



GENERAL DEBATE

IDLO

ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES MEETING 2020

24 NOVEMBER 2020

**Welcoming address by Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation of Italy
H.E. Emanuela Del Re**

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Madame President, (USA Jennifer Harhigh)

Madame Director General, (Jan Beagle)

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to open IDLO's Assembly of Parties. Although Italy traditionally hosts this event at the Farnesina, we unfortunately had to organize it online this year for the reasons we all know.

So far, 2020 has been a year like no other in our lifetime. As Covid-19 sweeps through every corner of the world, affecting everyone and exacerbating inequality and deprivation, world leaders are called to act swiftly to contain this unprecedented threat in order to promote a fast and sustainable recovery.

To do this, the rule of law becomes more essential than ever as the effectiveness of government measures to contain the virus and "Build Back Better" depends on the capacity of public institutions to provide transparent, effective, and accountable policy and actions.

As stated last week by Director General Jan Beagle in her appreciated statement at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Italian Chamber of Deputies: "the rule of law can play a key role in sustaining peace by helping to address the root causes of conflict and insecurity, which often lie in issues such as discrimination and marginalization, lack of respect for human rights, corruption and impunity".

In my previous decades-long work experience in conflict areas, I could see first-hand how legal empowerment can help reducing inequalities by enabling poor, marginalized and vulnerable groups access essential public services like justice, health and education.

Today, in my position as the Italian Vice Minister in charge of development cooperation, I strongly believe that Sustainable Development, as an enabler of peace, justice and inclusion, can help promote stronger institutions, more successful government action and reduced inequalities to prevent and mitigate disease outbreaks such as COVID-19.

The values and principles expressed by SDG16 become crucial to overcome the ongoing crisis and ensure a just, equitable and sustainable recovery for all.

In this context, IDLO's action is increasingly important, especially if we consider that its mandate – supporting the rule of law and promoting justice as a means for sustainable development – is unique among International organizations and multilateral bodies.

IDLO is contributing to global efforts to promote peace and development through the rule of law, protect the most vulnerable, and move towards more inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies.

Italy, as an active member of the international community and within the European Union, is pushing for increasing investments in the rule of law sector and access to Justice, as a fundamental component of sustainable development, especially at these challenging times.

Protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with our Constitution, has always been at the heart of Italy's policy and action, both at the national and international level.

As a member of the United Nations' Human Rights Council for the 2019-2021 mandate and as a candidate country for the next term, Italy is particularly committed to the fight against all forms of discrimination; the promotion of the rights of women and children and the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities; the establishment of a universal moratorium against the death penalty; the protection of freedom of religion or belief and the rights of persons belonging to religious minorities; the fight against human trafficking and the protection of human rights defenders.

Italy is also playing a leading role in the fight against corruption, especially in the context of the upcoming Italian G20 Presidency. As leaders of the G20 Anticorruption Working Group, we will adopt a holistic vision for the fight against corruption by focusing on new forms of corruption that are emerging in the global economy, especially if we consider the new risks linked with the health crisis.

As we play a primary role in capacity building, institution building, law enforcement and consensus building initiatives, we are convinced that strengthening multilateral cooperation is the only way to overcome the current crisis. This is why we have invited IDLO to attend the G20 Anti-corruption Working Group that will be held under our leadership.

Considering the importance we bestow on our collaboration with IDLO, we invited its Director General, Ms. Jan Beagle, to open –as guest speaker- the 5th session of the Development cooperation joint steering committee that will take place on the 14th of December.

Furthermore, as you already know, Italy presented the candidature of Mr. Stefano Manservigi as Italian delegate of the Board of Advisers, in view of the elections that will take place later. I am convinced that Mr. Manservigi's valuable and extensive experience in the field of development cooperation will confer an added value to IDLO activities, programs and international relevance.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In recent years we have worked together to consolidate IDLO's role and activities and we now see its increasing relevance as an important component of Rome's international organizations' hub.

We welcome the ever-stronger partnerships IDLO has been building in recent years with the UN development system, both in Rome and in New York, with our active support.

We are also pleased with the Covid-19 response IDLO is providing, in partnership with FAO, with a project aimed at mitigating the impact of emergency laws and regulations on access to food, particularly for marginalized and vulnerable groups.

This is consistent with IDLO's commitment to strengthen legal and policy frameworks on pandemic preparedness and response to public health emergencies in collaboration with the World Health Organization.

It also runs in parallel with IDLO's efforts to enhance justice for women and girls, especially in the context of COVID-19, by supporting access to justice to overcome ongoing restrictions on

mobility and improve efficiency and transparency in the administration of justice in Countries like Afghanistan, Kenya, Somalia, and Tunisia.

Besides these positive trends, in order to achieve its mandate IDLO needs a renewed commitment, both financial and political, from all of us.

We have already confirmed our substantial financial contribution to the Organization for 2020 and we hope that other Members will join us, in accordance with their respective capacity, by ensuring their active support to IDLO's core functions, as well as to the implementation of the important projects it carries out on the ground.

Let us join our forces to achieve sustainable development and peace through accountable Institutions and universal access to justice everywhere: supporting IDLO can really make a difference.

I wish you a very fruitful and constructive debate.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
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The United States is proud to have helped guide the International Development Law Organization as President over the past three years. These have been extremely productive years for IDLO. IDLO has added four new member parties, elected and successfully transitioned to a new and highly effective Director General, and brought on dynamic new staff members.

Programmatically, IDLO has responded to increased demand for its high-quality programming to advance the rule of law and access to justice for all. Operationally, IDLO has opened new field offices; increased its collaboration with other UN agencies, especially those here in Rome; and concluded Host Country Agreements with Burkina Faso, Mongolia, Niger, and Uganda that provide IDLO staff and partners with appropriate legal protections. And IDLO has achieved much of this during a global pandemic, rapidly adopting new modes of communications and outreach while ensuring the well-being of its most important asset, IDLO staff.

IDLO's trajectory is therefore very clear and very encouraging – IDLO is on pace for continued growth and an ever-greater impact globally. At the same time, IDLO's successes, combined with the high-level interventions by Director-General Jan Beagle, are helping to elevate the rule of law in global policy discussions around sustainable peace and economic development. IDLO's partnerships with the Rome-based UN agencies are having the same effect, producing concrete results via joint programming, events, and the Director-General's participation in the UN Security Management Team for Italy.

IDLO's growth has meant more work for us member parties, especially those of us that actively participate in IDLO governance committees. Here, I would like to thank my fellow Bureau members Italy and Mozambique for their leadership and advocacy. I would also like to recognize fellow Standing Committee members Turkey, the Philippines, Kuwait and Ecuador. The Audit and Finance Committee, ably chaired by Mr. Filippo Alessi of Italy, has succeeded because of the active participation of Turkey, Senegal, Peru, Pakistan, and Kuwait. These committees play an essential role in ensuring member party input to and oversight of IDLO operations. I strongly encourage all member states to consider joining one of these committees in the years ahead.

Looking forward, the United States welcomes the ambitious performance targets laid out in IDLO's Strategic Plan, Management Plan, and Budget. We wholly agree with the assessment that COVID-19 has shown a light on existing inequalities worldwide in access to justice, exacerbated persistent problems such as gender-based violence, and made clear the need for innovative solutions including e-justice. We also wholly agree that any sustainable recovery must be based on justice and the rule of law for all. Today's discussions are therefore extremely important, in setting this one-of-a-kind intergovernmental organization on a course to make the greatest possible impact in the years ahead.

STATEMENT OF BURKINA FASO

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
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Monsieur le Président de l'Assemblée des Parties,

Madame la Directrice Générale,

Excellences mesdames et messieurs les délégués,

Je voudrais adresser de nouveau mes vives félicitations et mes encouragements à Madame Jan BEAGLE, qui est à sa première Assemblée des Parties en qualité de Directrice générale.

Malgré le contexte sanitaire actuel, vous avez réussi à organiser cette importante rencontre dans les meilleures conditions possibles de manière virtuelle. Tout au long du processus de préparation, la dynamique équipe de l'OIDD n'a ménagé aucun effort pour mobiliser l'attention et la participation des membres afin d'assurer le succès de cette Assemblée des Parties.

