Rule of Law in the New Sustainable Development Agenda

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Rule of Law

- A principle of governance
- **Accountability** of all, including the State, public and private entities, individuals
- Consistent with international **human rights** norms and standards
- **participation** in decision-making,
- legal **certainty**,
- and procedural and legal **transparency**

## From MDGs to 2030 Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>MDGs</strong></th>
<th><strong>2030 Agenda</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Limited coverage</strong> excluding governance and rights</td>
<td><strong>Comprehensive, integrated agenda</strong> including governance and rights</td>
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<td>Limited targets of aggregate achievement</td>
<td><strong>Achieved for all</strong> – leave no one behind, and inequality as a cross-cutting goal</td>
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<td>Implemented and monitored by governments</td>
<td>Implemented and monitored <strong>by all</strong> – multi-stakeholder partnership of governments, parliaments, civil society and private sector</td>
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Four dimensions of ROL in Agenda 2030

1. A human rights-based agenda:
   – Substantively - human rights are comprehensively reflected in the Goals
   – Equality and non-discrimination: Leave No-One Behind
   – Based on principles of participation, transparency and accountability, inalienability, indivisibility and universality
   – Right to a remedy – Access to Justice
Four dimensions of ROL in Agenda 2030

• 2. ROL, justice peace and security
  – Freedom from violence for all, including women, children, victims of trafficking
  – Transitional justice as an integral component of peacebuilding
Four dimensions of ROL in Agenda 2030

3. Anti-corruption, Illicit financial and arms flows, Anti-trafficking, organized crime
Four dimensions of ROL in Agenda 2030

4. Role of private sector:
   – Private sector as a critical factor for the success or failure of the SDGs, especially in Asia
   – Business and Human Rights agenda is key for achieving the SDGs, to level the playing field and give States the tools to ensure that private sector activities have a positive impact on sustainable development
Governance of the 2030 Agenda

• Multi-stakeholder partnerships of governments, civil society, private sector, academia, development partners: implementation and monitoring:
  • Global Alliance – “Friends of SDG 16”
  • Regional – APFSD?  ASEAN?
  • National?
  • Sub-national?
Opportunities and Challenges of a Transformational Agenda

• **Culture (transforming awareness):** generating a common understanding among government, private sector, civil society and public of the role of a “culture of lawfulness” (accountability, transparency, participation) across all development goals

• **Partnerships (transforming ways of working):** Building representative multi-stakeholder partnerships including civil society, academia and business that can effectively monitor progress and promote accountability

• **Business and human rights:** How to make private sector fully accountable for its impact on sustainable development and rights?

• **Measurement (the data revolution):** how to measure the contribution of governance and rule of law across the agenda?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!