



PORTUGAL

72th General Assembly

Statement by

The Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal,

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Sixth Committee

Agenda item 87

Responsibility of International Organizations

13 October 2017

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Mr. Chairman,

Portugal would like to begin by thanking the Secretariat for its "*Report on Responsibility of International Organizations*" as it allowed Member States to have a clear overview of the judicial practice on this subject. Still, we would like to suggest to the Secretariat the inclusion of relevant dissenting opinions in future reports.

Mr. Chairman,

The General Assembly is, once again, called to adopt a position on the draft articles on the Responsibility of International Organizations. Once again, Portugal concurs that, for the time being, the General Assembly may again take note of the draft articles in a resolution.

Our delegation has always seen the draft articles on the Responsibility of International Organizations as the logical counterpart of the draft articles on the Responsibility of States. Therefore, it is not reasonable to think about convoking a diplomatic conference to adopt a convention on the Responsibility of International Organizations without having further developments regarding the draft articles on State Responsibility.

This is without prejudice of our firm conviction that the General Assembly will have to consider at some point the adoption of a convention based on the 2011 draft articles. Therefore, Portugal would not support any proposal towards removing this topic from the General Assembly agenda.

Rather, we suggest including this topic in the agenda of the 75th session of the General Assembly, in 2020 after considering the draft articles on State Responsibility in its 74th session.

Mr. Chairman,

We have a duty to contribute towards the stability and strength of the draft articles, whether on State Responsibility or on the Responsibility of International Organizations. Otherwise, the work initiated by the Commission on international responsibility risks becoming a never-ending story. We cannot simply let the ghost of fragmentation take over a work that, as a whole, has taken more than sixty years.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.