Madame la Directrice Générale,

Je retiens de la présentation de votre rapport le grand travail qui est engagé pour ancrer définitivement l'OIDD comme une organisation internationale majeure en matière de promotion de l'Etat de droit, de la bonne gouvernance et de la justice sociale.

Je me réjouis particulièrement du lancement du Programme d'« Appui intégré aux systèmes de justice pénale au Sahel » . Ce soutien qui sera apporté à la chaîne pénale des pays bénéficiaires que sont le Mali, le Niger et le Burkina Faso, est une contribution essentielle à la dynamique d'ensemble des acteurs étatiques et des partenaires divers en vue d'apporter la sécurité et le développement dans cette région.

Mesdames, messieurs,

Le contexte mondial actuel est marqué par l'apparition de nouvelles crises aux dimensions multiples. Elles augmentent les dangers sur les populations les plus vulnérables, sans une protection interne et internationale adéquate. C'est dans ces moments de difficulté que le respect de la règle de droit est particulièrement mis à rude épreuve. Je me permets ainsi de souligner de nouveau la pertinence de la stratégie de l'OIDD de mieux se déployer sur le terrain, dans un cadre formel accepté par les Etats parties.

Je voudrais donc encourager les Etats membres à faciliter l'ancrage formel des interventions de notre organisation commune dans nos pays.

Je ne saurais terminer sans me féliciter de la signature d'un Accord de siège entre l'OIDD et mon pays en octobre dernier. Cet Accord permettra à l'équipe de l'OIDD d'accomplir avec sérénité ses activités sur le terrain.

Je voudrais enfin réaffirmer la disponibilité du Burkina Faso à accompagner l'OIDD dans sa vision et ses actions en faveur de l'Etat de droit.

Je vous remercie.

STATEMENT OF CHINA

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Thank you, Mr/Madame President.

I would like to thank Madame Director-General for all the work she has led her team since she took office. Especially in this special period of global crisis, IDLO not only did a good job in epidemic prevention and control, ensured the continuity of work, but also helped relevant countries to improve their ability to respond to the crisis by promoting various law projects, while improving internal management and strengthening external cooperation. IDLO has made significant contributions to the promotion of international rule of law and development. China appreciates Madame Director-General's efforts to make all this happen.

Madame Director-General actively promotes the cooperation between China and IDLO, including the JPO project. China will continue to support IDLO, and actively explore possible cooperation means in accordance with the strategic goals and objectives set in the new strategic plan released after our discussion today. China will strengthen exchanges and cooperation with IDLO and other parties, and Chinese legal experts will also share their professional experience and expertise, to contribute to the international rule of law and development.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF EGYPT

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Thank you Mr. Chairperson
H.E. Emanuela Del Re, Vice minister for Foreign affairs,
Madame Director General Jan Beagle,
Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

We would like once again to congratulate the Director General, we are confident that her capabilities and experiences will lead the organisation towards maximising its engagement and contribution to the rule of law and justice.

Egypt as one of the principal founders of the organisation, believes in the synergetic relationship between sustainable development and the realization of peace and security. Both are interlinked. We can't achieve sustainable development if our world continues to suffer from the threats of terrorism, conflicts and hunger. The rule of law is at the center of the agenda 2030. It is inconceivable to envision that these universal objectives could be achieved without a collective effort to uphold the rule of law in all sectors.

In this regard, Egypt reconfirms the commitment to support all international efforts contributing to the achievement of these objectives.

We commend the efforts exerted to put the organization into a sustainable growth trajectory especially in an increasingly changing international environment.

The world is facing a new challenge manifested in the Covid-19, our goal is to maintain the efforts, and to overcome the repercussions. IDLO can prove to be an important response to safeguard the equitable, just and sustainable recovery. Also it is vital to exert more efforts towards addressing the specific challenges facing the developing countries, with special attention to women empowerment.

In conclusion, We would to express our thanks to the United states for their leadership during their presidency of the assembly, also express our support to Pakistan nomination as the new president, and the United States as the new Vice-President.

Egypt expresses support to the nomination of Senegal for the membership of the standing committee on representing Africa, with full confidence that their membership will represent an essential contribution in the standing committee.

Thank you

STATEMENT OF FRANCE

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La France est fondamentalement attachée à l'accès à une justice impartiale et à des institutions judiciaires transparentes, efficaces et indépendantes, qui sont au fondement de l'État de droit et représentent un vecteur essentiel pour le développement durable.

La France souligne toute l'importance de l'État de droit à l'international, comme socle de la protection des droits humains, de la sauvegarde des libertés civiles, de la gouvernance démocratique, de la prévention des conflits violents et de la pérennisation de la paix.

La pandémie de la Covid-19 a exacerbé les inégalités, les tensions sociales, la discrimination et les injustices, notamment pour les populations les plus vulnérables, et a porté un coup sévère au respect des droits humains et à l'accès aux droits. La promotion de l'État de droit et d'une justice juste et équitable est fondamentale dans ce contexte. La France salue les efforts engagés en ce sens par l'OIDD pour s'adapter et répondre à ce nouveau contexte, à travers son action en faveur du renforcement des cadres juridique et politique pour la gestion de la Covid-19, de l'atténuation de l'impact de la crise sur les systèmes judiciaires et les personnes vulnérables en quête de justice et son plaidoyer pour souligner le caractère crucial de l'État de droit pour protéger les droits et la dignité des personnes partout dans le monde.

L'affermissement de l'État de droit et le renforcement des institutions de justice sont des éléments catalyseurs pour relever les défis partagés. A cet égard, la France encourage les actions de l'OIDD en faveur de l'ODD 16, dans le cadre de son plan stratégique 2021-2024. Au vu des enjeux communs en matière de développement et d'État de droit, les cibles stratégiques retenues par l'OIDD sont pertinentes et il est important d'intervenir en faveur d'une justice efficace et équitable pour les femmes et les hommes, d'une justice climatique, et d'un meilleur accès aux droits – notamment sanitaire – comme catalyseurs de la paix et du développement durable.

La France apprécie par ailleurs les efforts déployés au cours des dernières années pour développer son action au Sahel, qui permettent d'envisager la mise en œuvre d'une coopération plus étroite entre la France et l'OIDD dans la région.

STATEMENT OF ITALY

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Dear Director General, dear colleagues, I would like to express our greatest appreciation to all the efforts made by IDLO to support its partners to tackle their most pressing justice needs and address some of the underlying causes of exclusion, inequality and injustice.

We are strongly confident that good governance and the rule of law are central to managing the COVID-19 crisis and promoting resilience against future shocks.

Referring more specifically to the interactions between IDLO, Italy and the Rome Based Agencies, and in particular FAO, we are very glad that Idlo joined us in supporting the Italian proposal of a “Food Coalition”, recently launched by Fao.

The Food Coalition is an alliance among Countries united by the will to prevent the health crisis from turning into a food crisis.

It is also a system of national expertise based on a large pool of specialists, from institutions, research centers, universities and civil society.

It is a coalition of the willing aimed at sharing practices to mitigate the effects of the crisis, building on the existing collaboration against hunger and malnutrition, to ensure access to food for ALL. Hopefully, all the Parties attending the Assembly today will enter the alliance in the days to come.

Having the support of IDLO and in general from the RBA, can help us to make the difference. We are strongly confident that IDLO has an important role to play.

Moreover, I would like to express my congratulations for the excellent results of the hearing of the Director General Beagle at the Committee on Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of the Italian Chamber of Deputies. The hearing was requested by the current President to improve and strengthen the interaction between the Italian Parliament and all the international actors working daily in the 2030 Agenda framework.

We have very much appreciated the statements delivered by the DG about our common values and principles.

