

STATEMENT

Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations  
Item 85: Rule of Law at the National and International Levels:  
Sixth Committee  
76th Session of the United Nations

-Aligned Movement.

We thank the Secretary General for the Report on strengthening and coordinating Uni619.15 1(Uni]

on the comprehensive and sustainable prevention in response strategies for women and children associated with terrorism, as cited in the Report.

The Philippines continued to work on advancing security and justice for the population during the pandemic, delivering justice through digital technology. Steps were taken to ensure access to hearings, and e-inquests. In this manner, populations at risk of the virus, such as persons deprived of liberty, were accorded due process and promptly released.

Madam Chair,

We note the effort in the Report to address the national and international dimensions of the rule of law, in a balanced manner.

The Report cites the impact of the pandemic on UN processes related to the codification and development of international law, notably the postponement of the International Law Commission (ILC) session and the fourth Intergovernmental Conference on the BBNJ. Meanwhile, despite the pandemic, judicial activity and the work of international tribunals have not abated.

International rule of law is a shorthand for compliance with international law, including decisions of tribunals. Dispute resolution proceedings precisely clarify respective rights and obligations and facilitate relations in accordance with general obligations of good faith. We reaffirm that States shall abide by their obligations under international law and urge that future reports on this topic examine compliance.

We recall that Joint Communiqué of the 54th Session of the Commission on International Law reaffirmed the need to pursue peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with the universally agreed principles of international law.

We remain mindful of our obligations and commitments to the UN Charter, as amplified by the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes.

We recognize the role of UNGA, and the ILC as its independent expert subsidiary organ, in the progressive development of international law and its codification. The Commission's work on sea level rise and international law, on peremptory norms, on general principles of law is increasingly consequential. This is why, after twenty long years of absence, the Philippines is fielding a candidate to the International Law Commission.

Finally, Madam Chair,

We support the recommendation indicated in the Report for the Sixth Committee to consider as a subtopic for the seventy-ninth session of the Commission on International Law the rule of law at the national and international levels.

Thank you.