

PGT Concluding Remarks ILC Debate 6C (1 November 2023)

Mr. Chairman

- Thank warmly delegations for their participation in the debate, probably one of the most participated sessions (75 Delegations Cluster I and around 50 both on Cluster II and III)
- The Commission takes very good note of all the comments and observations made. In the topics that are coming close to a finish such as General Principles of Law, Sea Level Rise and Immunities (though not formally on the agenda this year) or new topics that the Commission started this year as Settlement of Disputes, Piracy or Subsidiary Means. We note also the broad support for the new topic included in the agenda, Non-Legally Binding Agreements
- We appreciated the particularly positive and constructive manner in which all comments, including the critical ones were made, that reflects a great interest and support for the work of the ILC.
- The comments in the Sixth Committee are a crucial part of the work of the Commission. As are the replies to the requests made in Chapter III of the Report and the written submissions made by States at the different stages of consideration of each topic, in particular between the 1st and the 2nd reading. We note there that there are still limitations in the number of participation of member States and we should work together to improve that situation so that the inputs on the work of the ILC come truly from all regions of the globe and all legal systems and traditions.
- There is certainly room for more capacity building on this respect, and I highlight in this respect the important contribution of the International Law Seminar and the UN Programme of Assistance with the Regional Courses and the Fellowship Programme regarding which many members of the ILC are also regularly involved.
- There is certainly more room to improve the Report of the Commission and to make it more user friendly and we took careful note of several suggestions made in this regard.
- There is also more room to improve dialogue between the ILC and the 6C to help States to better prepare for the Report debate. For this purpose, the virtual briefing held in May as a preview of the work for the session and the second briefing in September with the main outcomes seemed to have been very beneficial and we hope this practice could be continued

- Another crucial point for the interaction between the two bodies is the identification of new topics for the Commission. We hope that the discussions in this respect can will be held next year in the context of the 75th Anniversary and the 2026 Session to be held in NY can further the input of MS on new topics, including those reflecting pressing challenges to the international community, to continue making the ILC relevant and for it to help the responsibility, which is of the GA, of the codification and progressive development of international law.
- One final point regarding aspects that are crucial to our interaction if the follow-up given to the outputs of the ILC in the 6C. We note with great interest the advances being made regarding the draft articles on Disasters and Crimes against Humanity and look further to further developments.

Mr. Chairman,

- It was an honor to chair the commission in the second part of the session, in an innovative split chair arrangement with my dear colleague Nilufer Oral who chaired the first part. We are grateful to the very kind words addressed to the Chairs and the support to this innovative and symbolic arrangement that is important to promote gender parity in the ILC but also shows what this institution can also work in innovative and collaborative manners.
- It was also an honor to chair the commission in its new composition. The new commission, with former and new members, has shown great committed to the mandate of the commission and will work in a collegial manner during this quinquennium. A testament to that commitment was the high number of ILC members that attended the 6C debate in NY last and this week.
- I thank the excellent cooperation of the members of the Bureau, chairs of drafting committee and working groups, special rapporteurs and co-chairs of the study group.
- Last but not the least on behalf of the Commission I want to express our most sincere gratitude to the support of the whole team of the Secretariat in Geneva and NY, for its professional, dedicated and unwavering support of our work. In particular, let me reiterate our deepest thanks to Huw Llewelyn, since this is his last 6 C (but not ILC Session).