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Madam Chairperson,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the African Group by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Morocco respectively and takes the floor to highlight national efforts to uphold the principle of the rule of law in the context of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Madam Chairperson,

At the outset, my delegation would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report on the rule of law at national and international levels contained in document no. A/76/235 and welcomes the recommendations contained therein. The Government

(CPESDP) places people at the heart of development with the aim to create opportunities for all citizens, build and safeguard a resilient environment, maintain a stable, united and safe country and build a prosperous nation while upholding the

focus of the report on a people-centred approach to the rule of law at this time of global crises.

Madam Chairperson,

Ghana continues to make progress in the effectiveness and transparency of the regulatory framework and control of corruption. The appointment of a new Special Prosecutor and the retooling of the Office constitute a conscious effort by the Government to augment the existing anti-corruption institutional framework and to that end, promote good governance, transparency, probity and accountability in

Madam Chairperson,

The issue of overcrowding in prisons and correctional centres remains a challenge as inmates compete for limited resources. The onset of the COVID pandemic, however, reinforces the need to explore alternative custodial sentencing and correctional measures. The current construction by Government of a capacity remand prison and the construction of a total number of 600 capacity camp prisons across the country are intended to facilitate the decongestion of national prisons and uphold the rights and dignity of the inmates while in custody.

Madam Chairperson,

Regrettably, the COVID19 pandemic has compounded gender inequalities and vulnerabilities and increased the risk of gender based violence against women and children. Yet still, there is no justification for the surge in intimate partner abuse, sexual exploitation and domestic violence. Protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of women and girls must remain a priority for all governments.

In Ghana, the domestic violence helpline activated by the Domestic Violence Victims Support Unit in Partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has enabled many victims access timely police interventions.

Madam Chairperson,

The rule of law entails the equality and participation of women and girls and hence, upholding and advancing the rule of law requires the dismantling of discriminatory structures and barriers that compromise the full and effective participation of over half the population in the country's economic and social development and recovery.
- COVID recovery.

Ultimately, the promotion of gender equality, gender mainstreaming and gender responsive institutions would be vital to build back better and resilient economies and the world we want.

Madam Chairperson,

In conclusion, allow me to reiterate Ghana's commitment to advance the rule of law

both at the national level and at the regional level.