

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

New York, 10 November 2017 General Assembly, Sixth Committee Introduction of Resolution "The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels" – A/C.6/72/L.17 Statement by Mr. Jörn Eiermann, Legal Adviser

Mr. Chair,

On behalf of Mexico and Liechtenstein, I have the honor to introduce the resolution entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels" for adoption by the Sixth Committee. The rule of law constitutes a fundamental building block of the United Nations and is deeply enshrined in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It is part and parcel of all of the resolutions we are discussing at the United Nations.

In this context, we regret the inability of the Sixth Committee to agree on proposals to further advance the resolution, such as an explicit reflection on progress and challenges with regard to United Nations' rule of law assistance in the field. We are particularly concerned by the fact that we could not agree on a subtopic for next year's debate. It is also unfortunate that the suggestion made by the Deputy Secretary-General to focus next year's debate on the implementation of the 2030 agenda or any reference thereto was not agreeable to some delegations. We call up on all Member States to ensure that our joint efforts can lead to tangible results and progress in the future and thereby represent the interest of the whole membership. The challenges of the world put the rule of law to the test today more than ever: poverty, climate change, ongoing wars and the struggle for gender-equality demand action. Therefore, we have to ask ourselves whether and how we can contribute to strengthening the rule of law at the national and international levels by means of this resolution.

Finally, we wish to recall the last paragraph of the resolution, which invites Member States and the Secretary-General to suggest possible subtopics for future Sixth Committee debates, for inclusion in the forthcoming annual report, with a view to assisting the Sixth Committee in choosing future subtopics.

With this, I would hereby like to submit the draft resolution A/C.6/72/L.17 for adoption.

I thank you.