

Unofficial translation
Check against delivery

STATEMENT
by the Representative of the Russian Federation in the Sixth Committee of the
68th Session of the UN General Assembly on Agenda Item: Criminal
accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

October 16, 2013

Mr. Chair,

The Russian Federation attaches great importance to the work conducted by the Committee on the issue of crimes committed by the UN officials. Such incidents cast a shadow on the principles and ideals for which this Organization was initially established. This is why the UN must take all necessary measures to prevent perpetration of crimes by its staff members.

To this effect we believe that the set of preventive and preemptive measures developed with the active participation of the General Assembly to-date is adequate to the scope of the problem.

The pro-active cooperation among States and with this Organization is extremely important in bringing the offenders to justice. As it follows from the thematic reports of the Secretary General the penal legislation of the most of the

States and relevant international legal instruments are sufficient to ensure effective interaction of States going in this direction.

The effectiveness of struggle against impunity depends significantly on how timely and fully the Secretariat informs the States on the crimes committed. We believe that the channels of communication between the Organization and States should be further strengthened in this area.

Preventive activities conducted by the States, peace-keeping and special political missions, including preliminary training and briefing of personnel, deserve a positive assessment.

We proceed from the understanding that the investigation of charges against the UN officials should be carried out in strict compliance with the norms of the international law. In view of their specific legal status this would help respect the right to a fair judicial trial.

Mr. Chair,

We do not object to further discussion of whether it would be appropriate to develop a legally binding document on the topic under consideration. However, it is not obvious that such a document is required today.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.