



PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HIS EXCELLENCY  
TIJJANI MUHAMMAD-BANDE  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS**

**ON**

**“REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION ON THE  
WORK OF ITS SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION”  
(AGENDA ITEM 77)**

**AT**

**AT THE 77<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2022**

## **Mr. Chair**

Nigeria aligns itself with the statement delivered by His Excellency, the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations on behalf of the African Group. My delegation wishes to thank Professor Dire Tladi the Chair of the Commission of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session for his tireless commitment and comprehensive report on the work of the Commission as contained in document **A/77/10**. I wish to reaffirm Nigeria's full support to the Bureau.

2. We also thank the Special Rapporteurs for their efforts on the topics addressed in the report. We commend Professor Tladi and Ms. Marja Lehto Special Rapporteurs for completing the two important topics on Chapters IV and V and adoption of the draft conclusions on identification of legal consequences of peremptory norms of general international law (Jus cogens) and the adoption of the draft principles on the protection of the environment in relations to armed conflicts. We reiterate the importance of the norms to confirm with general principles of international law universally accepted and recognised across legal systems.

3. We welcome and thank Ms. Marja and the Commission on the observations and recommendations provided as contained in Chapter V of the report. My delegation notes the extensive efforts towards the adoption of the draft principles and to emphasize the importance of the topics which cut across many areas of concern. In particular, principle 3 on the measure to enhance the protection of the environment which requires states to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to enhance the protection of the environment in relations to armed conflicts.

4. My delegation also notes with interest principle 8 on Chapter V, human displacement requiring states and relevant stakeholders to take appropriate measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate harm to the environment in areas where persons displaced by armed conflicts are located. We recognise the importance to include these two topics at this time when the world is faced with the disruptive challenges of climate change and its consequences on the environment. The devastating impact on the environment is massive including increasing humanitarian crisis and escalating armed conflicts.

5. We also extend our appreciation to Ms. Marie G. Jacobsson for her contributions on the report on the Protection of the Environment in relations to armed conflicts and we welcome the newly elected members of the Commission and wish to express our full support to your work.

**Mr. Chair**

6. Nigeria will continue to support the work of the Commission and urges it to continue to deepen its collaboration with member states and regional international Law Commission on the relevant topics on International Law. We also stress the need for the Commission to consider ways in which specific topics on which the views of Governments could be of particular interest to the commission could be framed to help Governments have a better appreciation of the issues especially when timely responses are required.

7. We acknowledge the work of the Commission in assisting with the codification and the development of international law and recognize the ample opportunity which the International Law Commission provides for Nigeria and Africa to play very important roles in the formulation of International Laws and norms that reflect the African

perspectives. We reiterate the need to continue to reflect the African customary law taking note of the diversity of the legal system of the region in the Commission's next session.

I thank You