STATEMENT OF LIBERIA

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020

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Madam Director General

Distinguished Member Parties

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am honoured but humbled to make this statement on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Liberia on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Assembly of Parties taking place in Rome. This Meeting is taking place at a time when the world is faced with a global pandemic occasioned by uncertainties and challenges such as being unable to meet physically today. I wish to pay tribute to the host country, Italy for the human and other losses it has and continue to endure as a result of this pandemic. Allow me, therefore, Madam Director-General to thank you and your staff both at headquarters and country offices for your resilience and hard work that ensured that this Meeting is held today despite the challenges.

This year's Annual Meeting marks the second year in which the IDLO has had its formal footprint in the Republic of Liberia, following the accession of Liberia to the IDLO on the 7th May of the previous year.

On formally partnering with Liberia, the IDLO's commitment was to advance the rule of law, especially for the most vulnerable of its societies. The work that is done and the strides achieved by the office of the IDLO in Liberia are a testament to the IDLO's dedication to achieving this commitment. This is so much more evident that despite the COVID 19 Pandemic, which has left the Rule of Law compromised and has pushed marginalized groups further outside the peripheries of the Rule of Law, the IDLO remain committed to ensuring they are brought back within the protective framework of the Rule of Law.

I am particularly pleased to have the IDLO tackle highly sensitive subjects under the broad framework of access to Justice. It is no secret that the most marginalized of society feel and most times are often not within reach of the protections that are guaranteed by our countries Justice system and due to various constraints the Justice system itself is often unable to reach the farthest corners of society. This is what makes the work of the IDLO indispensable in the Liberian context.

The IDLO's work therefore in the aspect of Trafficking in Persons (TIP), is a crucial intervention in the Liberian context. Given that the scourge of human trafficking the world over is significant and highly devastating in its effects. Yet the intricacies involved in the trafficking trade are highly sophisticated and require specialized knowledge to counter. Thus the Government's effort can only go so far given the resource constraints we have as a country. Therefore, as a Government, we sincerely thank and appreciate the IDLO for an intervention of this nature.

We carry the same sentiment for the significant work done on Gender-based Violence (GBV). It is trite that Gender-based violence amongst our societies remains a pertinent issue and it continues to be a global call to end GBV. Thus we cannot downplay the significance of the work done in this area by the IDLO and we appreciate it profoundly as a Country.

Lastly, we take this opportunity to appreciate the IDLO's new Strategic Plan 2021-2024 which has been presented here today. We note that the plan is indeed anchored in the 2030 Agenda. We appreciate IDLO's approach to the rule of law as both an outcome and enabler of peace and sustainable development. As the Republic of Liberia, the concept of "people-centred justice" on

which the plan is built, resonates with us and we support the IDLO unconditionally as the strategic plan is pursued.

In closing, Madam Director-General, may we express our continued unconditional support to the IDLO in its positive work in the Republic of Liberia and we count on the continued collaboration as we continue to pursue the ends of both Access to Justice and the Rule of Law together.

I thank you.

STATEMENT OF MALI
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Madame la Présidente de l'Assemblée Générale des Parties ;
Madame la Directrice Générale de l'OIDD ;
Excellences Mesdames et Messieurs les Ambassadeurs ;
Mesdames et Messieurs.

Bonjour à toutes et à tous,

Nous voudrions tout d'abord, remercier Madame la Directrice Générale de l'OIDD pour toutes ses initiatives afin de relever les défis d'organisation de cette Assemblée Générale des Parties en dépit de la COVID-19.

C'est aussi pour nous l'occasion de féliciter toute l'équipe en charge de l'organisation de cette Assemblée Générale de l'OIDD pour l'accompagnement des pays membres dans pratiquement tous les domaines, notamment ceux de l'Afrique.

Aussi, nos encouragements vont à l'endroit de l'OIDD pour sa réaction inlassable face à la pandémie de COVID, en témoigne la croissance continue que connaît de nos jours les activités de l'Organisation.

De même, nous apprécions les efforts de l'OIDD dans le domaine de l'introduction de l'état de droit dans les discussions politiques notamment avec les Agences des Nations Unies basées à Rome.

Nous adressons nos vifs encouragements à Madame la Directrice Générale de l'OIDD pour la poursuite de ses échanges au niveau des Nations Unies.

Nous prenons acte de l'appel de la Directrice Générale de l'OIDD aux Etats membres pour participer aux différents comités de l'organisation.

Enfin nous remercions l'OIDD pour toutes ces actions au sahel et sa participation remarquable à la 9ème réunion des représentants spéciaux pour le sahel notamment son appel vibrant en faveur de la justice et de l'état de droit.

Nous saluons les efforts de l'OIDD quant à son appui à la justice pénale au niveau du sahel notamment au Mali, au Burkina Faso et au Niger.

Pour conclure Madame la Directrice Générale, nous souhaitons pleins succès aux travaux de l'Assemblée Générale des Parties, tout en vous réitérant notre engagement à vous accompagner dans la réussite de votre mission.

Merci de votre aimable attention.

STATEMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE

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Thank Mr. President for giving me the floor,

On behalf of the Republic of Mozambique, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Director General and her team for the very comprehensive report of IDLO activities.

As mentioned in the report, since its outbreak, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has a multiplying impact on a number of challenges that beset our world today, and highlighted the prevailing conditions of inequalities, discrimination, insecurity and injustice, particularly of the most vulnerable people.

In this regard, we welcome IDLO contribution to the global response to the COVID-19, particularly the initiatives undertaken to highlight the importance of SDG16 contribution in the context of 2030 Agenda. It is through peace, justice and strong institutions that we can make tangible progress and achieve sustainable development.

We are happy to see that in the course of the year, IDLO not only was engaged with partner organizations for coordinated crisis response and preparedness to mitigate the adverse impact of COVID-19, but also implemented a number of programs aimed at promoting inclusive economic development, access to justice, fighting gender violence, capacity building, just to mention a few.

We are also happy to note and commend IDLO work in promoting inclusive economic development through the investment support programme for least developed countries with projects in a number of countries including some African states.

With these comments, Mozambique endorses the DG report.

Thank you

STATEMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS
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As the Netherlands, we are pleased to participate in this Assembly of Parties. We are grateful to IDLO for making this happen and your tireless efforts to prepare for today's Assembly.

This year has been a year of change for IDLO. A new Director General, development of your new Strategic Plan and of course adaptation of your work to respond to the COVID crisis.

The Netherlands is pleased with progress made and remains committed to its partnership with IDLO. We commend IDLO, as well as the various committees present here today, for your continuous efforts at country and global levels, as well as your leadership in drawing attention to the impact of Covid-19 on the rule of law and justice. Your work on the ground, as well as your voice and presence at the global level make a great contribution to improving justice.

And improving access to justice – to PEOPLE-CENTRED justice – has now become even more important, so we welcome your explicit focus on people-centred justice. We hope to see this focus integrated into all your thematic focus areas and concretized further on the ground. Innovation, and a robust role for women and youth, should all be part of this.

In our Dutch Access to Justice Strategy, we seek to promote people-centered justice at country levels, based on evidence of successful approaches and data of justice needs. We want to reach at least 200.000 people a year, 50% of which must be women.

We built in a special focus on 'those furthest behind', including children, women, IDPs, refugees and migrants, detainees and victims of massive human rights violations. Too long, justice systems have been serving the few, rather than the many. These groups often face structural injustices, which have to be addressed.

Lastly, we aim to continue to build a global community of countries that commit to promoting SDG 16.3 and to make people-centered justice the new normal.

We already work with many partners to promote national action and leadership for justice at the local, national, regional and global levels. We will continue these efforts and welcome other countries to join us. Also, collaboration and coordination amongst donors, international organizations and NGOs supporting justice is important. Almost 20 years after the Accra Agenda for Action and Paris Declaration, support is all too often still provided in silos without joint efforts to maximize impact.

We also hope that more funding will be made available for this important area, both at national levels through state governments and through assistance of international organizations, bilateral

donors and the World Bank. We are for example very pleased to see that the World Bank has included justice as an area of focus in their new Fragility, Conflict and Violence strategy.

We believe that this gathering today, with IDLO and its Member Parties, forms an opportunity to join forces to promote SDG 16.3 and call for more political and financial commitments at country and global levels. And we look forward to working with you in advancing these goals.

