Statement by H.E. Archbishop Gabriele Caccia
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations
UNGA 75 – Sixth Committee

Agenda item 86 – The rule of law at the national and
international levels
Mr. Chair,
International treaties and their observance are central to the maintenance
of good relations among States, to the rule of law at the international level,
and to the protection of universal human rights within States. The
relevance of treaties is affirmed by the Vienna Convention on the Law of
Treaties, which recognizes “the ever-increasing importance of treaties as a
source of international law and as a means of developing peaceful
cooperation among nations.”
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For treaties

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process leading to ratification which frequently involves the executive,
legislative, and – in some cases – even the judicial branch of government.
Since treaties can only be applied when ratified, the Holy See remains
hopeful that a

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To conclude, let me acknowledge the fundamental role of international

trib unals in i nterpre ti ng treaty provis ions. Their decis ions, although

binding only upon the parties to the specific cases, guide all S tates in the

interpretation and implementation of existing treatie 1 14p 21 C T 1 P ET 3s-3ion4