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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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STATEMENT BY

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OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

DURING THE
SIXTH COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS ON

AGENDA ITEM 85: "THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS"

16 OCTOBER 2015, NEW YORK

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Mr. Chairman,

1. Congratulations to you and your Bureau on your election to guide the
affairs of this Committee.

2. We align ourselves with the statements read by South Africa on
behalf of the Africa Group and Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

3. Today's agenda item, takes place at a time when the international
community celebrates 70 years of the establishment of the United Nations.

4. It is also 70 years since the end of the 2nd World War, a war which
claimed millions of people while bringing ruin and destruction to nations, big and small.

s. Having become a member of the United Nations in 1966, my nation,
Botswana, is proud to work and cooperate with the world community of nations to contribute to development, peace and global security.

6. As a young democracy whose foundations are deeply rooted in the
promotion and protection of human rights, Botswana believes that the UN Charter provides a set of international standards and norms to conduct relations between States.

7. In this respect, we welcome and support the Secretary-General's call
to Member States to cooperate with existing international mechanisms established for the sustenance of rule of law.

a. The rule of law requires that representatives of the people should be
accountable to the people. This accountability should be clearly defined in the law. It must also provide remedies in cases of breach.

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9. Respect of the rule of law is therefore an essential condition for
peace, security, prevention of conflict, conflict resolution as well as post conflict reconstruction.

10. So, it can be said that rule of law places obligations on both the state
and the citizens, including civil society, to observe, respect, and most importantly, take ownership or have a stake in the legal order.

11. These general observations on the rule of law are