

**STATEMENT BY KENYA  
AT THE  
76<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
  
UNDER  
AGENDA ITEM 79:  
“CRIMINAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF UNITED NATIONS OFFICIALS  
AND EXPERTS ON MISSION”**

**Madam Chairperson,**

At the outset, my delegation wishes to align itself with the Statements delivered by the Non-Aligned Movement and the African Group.

The inclusion of this agenda item on our work programme is testament to the important contribution it makes towards enhancing the proper functioning of the United Nations. We support its continued inclusion in the annual programme.

Kenya takes this opportunity to acknowledge that the vast majority of UN officials and experts on mission uphold the highest standards of integrity and conduct. We further acknowledge that these standards are necessary and fully in line with the trust reposed on international civil servants and the Organization. We thank this vast majority of officials and experts for their efforts and commitment; and we indeed encourage and support them to continue to do their part.

In addressing this item, it is Kenya’s belief that our collective concern should continue to focus on preventing the few deplorable incidents of conduct that risk negating the credibility, trust and integrity of the Organization. Kenya believes it is important to have measures that are necessary to deter criminal conduct; and to ensure that all personnel are facilitated in adhering to these standards.

My delegation wishes to take note and to welcome the measures already taken, in line with previous General Assembly resolutions. We commend in this regard, the Secretary-General's efforts in implementing comprehensive measures designed to \_\_ regularly raise awareness within the wider UN System; vet and train UN personnel; as well as the internal guideline to institute zero-tolerance for all criminal conduct, and especially, on cases of sexual abuse and exploitation.

We also welcome the Comprehensive Strategy to support Assistance to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN Personnel that has been in place to help ameliorate the suffering of victims.

We underline the collaborative role played by specialized agencies and related organizations to help support the Secretary-General's initiatives. This role is necessary as it helps enhance coherence and coordination across the board.

In dealing with cases of accountability, it is critical to acknowledge the equal responsibility shared by Member States, especially where acts are committed within the territory of jurisdiction, or committed by a subject national. In that regard, it is imperative that Member States consider adopting necessary measures to establish or strengthen cooperation and jurisdictional capacity over such matters.

Member States may also wish to avail themselves of the offer for technical assistance by the United Nations in order to develop their own domestic capacities and frameworks.

In conclusion, Kenya is remains committed to fulfilling her obligations. As a country hosting a large UN presence and a regular contributor to peace-keeping missions, Kenya will continue to work closely with the Secretary-General to help deliver on these commitments in a prompt and appropriate manner.

**I thank you.**