PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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STATEMENT BY MS DANIELLE YEOW PING LIN, DELEGATE TO THE 70th SESSION

OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON AGENDA ITEM 85,
ON THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS,

is an ideal place to negotiate international norms and standards that are responsive to and effective in addressing the global issues of today.

5. The rule of law has been and continues to be a fundamental tenet for
Singapore. At the national level, the rule of law is the bedrock on which our country was founded. It is the cornerstone of Singapore's stability and continues to provide the framework for its proper functioning.

6. This conviction extends to the international level. It is a critical basis for
international relations among states, and between states and other international legal entities. Its impact is far reaching, from the maintenance of international peace and security, to sustained economic growth and the pursuit of sustainable long-term development. We thus fully support the standalone goal on rule of law in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7. In an interconnected globalised world, challenges and issues of global concern
simply cannot be addressed unilaterally and requires the collective effort of the global community. This is where multilateral treaties can play such a crucial and integral role in promoting and advancing the rule of law. Negotiating multilateral treaties involve a process of consultation and consensus building leading to the establishment of binding standards of international conduct and frameworks for the enforcement of rights and obligations between state parties. This invariably provides structure, predictability, accountability and fairness; and conversely, reduces arbitrariness and capriciousness in state conduct. A negotiating process that is transparent and inclusive, where diverse viewpoints are robustly debated and considered, leads to the development of common perceptions and agreed approaches. This ultimately enhances the legitimacy, acceptability, and implementation of the ensuing international legal framework.

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fight against transnational crime and reaffirms Singapore's strong international commitment to combat human trafficking.

12. Mr Chairman, in preparation for this discussions, the Permanent Missions of Singapore, Cyprus, and Trinidad and Tobago, in cooperation with the Rule of Law Unit on behalf of the UN Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, organised a panel discussion on 19 May 2015 on the topic "Multilateral Treaty-Making: Perspectives on Small States and the Rule of Law".

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the negotiations for the UNCLOS

UN to build a more peaceful and equitable world. Our dream is that one day we
shall live in a world in which differences between States shall be settled peacefully and in accordance with the rule of law. 11

That aspiration continues to be a foundation of our participation in the multilateral treaty-making process to this day.

18. Thank you, Mr Chairman and we look forward