INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES UNION INTERNATIONALE DES MAGISTRATS UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE MAGISTRADOS INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER RICHTER UNIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI MAGISTRATI

PALAZZO DI GIUSTIZIA - PIAZZA CAVOUR - 00193 ROMA - ITALY

May 16, 2019

President Khaltmaagiin Battulga President of Mongolia

Prime Minister Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh Prime Minister of Mongolia

Chairman Gombojaviin Zandanshatar Chairman of the Parliament

Dear President Battulga, Prime Minister Khürelsükh, and Chairman Zandanshatar,

The IAJ has recently received information setting out matters of grave concern about the rule of law in Mongolia concerning recent measures taken to facilitate the dismissal of judges. The IAJ is deeply concerned about the suggestion that the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary is being weakened in Mongolia.

We have no doubt that you fully understand the importance of public confidence in an independent judiciary and the guarantee of the rule of law. We are concerned, however, that recent changes in Mongolia are substantially weakening the confidence which the people of Mongolia may have in the independence of the judiciary and in the rule of law. It is fundamental to a free and democratic country that its people have confidence that disputes are resolved independently from any outside interference and by reference to objective rules of law. The citizens of Mongolia need to feel confident that its judiciary is applying the rule of law and is independent from interference. Such confidence benefits both the people and the other institutions of government.

We ask that you take note of these concerns and take immediate steps to ensure that the rule of law is fully maintained and that the independence of the judiciary is fully guaranteed. It is essential that this be evident for all to see.

Yours faithfully,

The Hon. Allyson K. Duncan, Member of the Presidency Committee, International Association of Judges President of the Asian, North American and Oceanian Regional Group of the International Association of Judges