



**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT

**by Mrs. Tran Thi Phuong Ha, Legal Adviser of Viet Nam Mission
at the Sixth Committee of the 77th Session of the General Assembly
*Agenda item 78: “Crimes against Humanity”***

New York, 10 October 2022

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Madam Chair,

Crimes against humanity is one of the most serious crimes. Their scales and consequences, whenever and wherever they are, shock the world and inflict lasting injuries on the victims, their families and nations.

Therefore, as with other member states, Viet Nam is firmly committed to the suppression and punishment of crimes against humanity in accordance with international law, especially the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Such crimes, in Viet Nam’s law, will meet with punishment up to the highest level.

We believe that the prevention and punishment of serious crimes is primarily the responsibility of states. Efforts toward this end must ensure respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in domestic matters of Member States. We must undertake efforts in buiding States’ capacity to fulfill this responsibility by all methods, including by strengthening international cooperation. Resort to international criminal mechanisms should take place, as a complementary method, only after all national measures have been exhausted. Only with measures at national levels can we be able to address such crimes and their root causes in a comprehensive and long-term manner, taking into account their complexities.

We highly appreciate the work of the International Law Commission on preparing the draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against

humanity as a basis for the elaboration of a convention by the General Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries. We share the view that there should be further international efforts in preventing these crimes. At the same time, the necessity of a new convention on crimes against humanity as well as its formation should be carefully examined, including in the context of challenges currently faced by international criminal institutions. We are in favour of the need for comprehensive study of the draft articles to ensure their accordance with principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, as well as their compatibility with national legislations. If an international convention is to be developed on this basis, it is critical that different national experiences and practices, especially on legal systems and matters, be fully reflected so as to ensure effective and universal implementation of the said convention.

In this regard, we take note of various viewpoints expressed regarding the proposed ways forward within the UN framework to advance our deliberation of these issues, including at the Sixth Committee. We support efforts and mechanisms, on the basis of consensus, for continued discussions on this crucial issue.

I thank you, Madam Chair./.