Statement by

Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

at

the 78th Session of the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

on

Agenda Item 83
The Rule of Law
at the National and International Levels

Wednesday, 18 October 2023
Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I wish to start by expressing our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report contained in Document A/78/184.

Indonesia also aligns itself with the statement previously delivered by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Philippines on behalf of ASEAN and the Netherlands on behalf of Justice Action Coalition.

Mr. Chair,

The current state of our world is worrying.

\[\rightarrow\] Crisis … after crisis continues to unfold.

Violation of international law, has become a norm, in the pursuit of narrow self-interest.

The spirit of multilateralism continues to fade.

We are heading towards a slippery slope, to a world where the law of the jungle reigns.

This observation was also shared by the Secretary-General in his report … by stating that we are experiencing a global decline in respect for the rule of law.

In this regard, allow me to make three points.
**FIRST**, Indonesia takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General’s New Vision for the Rule of Law.

It acknowledges that Rule of Law is …

→ critical for the lasting peace and security;
→ essential for sustainable development; and
→ the basis for multilateral cooperation and political dialogue.

Therefore, adherence by all members to the UN Charter and international law is **fundamental**.

We must ensure a multilateralism where the **voices of all countries are heard and matters**.

We must also advocate all countries **to settle their differences peacefully**.

We cannot afford the **rule of great powers** or the **rule of force** takes **triumph over the rule of law**.

Now, turning to the subtopic of this debate, namely “**Using Technology to Advance Access to Justice for All**” – and this will be my **SECOND** point.

As we charter this digital future, let us remember that technology is **but a tool**.

While it offers **solutions**, it also presents **new challenges**.
Addressing these requires not just national effort, but also international cooperation.

→ To foster meaningful digital inclusivity and connectivity;
→ To collaborate on cybersecurity; and
→ To harmonized digital legal frameworks.

The onus lies upon us ... to wield it wisely, judiciously, and with one purpose: serving our shared ideals of equal access to justice for all.

Mr. Chair,

My THIRD, and last point ...

Indonesia is disappointed on the repeating inclusions of death penalty issue in the report of the Secretary-General in this agenda item.

There is no direct relation between the rule of law and death penalty issues.

There is neither a global consensus, nor a universally binding norms proscribing the application of death penalty.
My Delegation wishes to reiterate that all States should free to exercise its sovereign right to implement its national laws in accordance with its international law obligations.

This august body should recognize that the application of a death penalty moratorium, abolishing the death penalty, or retaining it should be a decision based on domestic debates at the national level.

In Indonesia’s, death penalty is exercised with maximum restraint; only as a last resort; through stringent due process of law; and only relates to 16 most serious types of crimes such as terrorism and illegal drugs-related crimes.

Under Indonesia’s New Penal Code, death penalty shall only be imposed along with alternative sentencing … and may also be commuted to life imprisonment or 20 years of imprisonment if the convicted shows good behavior.

Mr. Chair,

Let me conclude my statement today by strongly condemning the attack on Al Ahly Al Arabi Hospital in Gaza, which has killed hundreds of civilians.
The attack clearly violates international law, in particular international humanitarian law.

Indonesia calls for the immediate cessation of armed hostilities in Gaza and urges that safe corridors for humanitarian access be opened immediately.

Injustice and inhumane actions against the Palestinian people by the occupying power have been going on for far too long … and is still happening today.

It is time for the world to prioritize the creation of a just peace for Palestine, including through implementing all UN and international agreements to create a two-states solution.

The international peace process and negotiations, and implementation of agreed international parameters can no longer be postponed.

I thank you.