

Statement on behalf of the African Group

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Agenda item 84

07 October 2022

Chairperson,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group.

The African Group aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Chairperson,

The African Group thanks the Secretary-General for his report contained in document A/77/213, which provides valuable information on efforts to promote and strengthen the rule of law at the national and international levels as well as on the coordination of United Nations rule of law assistance

The African Group remains convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law, at the national and international levels, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger, as well as the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The African Group reaffirms its attachment to the respect of the rule of law at the international level and in this context is concerned by judicial interference in judicial matters and court processes of developing countries. All while being in contradiction with the rule of law, these judicial interferences have an overreaching impact on the effective promotion of the rule of Law. It is essential to address this issue in the interest of safeguarding developing countries' democratic institutions.

Chairperson,

Upholding the rule of law in times of crisis such as the COVID pandemic is all the more essential. The pandemic has not spared any part of the world and has impacted all sectors of society due to its crosscutting nature and effects. It has remained a major

that promoting a people-centred rule of law at the international level encompasses *inter alia* equal access to vaccines, quality education for all, as well as solidarity in addressing the deepening poverty and socioeconomic inequalities.

The African Group is of the view that a people-centred approach to the rule of law is essential when building sustainable, inclusive and peaceful societies. To this end,