

**Statement of the Republic of Slovenia on the Agenda item 82: The rule of law  
at the national and international levels in the Sixth Committee**

**10 October 2014**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau upon your election. We are confident that with your able leadership we will have a productive and successful Sixth Committee session.

My delegation fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the

We welcome the intention of the Argentinian Presidency to the SC in October to dedicate the open debate on working methods of the SC also to the follow-up mechanism of the SC referrals to the ICC.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that the role of international criminal courts and tribunals, in particular the ICC, is essential in the establishment of the rule of law. However, the prosecution of the international crimes remains the primary responsibility of states according to the principle of complementarity; this is why the ICC steps in only when states are unable or unwilling genuinely to prosecute perpetrators of the most heinous crimes. However, the successful implementation of the principle of complementarity requires, *inter alia*, effective inter-state cooperation, where the effectiveness is hindered due to the unsatisfactory international legal framework. Having had recognized this legal gap, Slovenia, together with the Netherlands, Belgium, Argentina and Senegal works on the initiative for the adoption of a new multilateral treaty for Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition for Domestic Prosecution of the Most Serious International Crimes.. The initiative has already gathered support from states of all geographical regions. We wish to take this opportunity to invite states to consider joining this important initiative.

Mr. Chairman,

As a staunch supporter of the international criminal justice and the ICC itself Slovenia continues to play an active role in promoting their cause. In May 2014 Slovenia, as a contact point for Eastern European Group for the ratification of the Kampala amendments, organized a regional seminar on the ratification and implementation of the Kampala amendments together with Lichtenstein.

Special emphasis should be also given to the universality of the Rome Statute itself. The Court should be seen as an investment in establishing and upholding the rule of law. We have to strive towards universality of the Rome statute, including the Kampala amendments, and call upon states to ratify or accede to it.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.