



Finland to the UN Security Council in 2018

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6<sup>th</sup> Committee

Agenda Item 82: The role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security

Statement of Finland on behalf of the Nordic countries

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the pleasure to speak on behalf of the Nordic countries Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and my own country Finland.

The General Assembly held on 14 September 2012 gave a high-level meeting on the rule of law. The meeting and its critical importance for the promotion of international peace and security, human rights and development.

The high-level meeting endorsed a framework for strengthening the rule of law, which emphasized the interlinking and indivisibility of the rule of law, human rights and democracy. It emphasized that the rule of law is essential for the realization of human rights and democracy. It also emphasized that the rule of law is essential for the realization of sustainable development. It is encouraging that the number of Member States responded to the Secretary-General's call to action on their national priorities and needs.

Denmark and Finland gave seven pledges to enhance women's equality and especially, to tackle violence against women. Finland also had the honour to host together with South Africa and UN Women a High Level Event on Women's Equality. The high level attendance and all the pledges made demonstrate that there is a strong commitment to work together to advance women's equality through strengthening the rule of law.

Mr. Chairman,

The Secretary-General has provided us with a very useful report, 67/229, highlighting the progress made and the future steps to be taken to take a more comprehensive UN approach.

The development of international human rights standards has been a key element of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted in December last year completing the framework for the full protection of children's rights.

At the international level several mechanisms have been established to strengthen the adjudicative mechanisms with the overall purpose of solving international disputes. The International Court of Justice plays a central role in this regard. The 50th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea is being celebrated. The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is proceeding in parallel to the settlement of maritime disputes.

Fight against impunity has made significant progress. The International Criminal Court is promoting the universal ratification and effective implementation of the Rome Statute. The International Criminal Court rendered its first verdict this year. The Court is also investigating several situations. We will continue to cooperate with the ICC. There is accountability for the most serious international crimes. We will continue to support the efforts.

in establishing appropriate arrangements for the return of the displaced persons to their homes and for the Victims.

The Secretary General also reports of ongoing dialogue with non-judicial dispute resolution and accountability mechanisms. The International Commission on the Collapse of the Rule of Law presented its findings to the Human Rights Council in March in the case of Syria, and the Independent International Commission on the Impunity of the United Nations Human Rights Council by stating that gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian law had taken place. Reports on sexual violence, particularly women, We call for the implementation of recommendations of such non-judicial bodies to maximize their utility.

Mr. Chairman,

United Nations gives a valuable contribution to the rule of law assistance to be successful. The United Nations strengthens the rule of law and enhancing citizens' participation. In post-conflict situations the UN provides important assistance in designing and implementing comprehensive transitional justice strategies.

We welcome the recent decisions of the Policy Committee aimed at further enhancing the coordination and consistency of UN rule of law work. We hope the Global Compact will allow the UN to answer to requests for assistance in a swift and appropriate manner. The Secretary General and supported by the Rule of Law Unit will continue to play a crucial role in shaping the UN's strategic and comprehensive approach to the rule of law.

Mr. Chairman

Strategic and comprehensive approach is needed to take forward the agenda for the rule of law. Our leaders in the high-level meeting. We stand ready to work with you all.