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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE**

**SIXTH COMMITTEE,  
OF THE 72<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 81:**

**ON THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
LAW COMMISSION ON THE WORK OF ITS  
SIXTY-NINTH SESSION  
(CLUSTER I: CHAPTER IV)**

**NEW YORK, 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**Mr. Chairman**

Since this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor, I would like at the very outset, to extend my sincere congratulations to you upon your election as Chairman of this Sixth Committee and to other members of the Bureau.

I want to assure you of the full support of Mozambican delegation throughout the work of the Committee.

**Mr. Chairman**

My delegation would also like to take this opportunity to thank and commend the International Law Commission for the comprehensive report on the work of its sixty-ninth session, contained in document A/72/10. We recognize the valuable contributions it has been making to the rule of law since its inception.

In recognizing the work of Commission, we also want to commend the outstanding support provided to the Commission by the Codification Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs.

Mozambique welcomes the Commission's extensive work on the topic of crimes against humanity and would like to offer some views on this very important issue of international law, under Chapter IV of cluster I.

**Mr. Chairman**

The world continues to face a range of situations in which all kinds of crimes against humanity are systematically committed without a proper and determined response of the international community. Crimes that deeply shock and violate the conscience of the humanity. These crimes threaten security, peace and stability and the well-being of the whole humanity.

Crimes against humanity are among the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole. Therefore we have to do our utmost best to prevent them from occurring and seriously punish the perpetrators in conformity with international law, as these crimes can not go unpunished.

The effective prosecution of such crimes must be ensured by all, by taking measures at the national and international levels and by enhancing

international cooperation in all modalities, including with respect to extradition and mutual legal assistance.

Mozambique is determined to cooperate and to lend its full support to the current world movement for preventing and combating crimes against humanity, in order to put an end to the impunity of perpetrators of those crimes and thus contribute to a better world of peace and security.

In this regard, we would like to underscore the duty of every state to exercise its criminal jurisdiction, with respect to the crimes against humanity.

**Mr. Chairman**

Our common goal must be to prevent these crimes, to effectively punish the perpetrators whomever they may be. We need to abide by international law and condemn strongly any state or non-state actors involved in such crimes.

In this regard, Mozambique considers that the work of the Commission on this important topic for the international community is of paramount importance to boost the international movement to deter and punish crimes against humanity. This movement represents an opportunity to mobilize the needed political commitment of all states in order to apply effective legislative, administrative and judicial measures, with the view to eradicate crimes against humanity.

It is our hope and expectation that the final outcome of the ongoing work of the Commission will be enriched by member states' contributions and lead us to the draft articles for a future convention on the matter.

I would like to conclude this statement by expressing the willingness of Mozambique to be part of the process and thus contribute for the urgent adoption of the future convention, an important international instrument to curb crimes against humanity.

I thank you for the kind attention.