

STATEMENT AGENDA ITEM 77 REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the delegation of Uganda.

At the outset, *my delegation* aligns itself with the statement delivered by Morocco on behalf of the African Group and would like to express appreciation to the International Law Commission for the “Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session”. The International Law Commission continues to do progressive work in the development and codification of International Law.

My delegation takes this opportunity to welcome Members of the Commission and Legal Advisers from capitals to this year’s International Law Week in New York. Given the improvements in addressing the Corona virus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, we appreciate the opportunity for optimal extensive engagement between the Sixth Committee and Members of the Commission, following a very rich tradition to actualize the symbiosis between the ILC and Member States in the Sixth Committee.

Mr. Chair, my delegation would like to thank the Chair of the Commission of the 73rd session, **Professor Dire Tladi** for his leadership in conducting the work of the Commission, as well as for introducing the report on the work of the Commission contained in document [A/77/10](#).

Mr. Chairperson,

It is crucial to recall the importance and mandate of the International Law Commission, The Commission was established in 1947, to *carry out* the mandate of the *General Assembly*, under article 13 (1) (a) of the Charter of the United Nations to "initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of ... encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification". *I am glad to note that the Commission continues to deliver on this task, in spite of the constraints it has to contend with. My delegation emphasizes the need for the commission to work closely with regional international law commissions like the African Union Commission on International Law and* We continue to suggest for the International Law Commission to develop cooperative relationships with regional international law commissions, such as the African Union Commission on International Law.

Turning to the report, my delegation appreciates the work done on the topic of protection of the environment during armed conflict. We welcome the draft articles on the protection of the environment. Armed conflicts cause direct and indirect harm to the environment that can endanger health and quality of life to such an extent that it threatens the survival of humankind, since the effects endure beyond the end of the conflict. In that regard, the international community needs a framework of principles that will help to strengthen existing instruments in order to ensure that victims receive reparations and to promote the necessary measures in the areas of environmental prevention, conservation and restoration in the context of hostilities.

Mr. Chair, Efforts must be redoubled in order to draw inspiration from the main principal legal systems reflective of our contemporary world, including African customary law. Our increasing engagement with the work of the Commission is to ensure these important aspects are duly realised. Uganda is committed to multilateralism and the rules-based international legal system founded on the Charter of the United Nations, and we value the effective contribution of the Commission in maintaining this multilateral system, taking into account the views of all Member States. We further stress the importance

for inscribed topics to bring an added value and be of interest and relevance to the international community as a whole.

Mr. Chair, Uganda welcomes In the above regard, the decision of the Commission to include the topic entitled “Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea” and appoint Mr. Yacouba Cissé as Special Rapporteur as well as the topic entitled “Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law” and appoint Mr. Charles Jalloh as Special Rapporteur.

*In conclusion, Mr. **Chairperson,***

My delegation once again commends the Members of the Commission, *and* the secretariat for the tremendous work in preparing this report and enabling members to participate in the meetings of the commission through the hybrid format. My delegation looks forward to supporting the work of the international law commission in the coming sessions.

I thank you.