



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 76**  
**“CRIMINAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF UN OFFICIALS AND EXPERTS ON**  
**MISSIONS”**  
**BY MS. CATHERINE NYAKOE, MINISTER COUNSELLOR**  
**DURING THE**  
**78<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**14 OCTOBER 2024**

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**Thank you Chair**

1. I also thank the Secretary General for his reports under documents A/79/185 and A/79/189 on this agenda item.
2. My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of Uganda and Iran on behalf of the African Group the Non-Aligned Movement respectively. These additional remarks are made in national capacity.
3. Kenya acknowledges that the vast majority of UN officials and experts on mission uphold the highest standards of integrity and conduct. We pay tribute to this vast majority of officials and experts for their devotion and service to humanity; and we encourage and support them.
4. Such standards are necessary and fully in line with the trust reposed on international civil servants and the Organization and a reflection of our shared

ideals entrenched in the purposes and principles of the Organisation. The duty that UN officials and experts on Missions execute must, therefore, go hand in hand with the highest standards of integrity and professionalism while mindful of the laws, culture and values of the host countries and communities.

5. Kenya is host to one of the largest global UN foot prints with the UN Office and several agencies, funds and programmes operating from Nairobi and other parts of our territory. We are also a regular contributor to peace-keeping missions and so fully understand the importance of collective responsibility in ensuring that isolated incidents of misconduct are timeously and decisively dealt with to preserve the integrity and aims of the service.

**Chair,**

6. It is important to institute measures for the deterrence of criminal conduct; and to ensure that all personnel are facilitated in adhering to these standards. We take note of the Secretary-General's efforts in implementing comprehensive measures designed to vet and train UN personnel and regularly raise awareness within the wider UN System. We also laud the institutionalization of internal guidelines for zero-tolerance for all criminal conduct, and especially, on cases of sexual abuse and exploitation.
7. In our experience, the training should, entail focus on learning and understanding of a peoples' traditions, values and cultures before deployment to a specific place.
8. We also welcome the development of the reinforcement training package within the learning programme "Pipeline to peacekeeping command" for military and

police commanders, as a useful tool not only for prevention, but also carrying any reported cases effectively through investigations.

9. Similarly, we welcome the shared experiences by Member States on measures taken to provide support to victims and urge continued cooperation in the protection of victims and witnesses in a manner that ensures that their dignity is upheld.

**Chair,**

10. In dealing with cases of accountability, it's important that Member States share equal responsibility, especially where acts are committed within their territorial jurisdiction, or committed by a subject national. To effectively bear such responsibility, they will need to have sufficient capacity in the different aspects of accountability including; jurisdiction, investigation and prosecution. we encourage cooperation, sharing of good practices among Members States and technical assistance by the UN.
11. In this regard, Member States can avail themselves of the offer for technical assistance by the United Nations in order to develop their own domestic capacities and frameworks.

**Chair,**

12. We underline the collaborative role played by specialized agencies and related organizations to help support the Secretary-General's initiatives. This role is necessary as it helps enhance coherence and coordination across the board.
13. We note that, in his report, the Secretary General has also recommended that Member States continue to encourage the distinct legislative bodies of the

United Nations system and related organizations to help to ensure the coherence and coordination of policies and procedures relating to the reporting, investigation, referral and follow-up of credible allegations revealing that a crime may have been committed by personnel of such agencies and organizations who fall outside the scope of General Assembly resolutions, with policies and procedures related to United Nations officials and experts on mission. We wish to assure him that this call aligns with our conviction.

14. As I conclude Chair, Kenya remains committed to working closely with the Secretary-General to help deliver on our commitments in a prompt and appropriate manner as we aim for nil returns on criminal conduct by UN officials and experts on Missions.

**Thank you.**