



UN Photo Eskinder Debebe

reminded the Assembly that the foundation upon which the organization is built is mostly responsible for the development of the rule of law which it has promoted since 1945 with the notion that “justice is an essential condition for achieving the ideal of universal brotherhood.” In that light, explained the Pope, limitation of power is embedded in “the very concept of law.”

“Giving to each his own, to cite the classic definition of justice, means that no individual or group can consider themselves omnipotent, permitted to trample on the dignity and rights of other individuals or social groups. The practical distribution of power, whether political, economic, defense-related or technological, among a plurality of citizens, and the creation of a juridical system for regulating claims and

interests, is one concrete way of limiting power”. Inequality, alluded the pope, is the bane of today’s world and steps need to be taken to right the wrongs.

The environment, according to the Pope, has rights and as it is an intrinsic part of human existence, it is our roles as humans to protect the environment as “any harm done to the environment,

is harm done on mankind.” Making reference to the fact that most religions believe that God is the creator of the universe and all that’s within it, including the environment, it therefore



Pope Francis receives flower bouquets from two children of UN staff members at the start of his visit to United Nations headquarters. He was welcomed upon his arrival by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (standing behind).

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