STATEMENT OF PAKISTAN

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
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Thank you Chair,

I would like to thank the Director General for a comprehensive and insightful report covering IDLO's functioning and performance in a most turbulent year, as well as for laying a roadmap for the future.

We are all well aware of the challenges that Ambassador Beagle had to face in her first year on the job, and the tremendous effort put in by her and IDLO's team during the Covid-19 pandemic; inter alia, to support the global endeavors for addressing this grave challenge, by helping formulate legal and policy framework that would enable an organized response to public health emergencies.

IDLO's ongoing collaboration with WHO on non-communicable diseases and pandemic preparedness & response lays significant groundwork for establishing legal mechanisms to cope with future crises.

Excellencies

We take a positive note of IDLO's continued quest for promoting rule of law, and a culture of justice, to support sustainable development goals, employing its core strategy of inclusion, integration and innovation.

The ongoing pandemic underlines the need for inclusion, to ensure equity for an increasing segment of world's vulnerable population, that has now been left more exposed than ever.

The constantly changing global dynamics are indicative of the need for innovative approaches in reaching out to the vulnerable populations across the globe.

Similarly, the increasing economic marginalization for some of these populations, underscores the need for integrating them in the process of development. Because only a sustainable development for all could be sustainable in the long term.

Excellencies,

The Director General has rightly pointed out that this is the Decade of Action for achieving Sustainable Development Goals. To play its due role in supporting SDGs in the coming years, IDLO, would have to broaden its horizon, so to help remove obstacles to progress, and promote an enabling environment for development. Besides promoting access to justice and inclusivity in the economic domain, we could envisage making interventions for strengthening the legal mechanisms against corruption and lack of transparency, as well as against rent-seeking and systemic inequities; and for promoting meritocracy and accountability.

Here, I would like to appreciate IDLO's partnerships with different governments on socio-economic development. These projects, covering a wide spectrum of subjects - ranging from anticorruption to sustainable agriculture, transparent commercial law system to capacity building in anti-trust and antimonopoly - are all steps in the right direction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is heartening to see the dedication with which the management and personnel of IDLO have been working towards our shared goals, amid an array of fresh challenges. The growing scope of their global engagement is reflective of their commitment and dedication.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire IDLO team for the excellent work during these extraordinary times, and wish all success for the challenging tasks ahead.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PERU

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
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Gracias señora Presidenta por concederme el uso de la palabra,

Es grato iniciar esta intervención felicitando la labor realizada por la señora Jan Beagle durante su primer año de mandato como Directora General. El reto asumido en 2019 no vislumbraba la magnitud de la crisis producida por la pandemia de COVID-19, la que ha generado desafíos sin precedentes.

No obstante, el Perú reconoce que la IDLO, bajo la dirección de la Sra. Beagle, ha sabido desplegar con rapidez una respuesta integral para garantizar la continuidad de sus programas, adaptándose a los contextos cambiantes, valiéndose de la gran red de socios y empleando la tecnología a disposición para fortalecer su gestión.

Por ello, el Perú recibe con satisfacción el comprensivo informe materia de debate y destaca las áreas estratégicas formuladas para dar respuesta a la crisis, que se enfocan en fortalecer los marcos jurídicos y normativos, mitigar el impacto de la crisis en los sistemas de justicia y defender el Estado de derecho.

Señora Presidenta,

El Perú se encuentra en vísperas de conmemorar el Bicentenario de su Independencia y tiene como una de sus banderas la defensa de los valores democráticos y la promoción del Estado de derecho. Recientemente, mi país sufrió momentos de inestabilidad política que se sumaron a la agobiante crisis producida por la COVID-19. Dicha situación ha sido felizmente superada, empleándose para ello los mecanismos previstos en la Constitución, que permitieron la sucesión presidencial del señor Francisco Sagasti como Jefe de Estado transitorio hasta entregar la presidencia a un nuevo Mandatario, como resultado de elecciones generales a realizarse en abril de 2021.

Ello es una muestra de los grandes desafíos que aún enfrenta el Perú, a pesar de su convicción democrática y vocación de respeto irrestricto por el Estado de derecho; por lo que se siguen desplegando esfuerzos hacia el fortalecimiento de sus instituciones.

Desde inicios del 2020, El Perú viene impulsando una reforma del Sistema de Justicia, con el objetivo de fortalecer la institucionalidad, la transparencia y la lucha contra la corrupción. En ese contexto, la modernización del sistema de justicia y el uso de las tecnologías de la información para la implementación de procedimientos electrónicos, tienen como finalidad ampliar y mejorar el acceso a la justicia.

Asimismo, durante el tiempo de la pandemia, el Perú ha brindado especial importancia a la transparencia y acceso a la información, así como al acceso a la justicia, mediante la atención virtual, garantizando la prestación de servicios legales a personas de escasos recursos; habilitando un canal de comunicación para denunciar actos de corrupción; y, velando por la protección de los grupos más vulnerables.

Señora Presidenta,

A lo largo de estos últimos años, el Perú ha desempeñado funciones en los órganos de la IDLO, y reconoce que su gestión fue acompañada por el equipo de profesionales que integra esta organización. A ellos un especial agradecimiento.

El Perú ve con satisfacción el crecimiento de la IDLO, luego de su proceso de reforma, en el que fuimos participantes activos, que permitió brindar una mayor apertura a la participación de sus miembros en la toma de decisiones, así como el fortalecimiento de la confianza hacia la organización.

Hoy celebramos un nuevo proceso de elecciones en la composición de los órganos de gobierno de IDLO y el Perú es un convencido de la importancia de la alternancia entre todos los miembros. Por ello, expresamos nuestro respaldo a los países que serán elegidos hoy y a los esfuerzos que desplegarán para seguir fortaleciendo tan valorada organización.

Muchas gracias señora Presidenta.

STATEMENT OF SWEDEN

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Thank you, Madam President.

First of all, Sweden would like to express a sincere welcome to Director General Jan Beagle on her first Assembly of Parties. We look forward to engaging and cooperating with you and the whole team in the years to come.

We are happy you have been able to meet with our Minister for Development Cooperation digitally, but we do hope to be able to welcome you in person here in Stockholm.

Allow us also to express our gratitude for the work conducted by IDLO during these last four years, and we trust that the achievements made in the current strategy will be brought forward in the implementation of the new one. The covid-19 pandemic represents extraordinary challenges globally, and we appreciate IDLO's dedication in promoting a rule of law-based approach to the response of the pandemic.

As we keep emphasizing - human rights, democracy and the rule of law are areas to which Sweden is very dedicated. And this is true for all areas of our foreign policy. The link between them is crucial and strong which is why Sweden addresses them comprehensively, including through our Drive for Democracy and Feminist Foreign Policy.

This is why we are happy to see a continued focus on empowering individuals to claim their human rights, on enabling governments to uphold their commitments, and on strengthening institutions to realise them, as well as on gender equality in the draft strategy that will be presented later in this meeting. SDG 16 as a precondition for the achievement of the entire Agenda is also fundamental for the work of IDLO.

The importance of the Global goals cannot be overestimated in the totality of IDLO's work. We highly value the unique mandate of IDLO, as an authority for the rule of law. Building up democratic institutions at local and national level, through a human rights-based approach, is absolute key for peaceful and inclusive societies, and for sustainable development.

Without a rules-based order we will not be able to achieve all that we have set out to do in the Agenda 2030. We encourage IDLO to continue strengthening its cooperation with other actors and focusing on its key strengths and added value, for strengthening respect for the rule of law globally, as well as building capacity to uphold it.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF TURKEY

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Esteemed Director-General,

Excellencies,

Distinguished participants,

It is a pleasure to participate in the meeting of the Assembly of Parties of IDLO, even though it is a virtual gathering due to the pandemic.

The pandemic, which created unprecedented challenges affecting all spheres of life, is also adversely affecting our mutual efforts towards creating a more just, more equal, more developed world where no one is left behind.

IDLO's programs in various regions, which are making substantial contributions to people's lives, have gained more significance during this critical period.

