leaders, institutions and the people are fundamental to reimagining the social contract, which, in turn, establishes the foundational relationship between them.

In Rwanda, strengthening public institutions and making them more responsive and countable to the needs of the people, form the cornerstone of Rwanda's accountability measures.

We believe that rule of law requires that legal processes, institutions, and substantive norms are consistent with aspirations of the people, including the core principles of equality before law, accountability before the law and fairness.

Chairperson

In pursuit of promotion of rule of Law through judicial process, my delegation continues to be alarmed by foreign judicial interference in judicial matters and court processes of developing countries by some western countries. My delegation strongly condemns this behavior.

These foreign interferences in judicial process and independence of courts have overreaching impact in the effective promotion of rule of Law and is in sharp contradiction to rule law.

There is need to address this alarming behavior of foreign judicial interference and act decisively to safeguard developing countries democratic institutions. This attitude of self-appointed watchdog to developing countries democratic and judicial process run counter to the ideals of rule of Law.

Rwanda believes that respect for international law is founded on the conviction that international behavior must be governed, not by the whims of powerful states or groups, but instead, through a set of universally applicable rules and international law that all member states have a responsibility to uphold.

Chairperson,

Given our experience, promoting rule of Law is a core value of Rwandan government. Rwanda has laid out a foundation of promoting a culture of accountability and zero tolerance for impunity. Rwanda strongly believes that accountability and zero tolerance to impunity is an essential precursor to ensure rule of law and sustainable development.

Chairperson

Finally

Rwanda's priorities on the rule of law and access to justice include speedy and inexpensive justice, culture of accountability and ensuring judicial independence and transparency.

Rwanda believes that laws are as good as their implementation.

I thank you