

30 October 2014

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Sam Kahamba Kutesa,  
President of the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
at the GA Debate on the report of the international court of justice  
(ICJ)**

**Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I welcome Honorable Judge Peter Tomka, President of the International Court of Justice, to the General Assembly who will be presenting a report on the activities of the Court to this meeting.

The role of the International Court of Justice in applying the principles and norms of international law is essential to the promotion of rule of law, friendly relations among States and ultimately international peace and security.

This year's report shows increased judicial activity and sustained efforts to handle proceedings more expeditiously. The seven new cases introduced during the reporting period demonstrate that States from all regions of the world have gained strong confidence in the Court and its capacity to deliver justice.