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Statement by
The Delegation of Indonesia

on

Agenda items:
The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels (Item 83)

New York, 11 October 2012

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS 325 East

Mr. Chairman,
I wish to begin by aligning this statement of the Indonesian delegation with the statement made earlier by the distinguished delegate of Viet Nam on behalf of the Association of South East Asian Nations, and by the distinguished delegate of Iran on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement.

Let me also join others at this point in reaffirming the commitment of Indonesia to the rule of law as the foundation of equitable state relations and the basis upon which just and fair societies are built.

Mr. Chairman,
Indonesia welcomes the first United Nations High-level Meeting on the rule of law which took place on September 24, 2012. It was an excellent opportunity to identify ways and means to further strengthen the rule of law.

To that extent, we welcome the outcome document of the meeting, as it reflected the very strong commitment of Member States to uphold and implement the rule of law internationally and nationally. In our view, it is only appropriate to take this opportunity to convey our deep gratitude to Ambassador Staur of Denmark and Ambassador De Alba of Mexico who worked as co-facilitators in the preparation of that declaration.

Mr. Chairman,
In the report of the Secretary-General on "Delivering Justice: Programme of Action to Strengthen the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels", he stressed that upholding the rule of law is central to ensuring the predictability and legitimacy of international relations. Without the rule of law, he said, justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms are unavailing. We agree with this view, and affirm that strengthening the rule of law is just as important at the international level as it is at the national.

In this regard, I wish to emphasize the following points:

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First, the rule of law, human rights and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. They also provide the foundation on which sound political, economic and social institutions can be firmly established. That is why, in 2000, Indonesia launched a comprehensive legal reform program as an integral part of its democratic transition.

Second, Indonesia recogmzes the important role that civil society and the media play in complementing the efforts of governments to ensure accountability and transparency. Indeed, strengthening the rule of law is a responsibility that all of us collectively share. Hence, all Member States, the United Nations, other international and regional organizations, civil society, and the media are called upon to help ensure effective law enforcement.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia has come a long way since its reforms 514.re