

Intervention

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Permanent Mission of Egypt to the UN

For the 8th meeting of the Open Working Group

On Sustainable Development Goals

Oceans and seas, Forests and Biodiversity

Equality, Social Equity, Gender equality and Women empowerment

**Conflict Prevention, Post-conflict peacebuilding, promotion of durable peace, rule
of law and governance**

3rd – 7th February 2014

Rule of Law / peace and security

I align my remarks with the statements delivered by Iran on behalf of NAM, and Guinea on behalf of the African Group.

- 1- We attach great importance to the rule of law and believe that respect for it is essential to maintain international peace and security and achieve socioeconomic development.
- 2- It is indispensable to maintain the balance in developing the national and international dimensions of the rule of law. A rules-based international relations that equally respects rights of all nations would make an enabling environment in which all countries can best use the existing potentials, boost their capacities and strive for their social and economic wellbeing. We continue to believe that, the rule of law at the international level needs greater attention by the United Nations. The principles of the Charter as well as the principles of international law provide normative guidance as to the basis of the rule of law at the international level.
- 3- Throughout the past years, the General Assembly has been considering the item “Rule of law at the national & international levels”. It has made progress towards developing a common vision & understanding of the notion of the rule of law. Convening the high level meeting on the rule of law in September 2012, and adopting a consensual declaration was in itself an important step in the General Assembly’s discussions of the rule of law at the national and international level. However, more work needs to be done by the GA to elaborate a commonly shared clear understanding & a definition of the rule of law, including its parameters & elements. We consider it premature at the current stage to mainstream the notion of rule of law in the context of the SDGs and the 2015 Development agenda, before reaching such understanding. Mainstreaming an abstract notion such as the rule of law, without having an agreed definition and commonly shared vision could have adverse effects on the interpretation of any outcome.
- 4- In principle, the promotion of the rule of law should reflect at all times a culture of dialogue, tolerance and understanding. Imposing any legal, political

or cultural model should be avoided and the diverse cultures and traditions have to be respected at all times.

- 5- On another hand, the participation of developing countries in the International financial and monetary Institutions, and the need for a comprehensive and structural reform of the global financial and economic governance is vitally important for the promotion of the rule of law at the international level in order to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system.
- 6- While acknowledging the important link and relationship between development, from one side, and peace and security, rule of law, governance, from the other side, we share the view, stated in previous interventions, that they fall outside the scope and framework of SDGs agreed upon in Rio+20 document