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The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels (Agenda item 83)

Sixth Committee, 74th session of UNGA

October 11, 2019

New York

Madame Chair,

Let me begin by expressing my deep appreciation for the Secretary-General's

report on the UN rule of law activities (A/74/139). My delegation would like to

commend the hard work done by the Secretary-General and his team to support

and strengthen the rule of law both at the national and international level. We

believe that training, knowledge-sharing, and other means of assistance provided

have been effective and productive in the realization of such progress.

Madame Chair,

My delegation is of the view that the rule of law is a fundamental principle that

upholds the three pillars of the UN's work: peace and security, development, and

human rights.

The rule of law helps us create a stable international order. It helps us establish

good governance, which underpins a solid foundation for economic development

and inclusive societies where no one is left behind. We believe that without justice

and strong institutions, we simply cannot accomplish sustainable development

and sustaining peace.

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The target indicators of SDG 16 include reducing all forms of violence, promoting the rule of law, fighting against terrorism, and protecting fundamental freedoms and they are all core elements of the activities described in the Secretary-General's report on this agenda.

The Republic of Korea views SDG 16 as the golden thread that weaves through the entire tapestry of the 2030 Agenda, and has always been a staunch supporter of this important goal. To this end, we have been actively participating in the SDG 16 Pathfinders Initiative, have sponsored annual showcase events of the 16+ Forum for the last two years, and have held side events on SDG 16 on the occasion of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

Madame Chair,

As clearly described in the Secretary-General's report, various efforts have been made to reduce armed violence, fight against impunity for serious crimes, and improve access to justice in a number of countries.

In this context, my delegation would like to draw your special attention to the Secretary-General's alarm against proliferation of hate speech and incitement to violence, and fully support his two relevant initiatives led by his Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide and UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations.

My delegation also welcomes the activities done by the UN and its organs to promote rule of law at international level, such as the codification and development of international law by the ILC, and the promotion of international law by the UN Program of Assistance.

The Republic of Korea also continues to join the global efforts to promote international law with a number of programs for wider awareness and deeper