

Statement by the Representative of Japan
At the Meeting of the Sixth Committee
on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels

5 October 2017

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation to the Deputy Secretary-General for her briefing on the United Nations' rule of law activities.

The essence of the rule of law lies in the supremacy of law over arbitrary power, ensuring that power is exercised to protect and benefit the people. A predictable international rules-based order also makes friendly and equitable relations

possible between States. The rule of law provides the essential foundation for a just and fair society at both the national and international levels, and its promotion is one of the pillars of Japan's foreign policy.

The international judicial organs play a crucial role in ensuring the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes. These organs include the International

Law Commission (ILC), with new members elected last year. The work and reports of the ILC continue to make important contributions to this committee.

We look forward to a lively debate later this month.

Japan appreciates the Secretary-General's first report on the rule of law. My

prevention for social and economic development; multidimensional approaches to promoting the rule of law, including through institution building; and fostering a culture of lawfulness.

The rule of law is also woven closely into our international assistance efforts, where rule-making meets implementation on the ground. Capacity building for justice and rule of law institutions features prominently in aid efforts by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and our peacekeepers have contributed to capacity building of police in Cambodia and Timor-Leste. As the Focal Point for Institution Building of the United Nations' Peacebuilding Commission, we are currently working to focus attention and resources on strengthening criminal justice systems and rules-based local governance in areas such as West Africa and the Sahel.

These are just a few examples, but I hope they provide an illustration of Japan's ongoing commitment to enhancing the rule of law.

Thank you.