While rapidly adjusting itself to this "new normal", IDLO continued to support countries for ensuring rule of law by using digital technologies, organizing webinars and introducing e-justice tools to countries' justice systems.

IDLO also worked successfully towards the goals of supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged groups including women and girls who are disproportionately affected from the pandemic.

Esteemed participants,

It was an honor for Turkey to serve as a member of the "Standing Committee" for the last two years and we will remain in the "Audit and Finance Committee" until 2021.

We have deeply appreciated the cooperation amply demonstrated by the distinguished members of the committees and the worthy contributions of the Board of Advisors.

In this regard, I would like to recall that Turkish Ambassador Ertuğrul Apakan's 8 year long successful tenure at the Board of Advisors, is coming to an end this year.

While thanking Ambassador Apakan and all other distinguished Board members for their invaluable efforts, I also wish to announce that Turkey has nominated Ambassador Hasan Göğüş, a prominent Turkish diplomat with vast knowledge and experience in multilateral affairs for the membership of the Board.

Before concluding, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Director General Jan Beagle, all the staff of IDLO and all member states and institutions for their efforts and contributions to IDLO. We will continue supporting IDLO for carrying out its lofty objectives.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF UGANDA

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020

24 NOVEMBER 2020

The Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy,

The President of IDLO,

The Director General of IDLO,

The Heads of Delegation,

Distinguished Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Director General on the extensive report she has just presented. I would like in the same vein to congratulate her on what she has been able to accomplish and for steering the organization forward during her first year in office that has obviously been challenging with the Covid-19 pandemic. This virtual Assembly is a manifestation of the good strides and organization flexibilities in delivering on its mandate.

Uganda's relationship with IDLO started before we became one of its signed-up members.

We have been working with IDLO in improving provision of inclusive justice to all Ugandans with funding from the Government of Sweden, and Uganda is currently implementing the five-year Euro 15 Million Community Justice Programme (CJP). In spite of the fact that the roll-out of the CJP was affected by the delay in the conclusion of the Host Country Agreement and the COVID-19 pandemic, steady progress is being made in its implementation. As part of this roll-out, IDLO is the process of signing of the Cooperation Agreement with the Government of Uganda that will enable the provision of technical and financial assistance, amounting to about Euro 6.85 Million, through the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MOJCA) to support key state institutions within the Uganda Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS), in various areas aimed at strengthening the provision and access of justice to all categories of people of the Ugandan society. The list is long but we would like to register our gratitude to Sweden and IDLO for this assistance.

We continue to register our gratitude to IDLO because it has also since July 2020 been providing financial support under the Community Justice Programme to three non-state legal aid service providers, Uganda Law Society, International Association of Women Lawyers-Uganda Chapter and the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) to provide legal aid services in 11 districts across the country and also engage in legal aid-related policy reform processes. An additional 7 other civil society organisations are being assessed for similar sub-granting support under the CJP from the 1st quarter of 2021. IDLO has also since September 2020 been providing technical support to the National Association of Women Judges in Uganda (NAWJU) in strengthening capacities of women judges and other judicial officers to dispense gender responsive and sensitive justice and to strengthen overall participation of women in justice dispensation in Uganda.

As indicated report, only recently, as part of the global COVID-19 response, IDLO on 8 October 2020, hosted key East African justice actors in a regional webinar in which Uganda's, Director of Public Prosecutions and the President of Uganda Law Society participated and shared how they have ensured sustenance of justice services in the country following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. IDLO provided them with this platform in which they shared with other participants from the East African region how they have innovatively adopted the use of ICT in

enhancing access to justice during the lockdowns including e-filing of cases, audio-visual court proceedings, web-based legal aid tools and strengthened coordination among the justice actors. We are grateful for this intervention from IDLO for availing this support to state and non-state justice actors to respond to the evolving justice challenges brought about by the pandemic in Uganda.

Our relationship with IDLO is vibrant and growing from strength to strength. IDLO has in the past enabled Uganda to participate in the May 2019 Global Forum on SDG 16 ahead of the UN High-Level Political Forums (HLPFs) in Rome, Italy, in which the Government Chief Whip, the then Deputy Chief Justice (now the Chief Justice) formally represented Uganda.

IDLO is also currently developing the “Strengthening Food Security for Vulnerable Groups, Women and Girls as part of the Covid-19 Response” Project towards contributing to enhancing food security and access to food for vulnerable populations, women and girls in times of emergency response and recovery, including in the context of COVID-19. Future programming in such areas as protection of biodiversity including through strengthening of legal framework for land and natural resources management, shall also be explored in line with the new IDLO Global Strategy.

We remain committed to continue working with IDLO its endeavour to support Uganda in the implementation of the provision and access of justice to all her citizens.

I thank you for your attention

STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020

First, I would like to welcome the Director-General to her first Assembly of Parties. Director-General Beagle, the United States appreciates your leadership and strategic vision for IDLO. In particular, we applaud your demonstrated commitment to open dialogue with IDLO member parties, as well as your tireless promotion of the rule of law and access to justice as essential components for sustainable development and lasting peace.

I would also like to recognize today's high-level representation by member parties. I have first-hand experience of just how busy your schedules are: many of you are working to find solutions to reverse troubling trends in hunger and malnutrition; others oversee bilateral relations with our extremely dynamic host country; and some of you somehow manage to do both. Your presence here today reflects the fundamental truth that sustainable development and lasting peace depend on the rule of law, now more so than ever.

With respect to the DG's report, the United States commends IDLO on its adherence to its core principles of Inclusion, Integration, and Innovation during this year of unprecedented challenges. As the only intergovernmental organization exclusively dedicated to the rule of law as an enabler of peace, sustainable development, and human rights, IDLO is uniquely positioned to build judicial capacity in challenging operating environments. We commend IDLO for its rapid shift to today's realities through greater use of webinars, for example, and your success in utilizing technology to sustain a busy schedule of trainings and project oversight work. As a result, IDLO has managed to largely keep pace with its pre-pandemic objectives without compromising the safety and wellbeing of its staff and partners.

The United States welcomes IDLO's work to promote inclusive economic development. I cannot stress enough the importance of this work. All countries are facing immense popular pressure to accelerate their nation's economic recovery. Experience shows us, however, that this pressure can compel states to pursue shortcuts and/or fall victim to predatory loans and investments, undermining the prospects for economic growth and political stability for years to come. IDLO's capacity building and anti-corruption programs help level the economic playing field. Economic justice, at the individual and societal levels, is a non-negotiable requirement for sustainable, long-term economic growth.

Ultimately, the proof is in the pudding. The wide range of activities captured in the DG's report to this Assembly accurately captures IDLO's unique mandate and capabilities. Each of these areas – from increasing access to justice for vulnerable populations, to combating gender based violence, to improving justice sector effectiveness – urgently demands the world's attention.

We, IDLO's 37 member parties, also have our work cut out for us. We need to work together to promote IDLO's impact amongst policymakers in our capitals, and in the capitals of our neighbors and partners. We need to introduce IDLO to non-governmental organizations, including the large foundations and corporate social responsibility entities that could bolster IDLO's work with resources and expertise. We should all be encouraged by rapidly growing global demand for capacity building in the justice sector. We need to work together to enable IDLO to expand its impact to meet this demand, while also ensuring that IDLO's growth does not come at the expense of the organization's excellent communication with member states and sound oversight processes.

With that, the United States very much looks forward to today's Assembly of Parties meeting, including discussion of the Strategic Plan, Management Plan, and Budget; an update on progress made securing Host Country Agreements, which protect our collective investment in IDLO's work; and Elections to the Standing Committee, Audit and Finance Committee, and Board of

Advisors, each on which will play a crucial role in shaping IDLO plans and operations in the years ahead.

**STRATEGIC PLAN & MANAGEMENT PLAN
DISCUSSION**

**IDLO
ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES MEETING 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

STATEMENT OF ECUADOR

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Señora Presidenta

Señores y señoras

Muchas gracias por la gran labor reflejada en su informe y en la construcción del Plan Estratégico 2021 – 2024, el cual pone de manifiesto las prioridades del mundo actual que, con la pandemia que vivimos en estos momentos, ha visibilizado aún más a los sectores más vulnerables de nuestras sociedades.

