



PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY,
AMBASSADOR OLUREMI OLIYIDE
CHARGE D' AFFAIRES / HEAD OF MISSION
EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
THE HAGUE
THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS**

ON

**THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
LEVELS**

17 OCTOBER, 2024

MR. CHAIR

My delegation aligns with the Statement delivered by the Distinguished Representative of Uganda on behalf of the African Group and the Distinguished Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on-behalf of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). We commend the Secretary General for the Report as contained in A/79/117 on Strengthening and Coordinating the United Nations rule of law activities. We welcome the New Vision of the Secretary-General for the Rule of Law including the use of technology in strengthening the rule of law in light of current global security challenges.

2. The respect for, and observance of, the rule of law as enshrined in the Charter is a fundamental article in both national and international jurisprudence. In the international system, adherence to the rule of law is necessary to guide actions of States and to hold them accountable for their actions or inactions, in accordance with established laws and regulations. This is a crucial element, as embodied in the United Nations Charter. The UN Member States must put all measures in place for a just and equitable world, where supremacy of the rule of law cannot be compromised. My Delegation, therefore, commends the sustained initiative of the United Nations to promote the rule of law and transitional justice in conflict and post conflict societies all over the world. The importance of the rule of Law at the national and international levels cannot be underestimated in promoting global peace and stability. It is the bedrock of just and equitable societies.

Mr. Chair,

3. The rule of law is about adherence to the supremacy of the law, equity before the law, accountability to the law, and fairness in application of the law. The observance of the rule of law is non-negotiable in terms of social and economic development, political representation and participation, security as well as public order. Nigeria considers the rule of law as the basis for the establishment of justice for peaceful co-existence and the prevention of armed conflict. Therefore, we envision the promotion of the rule of law at all levels as a vital means of strengthening cooperation, establishing enduring peace and security within and amongst states.

4. Nigeria recognizes the rule of law as a fundamental article in its national jurisprudence. It is a pivotal principle of governance. We are committed to promoting it at the national, regional and international levels among multiple bodies. The National Human Rights Commission of Nigeria was established to create an enabling environment for the promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights in the furtherance of the promotion and adherence to the principles of rule of law in the country. In addition to anti-corruption institutions, as well as the Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal, Nigeria has emplaced mechanisms to ensure that due process is always observed. International cooperation in capacity building and technical assistance are key ingredients in the discharge and strengthening of the Rule of Law. In this regard, we call on the United Nations and all relevant bodies

to continue to support particularly developing countries to build capacity in international legal system processes.

5. In addition, Nigeria has consistently demonstrated strong political will to fulfil its international obligations in respect to the rule of law and to promote due process through enactment of laws in consonance with international best practices as well as obedience to Judicial pronouncements. We recognise the close nexus between the Rule of Law and Democracy, and the primacy of the rule of law as a prerequisite for the promotion and protection of democracy, good governance, and sustainable development. Nigeria's foreign policy is anchored on the promotion and achievement of global security, as well as the protection of the dignity of all persons and prospect of persons as embedded in the Charter of the United Nations.

6. At the international level, Nigeria anchors its foreign policy on the promotion and achievement of global security, as well as the protection of the dignity of all persons. There are corresponding regional and sub regional instruments in Africa embedded in the African Union (AU) Constitutive Act and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) protocols to which Nigeria is a signatory. The rule of law is a fundamental principle in our National Jurisprudence. Nigeria's recognition and membership of the International Criminal Court, International Court of Justice, Permanent Court of Arbitration and other International Tribunals, and mechanism confirms Nigeria respect for the rule of law.

Mr. Chair

7. Essentially, promotion of the rule of law for the maintenance of global peace and stability is a collective responsibility of all. Nigeria will continue to work and collaborate with other the UN Member states and relevant regional and continental organizations to attain a world where the rule of law is supreme and global peaceful co-existence is sustained. We call on all Member States and the international organisations of the United Nations to jointly promote the rule of law across the globe as a major panacea to global crises, devoid of selectivity and double standards. Sovereign equality and the principle of non-interference must also be respected.

8. In conclusion, Mr. Chair, respect for the Rule of Law at all levels, is essential for the maintenance of international peace and security. The aspiration for a global system that is based on the Rule of Law, where accountability and social justice are the pillars for durable peace, should be a source of inspiration to all. Moving forward, addressing the current global Rule of Law deficit should be a priority for both the national and international communities.

9. I thank you for your attention.