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the effective promotion and protection of human rights, just as human rights are themselves at the heart of the rule of law and the foundation of any functioning rule of law system. Indeed, as highlighted in the

just and peaceful societies. Switzerland welcomes the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights commitment to translating this fundamental vision of the Secretary-General into action.

Secondly, as the High Commissioner has emphasized, it is of particular importance that the rule of law addresses new and emerging issues. It must govern in the digital sphere as it does in the physical world. International human rights law must apply to new technologies and safeguards for the responsible use of digital technologies and artificial intelligence must be respected. Additionally, the rule of law has a vital role to play in our efforts to protect the environment and promote climate justice.

Thirdly, Switzerland would like to underscore the inextricable link between the rule of law and accountability for international crimes. In accordance with the Secretary-General's report, we underscore the pivotal role of investigative mechanisms, such as the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism for Syria (IIIM), the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM) and the Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD) in gathering evidence and