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Let me first thank the Secretary-General for his report A/78/184 on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities. We are happy to note that there continues to be progress towards a more comprehensive and joint approach among United Nations entities

8. As per GA Resolution 77/110 on the “Rule of law at the national and international levels”, the focus of our debate in this session is on the subtopic “Using technology to advance access to justice for all”.

9. In this context we would like to inform this forum that more than a decade ago, India launched the “[National e-Library of Laws](#)” for digitization of the courts with the aim of improving access to justice by using technology. The project is being implemented in association with the e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India and the Department of Justice.

10. The first phase of the project was implemented between 2011-2015 and the second phase began in 2015 under which more than 18,000 District and Subordinate courts were computerised. Phase II formally came to an end on 31st March 2023. Taking the gains of Phase-I and Phase-II to the next level, the e-Courts Phase-III aims to usher in a regime of maximum ease of justice by moving towards digital, online and paperless courts.

11. The responsibility for the planning, policy and implementation of the e-Courts project is vested in the e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India, headed by the Chief Justice of India. With the objective of bringing uniformity and standardization in the conduct of the proceedings of courts by video conferencing, an overarching order was passed by the Supreme Court of India on 6th April, 2020 giving legal sanctity and validity to the court hearings done through video conferencing. The rules for video conferencing, framed by the Supreme Court, have been circulated to all the High Courts for adoption after local contextualization.

12. The High Courts and Subordinate Courts in India, have conducted more than 27 million virtual hearings till 30 June 2023. The Supreme Court of India held close to half a million hearings through video conferencing till 31 May 2023.

16. Our online access to legal system and virtual hearing of cases have helped in ensuring an easy, accessible and affordable judicial justice system for the people belonging to socially and economically weaker sections.

17. Rule of law at the international level also entails reform of our international institutions of global governance, including those charged with the responsibility of maintenance of international peace and security. Reform of the United Nations, with the Security Council at its core, is needed to uphold the rule of law at international levels and ensure effective multilateral actions. There is an urgent need to ensure rule of law, by making Security Council more representative by providing enhanced representation to developing countries in both the permanent and non-permanent categories.

18. We hope that the international community will be able to transform the UN to meet the emerging global challenges of the 21st Century.

19. India remains committed to advancing the rule of law and partnering with the UN and other Member-States in advancing this critical endeavor.