



PHÁI ĐOÀN THƯỜNG TRỰC
CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM
TẠI LIÊN HỢP QUỐC

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

866 U.N Plaza, 4th Floor, Suite 435
New York, N.Y. 10017

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Nguyen Phuong Nga, Permanent
Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations, at
the 72nd session of the 6th Committee of the United Nations General
Assembly on Agenda Item 84 “The rule of law at the national and
international levels.”**

New York, 5 October 2017

Mr. Chairman,

1. As it is the first time I take the floor in the Sixth Committee, I would like to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your elections. You can rest assured of our delegation’s full support.

2. My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representatives of Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

3. We welcome the Secretary General’s Report on the review of the regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations (document A/72/86) and Report on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities (document A/72/268).

Mr. Chairman,

4. Viet Nam firmly believes in the fundamental role of the rule of law in sustaining peace, enabling sustainable development, protecting and promoting human rights. We share the view that without the rule of law, the implementation of the 2030 agenda would be unachievable and the rule of law at both international and national levels must be closely linked to the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. It is evident that ongoing wars, conflicts and tensions in the world today could not have been solved mainly because international law has not been observed in good faith. The promotion of the rule of law at the international level must be based on the principles of United Nations Charter and international law, such as sovereign equality, respect for sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of states, non-interference in internal affairs, non-threat or use of force, and peaceful settlement of disputes. It is essential that all Member States, whether big or small, conduct international relations in line with those fundamental principles, avoiding double standards, selective interpretation and application. Viet Nam believes that multilateral actions in line with international law can address pressing challenges such as terrorism, protracted conflicts, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, transnational crimes, trafficking in persons, climate change... We would also like to highlight the crucial role of the International Court of Justice and other international judicial institutions in the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Viet Nam has always been actively upholding and promoting the rule of law at both international and national levels. We continue the legal harmonization process to align our legislation with international treaties to which Viet Nam is a

signatory and fully adhere to our obligations. We ratified the Paris Agreement last year and just last month signed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Together with other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Viet Nam is striving to build South East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and prosperity. In the context of complex developments in the East Sea (or South China Sea), we call upon all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and settle disputes by peaceful means in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, fully respect diplomatic and legal processes, implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and expedite the completion of an effective and legally binding Code of Conduct (COC).

7. Viet Nam is of the view that the building of the rule of law at the national level should be in line with the fundamental universally accepted principles of international law as well as the specific conditions of each state and the aspiration of its people.

8. At the moment, Viet Nam is activating the National Plan of Action for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and pushing ahead with judicial reforms. We have recorded significant achievements in improving our legal system to build a law-governed state and to ensure and promote the freedom and fundamental rights of our people.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Viet Nam appreciates the UN efforts in disseminating the international law and strengthening the rule of law at the international and national level. We strongly support the central role of the UN in this field and hope the UN will continue its support to member states in formulating and implementing legislations.

10. In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, Viet Nam reiterates its commitment to working closely with the United Nations and all Member States to strengthen the rule of law.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman./.