

The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations New York

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Statement

Before the Sixth Committee

on

Crimes Against Humanity

Delivered by Nadine Bisharat

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Mr. Chair,

- At the outset my delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania on behalf of the Arab group and the cross regional statement that will be delivered by Sierra Leone. I would like to make the following remarks in our national capacity.
- Jordan trusts that the two resumed sessions led to fruitful discussion centered around the core and substantive aspects of the draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity.

- The question, therefore, is whether the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission provide an adequate foundation based on which an effective legally binding instrument can be developed.
- We reiterate that there is no single multilateral convention dedicated, on the horizontal level, to preventing and punishing crimes against humanity and promoting inter-State cooperation in that regard. As regards to crimes against humanity being among the gravest atrocities known to humankind, the need for a dedicated convention is evident.

- Jordan also believes that the draft articles cover *a* gap that exists in the legal regime to combat and prevent the most serious international crimes and purport to ensure that the perpetrators of crimes against humanity are brought to justice. Therefore, Jordan strongly commends the ILC for all its efforts in producing the draft articles.
- We emphasize that the prohibition of crimes against humanity is a jus cogens norm. This reflects the fact that the prohibition of CAH is accepted and recognized by the international community as a norm from which no derogation is permitted.

- Jordan supports convening an international conference of plenipotentiaries based on the draft articles and co-sponsored the draft resolution in this regard.
- Jordan also urges the international community to act swiftly in negotiating and adopting a convention, which would complement existing international instruments such as the 1948 Genocide Convention and the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their protocols. Jordan stresses that such a convention will strengthen the rule of international law, and respect for the

relevant principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. It also will align with our vision of combating impunity and promoting justice worldwide.

Finally, Mr. Chair,

Jordan reiterates its call to protect Palestinian people in Gaza, West Bank and people of Lebanon. The reality is that Israel, the occupying power, has violated many cardinal principles of international law in its conduct of hostilities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, encouraged by the lack of effective action by the international

community to stop its atrocities against the Palestinian people, including the CAH that have been committed. There is overwhelming evidence that acts committed by Israel including many killing, deliberate attacks on civilians, medical facilities and civilian infrastructure that have been occurring as part a widespread or systematic attack directed against the civilian population. Isreal therefore must be held accountable on the commission of the CAH.

I thank you.