



BANGLADESH

Statement under Agenda Item 85: _____ at
the Sixth Committee of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly

Statement by: Mr. Mohammad Humayun Kabir, First Secretary
Date and venue: Wednesday, 11 October 2017, Trusteeship Council Chamber

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Bangladesh delegation continues to follow with interest the discussions on universal jurisdiction under the purview of this Committee.

We see some valid arguments on both the potential strengths and limitations of universal jurisdiction vis-à-vis national or territorial jurisdictions. From our vantage point, we would be inclined to favour an approach that is pragmatic and constructive to the extent that universal jurisdiction and national jurisdictions are legally understood to be complementing each other, particularly in prosecuting cases of grave violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law.

We see such a pragmatic approach enshrined in the Rome Statute on the International
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unwillingness or inability of national jurisdictions to ensure accountability and justice for mass atrocity crimes such as genocides, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The existence of, and authority vested in ICC should create an obligation for national jurisdictions of State Parties to the Statute to decidedly address any risk of impunity for mass atrocity crimes committed within their respective territories by whomsoever or whenever.

As certain prosecutorial initiatives in ICC,