



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

STATEMENT

BY

**THE DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE DURING THE 79TH
SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

ON THE

**AGENDA ITEM 80: CRIMES AGAINST
HUMANITY**

*10 October 2024 (10:00 am)
United Nations
New York*

Mr. Chair

1. Mozambique aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Uganda on behalf of the African Group (AG), and the distinguished representative of Cabo Verde on behalf of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), for the subject under consideration.
2. Allow me to make some remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

3. Mozambique supports the proposal for convening a United Nations Conference to deliberate on a Convention on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity, on the basis of the draft articles elaborated by the International Law Commission.
4. By discussing and adopting a Convention, we are surely contributing with practical and substantive actions towards boosting

progress on the way of prevention and punishment of these heinous crimes.

5. Today, once again, we reaffirm our position. Crimes against humanity rank among the most serious threats to human being and international peace and security. In this context, we hold the view that combating crimes against humanity constitutes a priority. This requires the international community to collectively redouble its work for further prevention and punishment of these crimes.

Mr. Chair,

6. The Convention becomes a critical issue now, at a moment we witness the world confronted with conflicts that deprive human dignity.
7. We commend the work of the International Law Commission regarding the proposed draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity, which might serve as a starting point for our discussion, with due respect to the

sovereignty and different views of the States on the matter.

8. Most importantly at this stage should be the attention given to the provisions of the Convention under discussion, to ensure that they are acceptable to all member States.
9. We believe that such exercise and efforts will forge global collective action to comply with demands of international universal instruments, in particular International Law and International Humanitarian Law.
10. Above all, given the profound human dimension of the subject, it is important, that we reconcile our differences for the interests of humanity, without compromising our national interests.
11. This exercise also requires the engagement of all State Parties to adopt and update their national laws, along with harmonizing them, in order to effectively prevent and punish crimes against humanity.

12. Recognizing that the primary responsibility for preventing these crimes lies in the hands of States, we concur with the assessment that a Convention can serve as a valuable tool.

13. In addition, we also need the reinforcement of mutual political trust to achieve this objective.

Mr. Chair,

14. Mozambique values the proposals made by the African Group on the draft articles focused on promoting international cooperation and combating crimes against humanity. The African Group underscored the adherence to the principles enshrined in the UN Charter and warned against double standards and selective approaches to justice.

15. In conclusion, Mr. Chair, Mozambique remains committed to engaging in a constructive dialogue and negotiations towards a Convention on Crimes Against Humanity. We are cognisant that it will not, in itself, resolve all the challenges, but we

believe that it will strengthen protection of the potential victims. This should be our collective message to them.

I thank you