

Statement by
by Mrs. Tran Thi Phuong Ha, Legal Adviser of Viet Nam Mission
at the 79th Session of the Sixth Committee of UNGA
on Agenda Item 79: “Report of the International Law Commission”
Cluster III
(Item VI - Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea)

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Mr. Chair,

Viet Nam would like to address the topic of “Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea”.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Yacouba Cissé, for the completion of the second report, as well as to the Secretariat for preparing the second Memorandum, which provides valuable information on the definitions of piracy and armed robbery at sea. We commend the efforts of the Special Rapporteur and the Drafting Committee in developing the report and draft Articles. These works not only underscore the Commission’s commitment to addressing these critical issues but also highlights the urgent need to codify relevant international legal rules to counteract the growing threats piracy and armed robbery pose to global maritime security.

In this context, we would like to emphasize the following points:

First, the comprehensive, universal and unified character of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in addressing maritime issues must be ensured. In our view, the regulation of piracy and armed robbery at sea must align with UNCLOS, as the Convention provides the legal framework within which all activities at sea must be conducted.

Second, the codification of regulations criminalizing piracy and armed robbery at sea requires careful consideration. It is essential to avoid politicization and to ensure the compliance with existing international treaties and customary international law.

Third, we acknowledge the ILC's proposal to member states to share their perspectives and practical experiences concerning piracy. Viet Nam, along with other countries, has responded to this request, and we hope that the Special Rapporteur will carefully consider these submissions to ensure a robust practical foundation for the ILC's work.

In conclusion, we affirm our commitment to supporting the Committee's future discussions and initiatives on this critical issue. We are dedicated to fostering constructive dialogue and collaboration, recognizing that the challenges posed by piracy and armed robbery require coordinated international efforts.

I thank you./.