



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya

866 U.N. Plaza, Rm 3041

STATE

BY

AMBASSADOR SOLOMON OBI

DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINIS

AGENDA ITEM 10

RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL

LEVELS

SIXTH COMMITTEE

67TH SESSION OF THE

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10TH OCTOBER, 2012

NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman

At the outset my delegation aligns itself with the statements of the representative of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. We appreciate the Secretary General's reports under this agenda item and look forward to our deliberations.

Kenya supports an international rule of law based on our belief that the rule of law is the best way to ensure sustainable development in any society. Indeed, this principle is substantially embedded in the Charter of the United Nations which is the foundation of the rule of law at the international level. The Charter envisages States' collective responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security and international cooperation in addressing issues of common concern. Kenya's foreign policy has always been of this character.

My delegation welcomes the declaration adopted during the just concluded high level meeting on the rule of law and hopes that it will give the necessary impetus for collective action in the promotion of rule of law at all levels.

Mr. Chairman

A fundamental requirement for the rule of law in any society is an impartial and independent judiciary that is able to administer justice according to the laws. The Kenya judiciary is undergoing fundamental and progressive reforms. These reforms include increased transparency and public participation in the process of staffing the judiciary, improved terms of service for judicial officers, a high calibre work force and increased recruitment of both judicial and administrative staff. The judiciary is now independently funded pursuant to Article 172 of the Constitution. This has enabled it to undertake structural reforms including streamlining of court processes that have led to the expeditious disposal of matters before the Courts. Judges are increasingly making use of information technology. These reforms are being complemented by additional reforms in the justice sector including the establishment of an Anti-Corruption Commission, a Commission on Administration of Justice, National Gender and Equality Commission, reforms in the security sector and the restructuring of the Kenya National Human Rights Commission. We believe that all these reforms will lead to an efficient, effective and coherent justice sector that is accessible to all.

Mr. Chairman,

Laws must be strengthened and compliance ensured in order to achieve sustainable development. Promoting rule of law remains essential to our progress towards our independence. As a result of promoting the rule of law there has been increased activity

across all sectors and all levels, and ensuring that the benefits of the development endogenous to the community, through the promotion of equity, can be achieved through principles of good governance in the country. We will ensure equitable sharing of development and easy access to public services through

Mr. Chairman,

Transnational organized crime has negative effects on national security and development, war against the principle of shared responsibility, the role in the fight against proliferation and the international and regional initiatives to counter transnational organized crime.

As I conclude, Mr. Chairman, upholding the rule of law at both national and regional and international levels, challenges in the promotion of the rule of law require collaborative efforts of national, regional and international levels. Developing countries often face significant challenges addressed through capacity building and technical assistance.

I thank you.