Mr. Chairman,

I, once again congratulate you on your election as the Chairman of the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly and also the other members of the Bureau on their election. We are confident of good progress in the work of the Sixth Committee under your leadership.

Mr. Chairman,

The agenda item “Administration of Justice at the United Nations” assigned to the Sixth Committee is of special importance. The establishment of a viable, transparent and principle based justice system within the Organization is not only a highly justifiable requirement for the protection of overall interests of the staff of the Organization, but it would also have positive impact over the overall functioning of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

The informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice. We welcome the report of the Secretary-General A/66/224 of 02 August 2011 on “Activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services.”
This Office delivers informal conflict resolution services to the staff of the Secretariat, and various United Nations agencies. We are happy to note that the decentralization of the informal conflict resolution services has provided the Office with better access to its constituencies and enabled it to provide in-person intervention at the field level, which is the most effective means for conflict resolution. It is encouraging that the Mediation Service has provided staff and managers an additional alternative tool to resolve workplace disputes.

The Secretary-General’s report highlights the budgetary constraints and challenges that made it difficult for regional ombudsmen to travel to provide in-person intervention for the resolution of conflicts and to deploy rapid response ombudsmen and mediation teams as needed. To overcome these difficulties, the report contains a request for additional resources for the Office in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, which in our view deserve positive attention.

Mr. Chairman,

We thank the Secretary-General for his report A/66/275 of 08 August 2011 on “Administration of Justice at the United Nations”, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/251 of 24 December 2010. The report provides consolidated data and information on the functioning of the new justice system and related matters. The report describes the accomplishments of the new system during the past year including the data and information on requests for review received by the Management Evaluation Unit; resolution of cases by the Office of Staff Legal Assistance; handling of cases by the Office of Legal Affairs and; judgements rendered by the Tribunals.

Mr. Chairman,

We note with satisfaction the averment in the report of the Internal Justice Council A/66/158 of 19 July 2011 that the new justice system is working well as a result of the dedication of the judges, Registrars, lawyers and staff. The Council has, inter-alia recommended for consideration of the Code of conduct for judges; additional appointments in Tribunals, Office of Staff Legal Assistance and Management Evaluation Unit; reporting system of the Office of Administration of Justice to ensure independence; resource requirements and; review of the statutes of the UN Dispute Tribunal and the UN Appeals Tribunal. In our view the recommendations deserve positive attention of ours.

Mr. Chairman,
We also thank the Secretary-General for his report A/66/86 of 01 June 2011 and Addendum thereto of 19 July 2011. The report has two annexes concerning amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and to the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal. The amendments would further strengthen the procedural requirements of justice delivery and deserve positive attention of ours.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Finally, we support all efforts towards the strengthening of the new system of administration of justice at the United Nations *inter-alia* by ensuring the availability of adequate human and financial resources to all associated offices and departments. We are hopeful that strengthening of the system would ensure access to justice to all members of the United Nations workforce, irrespective of the designation or nomenclature and that no one will be left out without recourse.

**Thank you Mr. Chairman.**