Es así como el imperio de la ley y su cumplimiento constituye una herramienta adecuada para cubrir esas necesidades y nos permite trabajar por un mundo más justo e igualitario. Temas como el acceso universal a la justicia, la adaptación al cambio climático, la revolución tecnológica y la equidad de género harán de nuestras sociedades conglomerados sociales más completos y adaptables a nuevas realidades y desafíos.

El hecho de centrar nuestro trabajo en las personas y en lograr alianzas estratégicas con todos los actores sociales hará que se devuelva la confianza en los estamentos gubernamentales a través de la transparencia y de la rendición de cuentas.

En este tema, el Ecuador ha trabajado frontalmente en contra de la corrupción y de la impunidad. Estamos orgullosos de los resultados de la aplicación objetiva de la justicia en casos emblemáticos que nos han devuelto la esperanza. Sabemos que no se trata de un trabajo finalizado y es por ello que requerimos siempre de la experiencia de IDLO en procesos como el acceso a la justicia mediante los llamados jueces de paz, por citar un ejemplo concreto. Hacemos votos por que la relación de cooperación técnica entre el Ecuador y el IDLO se fortalezca en este año que está por llegar.

Al mismo tiempo, y sobre la base de una equidad geográfica, esperamos recibir de los Estados miembros su decidido apoyo para la postulación del Ecuador para formar parte por dos años más del Comité Permanente de IDLO. Señores representantes, tengan la certeza de que nuestros esfuerzos y voluntad estarán siempre comprometidos con los objetivos comunes que compartimos en este foro.

Sin más por añadir, deseo que esta jornada que nos reúne sea positiva para todos y nos marque muchos desafíos para el futuro.

Muchas gracias.

STATEMENT OF ITALY

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

I would like to express our appreciation to all the efforts IDLO has made to go on with the development of the Strategic plan 2021-2024 and the Management Plan. Inclusion, integration and innovation are indeed crucial priorities of the Italian Foreign Policy too and we are absolutely on the same page.

The strategic plan clearly shows many IDLO's comparative advantages on the international arena.

Just to mention one, IDLO is supporting legal and institutional reforms and promoting good governance, working directly with local partners. Being a relatively small International Organization, with a very well structure in terms of effectiveness of its actions, IDLO has the necessary flexibility in order to design tailor-made solutions to all the issues it deals with.

In this context, we appreciate that IDLO is further strengthening its relations with strategic partners, such as relevant international and regional organizations and civil society organizations.

Finally, we appreciate that IDLO is prioritizing equality and inclusion by fighting discrimination and promoting fair laws, effective and accountable institutions and the empowerment of people. We believe that IDLO has a crucial and important role to play both on the RBAs level and in a broader UN perspective, and we appreciate all its efforts in this direction.

STATEMENT OF KUWAIT

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Madame Chair, Director-General Beagle, Excellencies and distinguished representatives.

I thank management for these highly informative presentations on IDLO's new Strategic Plan 2021-2024, Management Plan 2021-2022 and Operating Budget 2021. Much appreciation and gratitude also goes out to IDLO's staff and the secretariate for their excellent work and dedication during these extraordinary times, and for their continues support.

As a member of the Standing Committee, this Chair followed closely the development of IDLO's new Strategic Plan, and we are aware that IDLO has also conducted very wide-ranging consultations as part of this process and we commend Madame Beagle and her staff for doing so.

Kuwait fully supports IDLO's new Strategic Plan, with its strong focus on people-centered justice and the promotion of the rule-of-law, and we strongly believe that it is an excellent roadmap to guide the organization during the coming four years.

We also appreciate IDLO's efforts in producing the first ever two-year Management Plan, which we were pleased to approve for transmission to the Assembly at the Standing Committee meeting on October 19.

We are pleased to see the continued focus on geographic diversification of programming, including a commitment to scale up IDLO's presence in the MENA region, through the development of a regional strategy and new programs.

We also express our full support for IDLO's Operating Budget 2021 which we believe reflects IDLO's cautious approach to programming, in light of the current global circumstances.

Kuwait Fund looks forward to continuing to work with IDLO in the coming years, as a program partner as well as an active member of the governance structure of this esteemed organisation.

Thank you

STATEMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the floor to share some comments concerning the Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend IDLO for coming up with a Strategic Plan that not only take in consideration achievements of previous strategic cycles but also identifies new areas and programs aimed to strengthen the centrality of IDLO as the main International Organization devoted to promoting the rule of law and sustainable development.

We note that the Draft Strategic Plan before us is aligned to IDLO vision of making justice and the rule of law most effective particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Mozambique further appreciates the fact the Strategic Plan was developed out of an extensive consultation with various stakeholders, including Member Parties, International Organization, and many others.

Mr. President,

The new Strategic Plan with its people centred approach to human rights, rule of law, inclusive development and through innovative programs and objectives such as promotion of justice systems responsive to people needs, inclusive economic development, e-justice, climate justice and sustainable use of natural resources, access to health services will surely strengthen IDLO role as an Organization capable to lead the international efforts towards a peaceful, prosperous and inclusive future.

In conclusion Chairperson, we fill that the Strategic Plan is a well-designed strategy, which if executed well could be instrumental for the Organization but most importantly increase the role IDLO and its contribution to global efforts to sustain peace and achieve sustainable development in the context of 2030 Agenda.

With these comments, Mozambique endorses the Draft Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

STATEMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020

Thank you for having presented your Strategic Plan, Management Plan and Budget. We have also appreciated the extensive consultation process in compiling it.

There are many synergies between IDLO's Strategic Plan and our own Access to Justice Strategy. We welcome your people-centred focus in the Strategic Plan. We see many specific strengths that IDLO brings to the table, for example:

Your diverse membership

Your specialized mandate and strong expertise in a number of crucial areas, including for instance in health and the law (particularly important now in the context of Covid19), in gender, and in informal justice systems.

We know you are aiming to move away from a project-based organization to larger, longer-term programmes and engagement. A key step forward to accomplish this is to increasingly work on the basis of regional and country-specific overarching strategies, based on solid data, that can guide project development at country levels. As donors, we also carry a responsibility here. We should seek coherence and coordination in our initiatives and avoid operating in silos. Country strategies developed in consultation with host governments, justice stakeholders, communities, civil society and other international rule of law actors can facilitate this.

We welcome the enablers presented in your management plan.

Your focus on digitalization and innovation are important and we will be interested to collaborate on this.

Efforts to increasingly work through evidence-based approaches and with a focus on results and impact are welcomed. We consider this very important and look forward to working with you on this.

Partnerships are very important. We are encouraged by the increasing collaboration between IDLO and the UN, including the UN Peacebuilding Fund and there are other positive examples such as the collaboration between IDLO and UNDP in Somalia. However, there also still seem to exist obstacles to work closely together and it does not always succeed. We believe such cooperation should become the norm instead of the exception.

We would also encourage IDLO to continue to join forces with actors like Pathfinders, CIC, and the UN to keep drawing global attention to the need for political and financial commitments to SDG 16.

As the Netherlands, we are happy to engage in consultations with you to initiate an overarching strategic partnership, which can guide and include assistance at country levels. We look forward to working with you on this, as well as engage with other Member Parties and donors of IDLO.

STATEMENT OF PAKISTAN

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Thank you Chair,

The strategic plan discussed here comprehensively charts out IDLO's goals and targets, along with a concrete plan of action. I notice that the plan builds upon organization's experience from strategy 2020, aligning IDLO's aims; not just with its core mission, but also with Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.

It is appreciable that IDLO has framed its three-year strategy taking into account core shared values; such as promoting rule of law, sustainability, human rights, gender equality, legal pluralism and inclusivity. The organization's focus on justice, capacity building and local ownership, with a people-centric approach, aimed at closing the justice gap -- so as to provide easy access to justice for all; especially to the most marginalized and vulnerable populations; is commendable.

