



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 83
“THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
LEVELS”**

BY MS. CATHERINE NYAKOE, LEGAL ADVISER

DURING THE

78TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Thank you Chair

1. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group by the distinguished representative of Uganda, and on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Chair,

2. Concerted engagements within the United Nations in the promotion of the rule of law constitute the bedrock of credible achievements towards our shared aspirations of a United family of Nations that is just, secure and peaceful. Such an environment is necessary for the related aspiration for Sustainable Development.
3. Without adherence to the set laws to constrain the conduct of a people and states, no matter their level of economic, military and geopolitical power and

influence, peaceful coexistence and cooperation will remain just a mere dream - not an attainable goal.

4. Kenya ascribes to the classic definition of the rule of law based on general principles applicable on equal terms to all persons and respects and preserves the dignity, equality and human rights of all persons. Norms of international law must be reliable, predictable and equitable to help foster closer cooperation in our region and internationally.
5. Channeling their application through the Constitution of Kenya, these norms continue to guide Kenya's engagement in critical international engagements including action on climate change, humanitarian intervention, international peace and security, counter-terrorism and violent extremism and the necessary, yet long-overdue review of the international financial architecture.
6. We acknowledge the Organisation's efforts in the promotion and strengthening of the rule of law and coordination of United Nations rule of law assistance as reflected in the Secretary-General's report. We also welcome the new vision of the Secretary General for the rule of law and look forward to the implementation of the lines of actions set out therein.

Chair,

7. We appreciate the efforts by Member States in ensuring the delivery of rule of law related services especially through a fast-paced evolving technological space.
8. However, the technological inadequacies in developing countries laid bare by the pandemic call for more capacity building in information and communication technologies as a critical tool in aiding the aims of this discussion. We therefore

encourage more cooperation and technical assistance in information and communication technologies as a tool for dissemination of international law. This is also important in tackling the lethal counter-peace efforts aggressively advanced through social media today especially through disinformation, fake news and hate speech.

9. In tailoring technical assistance programmes, we urge that there is close collaboration with the respective states in the determination of their needs and priorities and taking into account their socioeconomic realities and laws. This would help achieve national ownership of rule of law processes and promote sustainability.
10. While we place premium in the establishment of the necessary legal structures for the rule of law, the crux of the matter often lies with implementation. Therefore, we urge States and tribunals, whether local, regional or international, to ensure that the rules of various international law instruments adopted by States are interpreted and implemented in a just, fair and predictable manner that is not counterproductive to their very ideals.
11. Finally, Chair, my delegation assures of Kenya's continued commitment to the effective implementation of our international obligations at the national level guided by our domestic systems and according to our national legislative framework.

Thank you.