



My. Chairman,

1. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. and Algeria on behalf of the African

2. At the outset, I wish to reiterate Namibia's commitment to contribute to the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in terms of both personnel and financially. We acknowledge the commitment and dedication of the United Nations personnel in the field.

3. May I also reiterate the importance Namibia attaches to the question of criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.

4. Let me underline the fact that there are negative consequences that criminal acts, which are committed by some officials and experts on mission, have to the image, credibility and integrity of the Organization,

and abuse brought against to the attention of the Organization. We also welcome the establishment of the Office of the Special Coordinator on improving the United Nations' response to sexual exploitation and abuse. It is our hope that this Office would as well focus on all other crimes.

7. While we are cognizant of the importance of the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission, we stress the need to respect international and national legislation of the host State. This will not only ensure that there is no impunity for the crimes, but will also guarantee justice for victims. The special status enjoyed by United Nations officials and experts on mission should not protect them from accountability.

Mr. Chairman

8. The primary responsibility for bringing perpetrators to justice rests with Member States. However it is the responsibility of both the United Nations and Member States to ensure that United Nations officials and experts are held accountable for the crimes they may commit while on mission.
9. Namibia has arrangements in place to ensure that officers who are sent for UN Missions have no criminal records. Prior to deployment, Ministry

and encourage them to implement relevant General Assembly resolutions to address this issue.

Mr. Chairman

12. We are all aware that criminal misconduct causes great harm to victims. In this connection, we wish to emphasize the need to ensure the protection of victims and witnesses. Therefore, we welcome the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Crime