STATEMENT BY

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OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE FOR THE 69TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON AGENDA ITEM 85 "THE RULE OF LAW"

"SHARING STATES' NATIONAL PRACTICES IN STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW THROUGH ACCESS TO JUSTICE"

10.10.2014

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Representatives,

Turkey firmly believes that an international order based on the rule of law is indispensable for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States.

Without a doubt, the success of the efforts to enhance peace and stability at the international level depends on the compliance of States with generally accepted rules and principles, particularly those embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, and those arising from obligations under multilateral treaties and international law in general.

We are convinced that not only peace and security, but also the two other main pillars of the UN, development and human rights, are closely linked with the rule of law.

The respect of the rule of law at the international level is closely linked with its upholding at the national levels. The rule of law is not only an indispensable tool for peaceful international relations, but also is at the basis of any peaceful, stable, prosperous society.

Against this background, we strongly support the efforts and activities of the UN in this field at both the international and national levels.

We welcomed the holding of the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly on "The Rule of Law at the national and international levels" during the high level segment of the 67th session (2012), as well as the Declaration adopted at that meeting, which clearly reflected the importance that the international community attaches to the rule of law and to its enhancement.

We thank the Secretary General for his recent report released on 24 July 2014 on the "Strengthening and Coordinating UN rule of law activities (A/69/181)", which constitutes a thorough presentation of the activities of the UN in the field of the rule oflaw.

We believe that the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit play a key role in ensuring coordination and coherence of the various activities of the UN and affiliated bodies as regards the rule of law.

As highlighted in the Secretary-General's report, UN organs and specialized agencies play an important role in the efforts for the advancement of the rule of law, and let me also mention the work of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO).

Mr. Chairman,

The rule of law goes hand in hand with the principles of human rights, democratic values, justice and international law. These principles are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. All states need to fulfill their obligations to promote respect for and observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

With regard to the development pillar, we firmly believe that the rule of law should be an inalienable part of the post-2015 development agenda.

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In concluding, Mr. Chairman, I wish to reaffirm Turkey's firm commitment to the strengthening of the rule of law at both national and international levels as well as our determination to