



Statement by

Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

at

**the 78th Session of the Sixth Committee of the
United Nations General Assembly**

on

**Agenda Item 83
The Rule of Law
at the National and International Levels**

Wednesday, 18 October 2023

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I wish to start by expressing our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report contained in Document A/78/184.

Indonesia also aligns itself with the statement previously delivered by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Philippines on behalf of ASEAN and the Netherlands on behalf of Justice Action Coalition.

Mr. Chair,

The current state of our world is **worrying**.

→ Crisis ... after crisis continues to unfold.

Violation of international law, has become a norm, in the **pursuit of narrow self-interest**.

The spirit of multilateralism continues to fade.

We are heading towards a **slippery slope**, to a world where **the law of the jungle reigns**.

This observation was also shared by the Secretary-General in his report ... by stating that we are experiencing **a global decline in respect for the rule of law**.

In this regard, allow me to make **three points**.

FIRST, Indonesia takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's New Vision for the Rule of Law.

It acknowledges that Rule of Law is ...

- critical for the lasting peace and security;
- essential for sustainable development; and
- the basis for multilateral cooperation and political dialogue.

Therefore, adherence by all members to the UN Charter and international law is **fundamental**.

We must ensure a multilateralism where the **voices of all countries are heard and matters**.

We must also advocate all countries **to settle their differences peacefully**.

We cannot afford the **rule of great powers** or the **rule of force** takes **triumph over the rule of law**.

Now, turning to the subtopic of this debate, namely "*Using Technology to Advance Access to Justice for All*" - and this will be my **SECOND** point.

As we charter this digital future, let us remember that **technology is but a tool**.

While it offers **solutions**, it also presents **new challenges**.

Addressing these requires not just national effort, but also international cooperation.

- To foster meaningful **digital inclusivity and connectivity**;
- To collaborate on **cybersecurity**; and
- To harmonized **digital legal frameworks**.

The onus lies upon us ... to wield it wisely, judiciously, and with one purpose: serving our shared ideals of equal access to justice for all.

Mr. Chair,

My **THIRD**, and last point ...

Indonesia is **disappointed** on the repeating inclusions of death penalty issue in the report of the Secretary-General in this agenda item.

There is **no direct relation** between the rule of law and death penalty issues.

There is **neither a global consensus, nor a universally binding norms proscribing** the application of death penalty.

My Delegation wishes to reiterate that **all States should free to exercise its sovereign right** to implement its national laws in accordance with its international law obligations.

This august body should recognize that the application of a death penalty moratorium, abolishing the death penalty, or retaining it should be a decision **based on domestic debates at the national level.**

In Indonesia's, death penalty is exercised with **maximum restraint;**

- only as a **last resort;**
- through **stringent due process of law;** and
- only relates to **16 most serious types of crimes** such as terrorism and illegal drugs-related crimes.

Under Indonesia's New Penal Code, death penalty shall only be imposed **along with alternative sentencing ...**

- and **may also be commuted** to life imprisonment or 20 years of imprisonment if the convicted shows good behavior.

Mr. Chair,

Let me conclude my statement today by **strongly condemning the attack on Al Ahly Al Arabi Hospital in Gaza,** which has killed hundreds of civilians.

The attack clearly **violates international law**, in particular international humanitarian law.

Indonesia calls for the **immediate cessation of armed hostilities** in Gaza and urges that **safe corridors for humanitarian access be opened immediately**.

Injustice and inhumane actions against the Palestinian people **by the occupying power** have been going on for far too long ... and is still happening today.

It is time for the world to prioritize the creation of a just peace for Palestine, including through **implementing all UN and international agreements to create a two-states solution**.

The international **peace process and negotiations**, and **implementation of agreed international parameters can no longer be postponed**.

I thank you.