LAW : AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO PROMOTE INTEGRATED APPROACHES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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The science of jurisprudence has advanced the view that laws and policies are means of social control.

In that light having in place strong and effective laws on environment is expected to effectively control the problem of environmental degradation and climate change.

Has it?
Climate change affects agriculture negatively and results in food insecurity.

Action to ensure food security increases agricultural productivity which puts more stress on terrestrial ecosystem including forests and biodiversity.

Agriculture contributes to climate change by its contribution to anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and by conversion of non-agricultural land into agricultural land.

Unsustainable expansion of agriculture contributes to water pollution.
Several Environmental Problems are interconnected.

Currently we have different laws regulating environment problems in silos.

Extract from report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277

Integrated solutions including integrated laws are needed for effective protection of the Environment.
ELEMENTS OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH?

- A strong understanding of the LINKAGES among particular environmental laws.
- A strong understanding of the interdependencies among environmental SOLUTIONS.
- A move beyond the silo TO INTEGRATED LAWS that crafted to respond to the interconnectivity, BUILD SYNERGY and promote effective promotion of the Environment.
Space for Resolution 73/777 should be re-focused on promoting an integrated approach to environmental law making and governance and advocating for a binding outcome.

Review initial draft of the global Pact to see if there are gaps in using it to promote integrated laws for environmental protection.

Through advocacy promote an integrated approach to interpretation of the laws and instrument related to the environment.