General Assembly Sixty-ninth session

Sixth Committee Agenda Item 79

> by Ms. Pernilla Nilsson

Mr Chairperson,

I have the honour to address the Sixth Committee on behalf of the five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The 150th anniversary of the first Geneva Convention is a moment to welcome the progress achieved in th

We must continue to work against impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights; persons suspected of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity must be held accountable. Each state has a duty and a responsibility to investigate and prosecute such crimes. It is primarily at the domestic level that solutions to the impunity gap must be found. The International Criminal Court is a court of last resort and is of great importance to uphold international humanitarian law and human rights law and to end impunity for mass atrocity crimes.

The role and importance of the International Committee of the Red Cross must be emphasised. We express our deep appreciation for the valuable work carried out by the ICRC and for its efforts for the protection of persons in armed conflict, towards dissemination of international humanitarian law, and training given on this subject.

The 32nd International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference to be convened in 2015 will be an opportunity for states as well as the Red Cross and Red Cres Tm[T)n[C)-3(r)-4(os)5(s)-3(a)5(n 12 Tf1 c3(p)-3(or)430.3 497/MC