
**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF SWEDEN**
Meeting of the Assembly of Parties

November 6, 2014
Rome, Italy

Mr. President, Director General Khan, delegates and distinguished guests,

A year ago my boss, Ambassador Ruth Jacoby, made - as observer for Sweden - a statement praising IDLOs achievements during the last couple of years and the importance of IDLOs work. Her kind words remain valid, perhaps even more so after yet another impressive year of work by IDLO. As ambassador Lane said in his opening statement - IDLO is on a positive trajectory.

In her statement ambassador Jacoby also mentioned that Sweden was about to initiate an assessment process concerning our relationship and form of support to IDLO. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on this work.

Given the rough years in the past and IDLOs fast expansion during the last couple of years, Sweden believed that it was important to make a thorough review of IDLOS internal controls system. For that Ernst and Young was commissioned and presented a review in July 2014. Overall, the review concluded that the control environment was acceptable given the size of the organization. Nevertheless, the report contained some 20 recommendations to be considered. I am happy to report that in its management response, IDLO welcomed the review and acknowledged the recommendations that to a large extent are now implemented. (For those of you that are interested we are happy to share the report.)

The review was then followed-up by a joint mission in October from MFA/SIDA where a number of other issues were looked into and discussed. The mission got a positive impression about IDLO programs and results in the field. Sweden believes that IDLO has an important role globally in the field of rule of law. The assessment is now at its final stage and I am pleased to inform you that Sweden intends to enter into a multi-year agreement, starting 2015, with unrestricted funding, thereby hopefully releasing Dutch matching funds. We hope that an agreement can be signed between Sweden and IDLO early next year. We also hope that this will inspire other donors to follow suit.

Thank you.

*The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) enables governments
and empowers people to reform laws and strengthen institutions to promote
peace, justice, sustainable development and economic opportunity.*