

Statement by Ms. Vreeshini Raojee (Mauritius), coordinator of the draft resolution on “The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction” (item 85)

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Chair, dear colleagues,

Today I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Bureau, the draft resolution contained in document **A/C.6/77/L.21**, entitled “The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction”.

The draft resolution is based on resolution 76/118 adopted last year, with necessary technical updates. It should be noted that a number of informals and bilateral contacts were held to consider several proposals that were on the table. I am pleased to inform the Committee that consensus was reached on some of the proposals.

In the interest of time, I will only draw your attention to the changes that go beyond a technical update.

A **new preambular paragraph** would be added to note the decision of the International Law Commission, at its seventieth session, to include the topic “Universal criminal jurisdiction” in its long-term programme of work.

Under **operative paragraph 3** of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would invite the Working Group of the Sixth Committee to be established at its seventy-ninth session to consider and comment on the question “on the relevant elements of a working concept of universal jurisdiction”.

Lastly, according to **operative paragraph 4**, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, a report reviewing all the submissions of Member States and relevant observers, as well as views expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee, since the sixty-second session of the General Assembly and identifying possible convergences and divergences on the definition, scope and application of universal jurisdiction for the consideration of the Sixth Committee. I wish to emphasise that such report will **not** be an additional report of the Secretary-General, but rather an updated request for the content of the annual report.

Mr. Chair,

In my view, the text reflects a consensus among delegations. For this reason, I commend the draft resolution contained in document A/C.6/77/L.21 to the Sixth Committee for adoption without a vote. I thank most sincerely all delegations for their support.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.