It is evident that this strategy is a product of a broad-based consultative process; including input of member parties, governing bodies, governments, host country partners, international organizations, academia, media, employees and justice seekers.

I am particularly pleased to note that the Strategic Plan envisages renewed focus on creating a culture of justice, by strengthening institutions, building capacity and providing technical and legal support. The plan has been clearly prepared in light of the new challenges confronting the world -- in particular the ongoing pandemic -- and aims to address the widening justice gap, impact of climate change, technological advances, gender inequality and economic crises.

The strategy has set two main goals. First to work for justice systems more responsive to people's needs, and second to pursue sustainable development through promotion of rule of law. We believe this is very much in keeping with IDLO's mission to improve access to justice through institutional and legal reforms, that in turn empower justice seekers, especially those marginalized by gender, lack of resources, conflict and crises. It also aims to drive economic development, address climate change and cater to public health emergencies, by fostering and solidifying the legal and institutional frameworks.

IDLO has an impressive record in supporting institution building and legal reforms to strengthen rule of law and improve access to economic opportunity, despite political uncertainties and lack of political will in some instances. It is now expanding its horizon, taking on a larger role in re complex dynamics of sustainable development Its increasing collaboration with governments and international organizations in a wider range of areas; such as health, climate change, food security and economic development, reflects the success and significance of its vision.

While the broader role set out by IDLO for itself is praiseworthy, the road ahead would not be an easy one. As a result of the pandemic, we are now faced with growing inequality and deprivation to which no country or society is immune. Then there are the challenges posed by ongoing conflicts, natural disasters, impact of environmental degradation and lack of resources, that hinder access to justice to a significant proportion of the world's population. These marginalized segments have to be IDLO's real target area in the upcoming plan. And we agree with the management that now, more than ever, there is a need to invest in capacities and resources to move forward, so as not to squander all the hard work done in the past.

One area where I would invite particular attention is the need to combat corruption, lack of transparency and inadequate accountability. This is hurting the process of development and empowerment of vulnerable populations in many parts of the world in myriad ways. In Pakistan,

while we endeavour to root out this menace as per our Prime Minister's vision and agenda, so that precious national resources could be used for common good of the people -- rather than being monopolised by those who exploit their positions of power and influence -- we have come to understand how challenging the process is, and how wide ranging are the reforms required.

While we need to promote transparency and accountability at the national levels; we also need to foster greater international cooperation to ensure that any ill-gotten or unidentified wealth could not be parked overseas, or in any off shore havens beyond the reach of national authorities.

It is only by promoting rule of law, equal rights, economic opportunity & access to justice on the one hand, and combating corruption, lack of transparency, gender or resource based vulnerabilities and extremist ideologies, on the other, that we can truly promote democratic culture and sustainable development for the mankind.

We wish IDLO continued success in its great endeavour.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PERU

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Gracias señora Presidenta,

Del Plan Estratégico 2021-2024, que se presenta hoy para debate y aprobación, el Perú destaca que los valores que rigen a la organización son importantes pilares para el desarrollo de su labor y felicita su coherencia con los objetivos y metas de la Agenda 2030, destacando que los dos objetivos y las seis metas estratégicas están interconectadas y poseen como elementos transversales fundamentales: la inclusión, la integración y la innovación.

En relación al objetivo estratégico 1, el Perú destaca el enfoque “ascendente” y “centrado en las personas” para apoyar a quienes demandan justicia, dotándolos de conocimientos y herramientas necesarios para acceder a los sistemas de justicia, principalmente los más vulnerables.

De igual manera, el Perú pone de relieve la labor que IDLO realiza en relación al acceso a la justicia de los usuarios de sistemas consuetudinarios. Ello tiene una importante connotación para el Perú, debido al aporte de la organización en el desarrollo de directrices referentes al acceso a la justicia y protocolos de atención y orientación legal con enfoque intercultural.

Por otro lado, el Perú resalta la importancia que la organización acompañe y apoye los procesos de reformas de los sistemas de justicia, como el que se encuentra desarrollando en mi país y que tiene entre sus objetivos facilitar el acceso a la justicia de todas las personas, modernizar los procesos judiciales y el sistema penitenciario, fortalecer las políticas anticorrupción, combatir la violencia de género y fortalecer la predictibilidad de las decisiones judiciales.

En relación al objetivo 2, el Perú considera valiosa la inclusión de la temática climática, de salud, seguridad alimentaria y desarrollo económico, que se trabajarán en el marco del mandato de la organización, e invita a la IDLO a que el desarrollo de estos temas sean abordados en colaboración con las agencias especializadas de las Naciones Unidas en las distintas materias.

Es innegable el abordaje prudente que presenta el Plan Estratégico, que ha sido adaptado a las restricciones operativas impuestas por la COVID-19, pero que a la vez permita contribuir a la respuesta mundial a este flagelo, mediante la revisión de sus procesos organizativos y el aumento de la capacidad para trabajar de una manera más eficiente, innovadora e integrada.

En ese sentido, el Perú destaca la prioridad hacia el enfoque basado en programas, con orientaciones innovativas y adaptadas al contexto país, así como el seguimiento y la evaluación de resultados y presentación de informes a la membresía.

El Perú siempre ha hecho hincapié en la necesidad de reforzar los sistemas de rendición de cuentas. En ese sentido, felicita a la organización por los logros alcanzados y alienta a fomentar un mejor empleo de las tecnologías de la información para asegurar la transparencia.

Finalmente, respecto a las asociaciones, el Perú reitera que son importantes las contribuciones tradicionales de los Estados miembros, pero coincide en la necesidad de fortalecer y ampliar la red de asociaciones para potenciar el impacto de las labores de la organización. En ese sentido, el Perú felicita las gestiones para diversificar y ampliar la base de recursos; y, alienta a adoptar un enfoque estratégico con las asociaciones y explorar nuevas modalidades de cooperación que sirvan a los propósitos del presente Plan.

Con estos comentarios, el Perú brinda su respaldo al Plan Estratégico 2021-2024

STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Philippines expresses its appreciation to Director General Jan Beagle for the comprehensive report that reflects what she and the institution have done for the past 10 months. Although there were challenges posed by the pandemic, IDLO carried out new ways of working to ensure mission continuity.

Despite these difficulties, the IDLO quickly reacted by mitigating the impact of the crisis on justice systems and justice seekers.

IDLO continued to conduct remotely legal assessments in countries, like the Philippines, in the implementation of IDLO's global strategy for the elimination of discriminatory laws, in collaboration with UN Women.

IDLO also continued to support the legal institutions to deliver essential services

In the Philippines, IDLO supported efforts of national justice institutions to adjust to online working modes, delivering several webinars on distant learning techniques and interactive web conferencing. IDLO had shifted its capacity-building support to the Prosecution Service and other partners to virtual platforms and remote learning.

The Philippines would like to thank the IDLO Director General, the Secretariat and the Standing Committee for the preparation of the Strategic Plan, the first biennial Management Plan and the Operating Budget.

We also would like to thank the President and the Vice-Presidents for their excellent work during their terms at IDLO. The Philippines will continue to support IDLO and its new presidency towards achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Let me take this opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude to Parties led by the United States Department of State that have sponsored/financed projects in the Philippines

On the draft Strategic Plan, the Philippines welcomes the strong emphasis of the new strategic plan on gender equality and support for women and girls as well as the institutional strengthening and capacity building at country level.

We note that the new strategic plan has new work areas, particularly on climate change and health.

The Philippines specifically welcomes IDLO's plan to expand and diversify its initiatives in the Asia-Pacific through regional partners, including the ASEAN. As an ASEAN founding member, the Philippines is ready to support IDLO's engagements with ASEAN and its member states.

The Philippines welcomes IDLO's Management Plan 2020-2021, noting that 40% of its resources will be used for making laws and institutions work for people.

With this, the Philippines endorses the draft Strategic Plan 2021-2024, Management Plan 2020-2022 and the Operating Budget 2021.

Thank you

STATEMENT OF SENEGAL

**MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020
24 NOVEMBER 2020**

Madame la Présidente,

Je fais cette déclaration au nom de Son Excellence Docteur Papa Abdoulaye SECK, Ambassadeur du Sénégal à Rome qui est empêché et vous présente ses excuses. Il avait bien voulu être là à cet instant mais a reçu un appel urgent de Dakar. Voici la déclaration.

Excellence Madame la Vice-Ministre,

Madame la Présidente de l'Assemblée des Parties,

Madame la Directrice générale,

Tout d'abord, je voudrais m'associer aux remerciements adressés au gouvernement italien pour son rôle déterminant dans l'organisation de cette session.

Madame la Présidente,

Je voudrais vous adresser mes vives félicitations pour le leadership et la compétence avec lesquels vous présidez la Commission permanente et notre Assemblée ainsi que pour tous vos efforts de coordination.

Je tiens aussi à saluer le travail colossal accompli par le Secrétariat de l'OIDD, qui nous permis de nous retrouver en ce moment en virtuel et de travailler ensemble sur des documents tous traduits a temps dans les langues de travail de l'Organisation.

J'aimerais enfin féliciter Madame la Directrice générale Jan Beagle pour son leadership et sa vision stratégique, dont découle le Plan stratégique 2021-2024, qui nous a été transmis et que nous allons adopter tout à l'heure. Je vous félicite également, Madame la Directrice générale, pour le rapport exhaustif, que vous venez de nous présenter.

Madame la Directrice générale, Mesdames Messieurs,

L'année 2020 aura été des plus dures au cours des dernières décennies tant la pandémie qu'elle vue naitre a frappé de plein fouet et continue d'impacter toutes les sociétés, avec des conséquences dramatiques non seulement sur le plan sanitaire mais aussi sur les plans social, économique, politique et humanitaire.

En ce qui concerne le mandat de l'OIDD, nous ne pouvons que constater, avec regret, les effets néfastes de la Covid-19 sur la capacité des systèmes judiciaires à fonctionner et remplir convenablement leurs missions.

Dans le même temps, cette crise a jeté une lumière singulière sur l'importance de renforcer ces systèmes judiciaires en les modernisant et en les rendant résilients et performants. Elle nous a réconfortés aussi dans notre conviction que le monde a plus que jamais besoin de l'OIDD. L'Organisation a, en effet, fait ses preuves dans la défense et promotion de l'Etat de droit, lui valant des prix et un partenariat croissant avec le Système des Nations Unies.

Le nouveau Plan stratégique 2021-2024, qui nous a été envoyé, me paraît parfaitement bien adapté à la situation. Les deux objectifs stratégiques qui le structurent et les cibles qui leurs sont associées ainsi que les quatre catalyseurs définissent de façon pertinente une orientation et un cap précis vers la réalisation de l'ODD-16. Je voudrais vous en féliciter, vous et vos équipes.

Je suis également heureux de pouvoir dire que le Plan stratégique et le Plan de Gestion 2021-2022, prennent également en compte les autres facteurs déterminants qu'il faut gérer, surtout en

Afrique, à savoir les conflits et les changements climatiques, qui minent les efforts de nos gouvernements dans tous les secteurs.

J'appuie donc pleinement son adoption et espère qu'il pourra être mis en œuvre sans délais.

Avant de terminer, j'aimerais dire un mot sur la structure organisationnelle de l'OIDD et souligner, pour m'en réjouir, la création au sein du Bureau de la Directrice générale, du Département des Relations externes et des Partenariats ainsi que de l'Unité Stratégie et Planification. C'est une retouche organisationnelle qui renforcera les capacités de mobilisation de ressources et de partenariats pour la mise en œuvre des plans et programmes stratégiques de l'Organisation.

Je conclue mon intervention ici, en vous renouvelant, Madame la Directrice générale, le soutien du Sénégal dans votre mission et celles de vos équipes. Comme vous le savez, le Sénégal est un pays soucieux de promouvoir le respect des droits de l'homme et de l'Etat de droit et l'OIDD est un outil adapté et crédible pour réaliser cette ambition. Nous sommes donc engagés à apporter notre collaboration partout où l'organisation en a besoin.

Je vous remercie de votre aimable écoute.

STATEMENT OF VIETNAM

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020

24 NOVEMBER 2020

Your Excellency Ms. Director-General,
Head of IDLO country members' delegations,
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Vietnamese Delegation, it is my great pleasure to attend the 2020 IDLO Assembly of Parties held by video conference for the first time ever. Please allow me to express my sincere appreciation to the Director-General and IDLO Secretariat for the efforts and supports have been made for IDLO Assembly of Parties happened as planned in the context of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic is having several impacts and influences all over the world and to the everyday activities of countries and organizations.

We would like to share with the report of the Director-General and appreciate IDLO's operation results and achievements in this challenging year. Our organization has responded in a timely manner with the changes to maintain its operations as well as contribute to the global efforts to respond to the crisis arose by the Covid-19 pandemic, thereby continue upholding and asserting the role and importance of the rule of law and justice. Specifically, the organization has also launched the drafting of strategic plan 2021-2024 with 2 strategic goals and 06 strategic objectives in the next period.

We believe that with these concrete action plans, IDLO will continue to affirm the role of a leading organization in the rule of law, justice and development.

Your Honorable Madame Chair,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In 2020, in the context of the influence by the Covid-19 pandemic, Vietnam is making great efforts and striving with the spirit of proactive adaptation and innovation to overcome difficulties and challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic as well as impacts brought about by natural disasters and climate change.

As a result, up to now, Vietnam has both been able to basically control the Covid-19 and continue its protective and preventative measures and efforts to protect people's health and develop socio-economic, including timely support with disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in the pandemic.

We support the development directions of IDLO in the period 2021-2024 as well as the mission in 2021 that is reflected in the two strategic goals including: (1) Justice systems are more effective and responsive to people's needs and (2) Rule of law drives peace and sustainable development. Laws and institutions play important role in rule of law and justice. We agree with continued efforts to build and improve laws, institutions and judicial systems.

This system must become more effective, accessible, transparent, accountable and at the same time, be more innovative and creative to timely meet with the changes and fluctuations of the world.

As a developing country is affected by Covid-19 pandemic, we would like to propose IDLO to sharing information and provide any technical support Vietnam in the activities relating supporting institutions to deliver essential services, particular in increasing capacity of justice institutions.

With the spirit of innovation and proactive adaptation in the new context, Vietnam hopes to work closely with IDLO in the coming time to continue to exchange and share experiences in rule of law, ensuring the implementation towards justice, peace, protecting rights of women and children, saving the environment, creating opportunities for economic development and building safe and healthy lives for everyone.

Lastly, I wish our Assembly of Parties every success, and you all good health and happiness.

Thank you very much!

HOST COUNTRY AGREEMENTS

IDLO

ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES MEETING 2020

24 NOVEMBER 2020

STATEMENT OF BURKINA FASO

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES 2020

24 NOVEMBER 2020

Merci Madame la Président de me donner la parole,

A la suite de la présentation du Conseiller juridique sur l'état de mise en oeuvre des accords avec les pays hôtes, je voudrais adresser à l'OIDD mes félicitations pour les efforts afin de parvenir à un cadre sécurisé de ses interventions.

Je me félicite de nouveau de la signature d'un accord de siège entre mon pays, le Burkina Faso, et l'OIDD le mois dernier. Malgré les difficultés de liées à la pandémie, grâce à une bonne volonté partagée, nous sommes parvenus à signer à distance cet accord.

Depuis cette signature, les échos qui nous parviennent de la capitale sont positifs. En effet, le processus de recrutement de l'équipe de l'OIDD qui doit mettre en oeuvre le Programme d'« Appui intégré aux systèmes de justice pénale au Sahel » est en cours. Nous sommes impatients de voir les résultats sur le terrain.

Le Burkina Faso soutient donc la résolution n°3/2020 sur les accords de pays hôte et encourage les Etats membres à faciliter la négociation et la signature d'accord de pays hôte.

Je vous remercie.