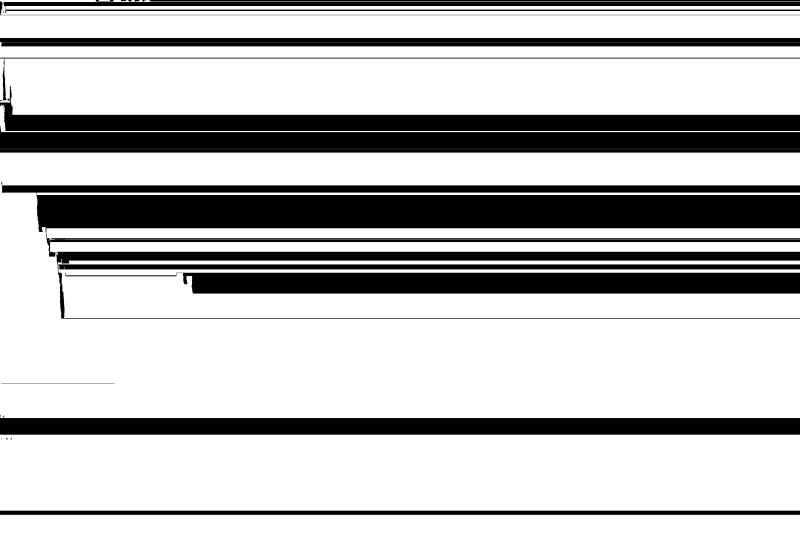
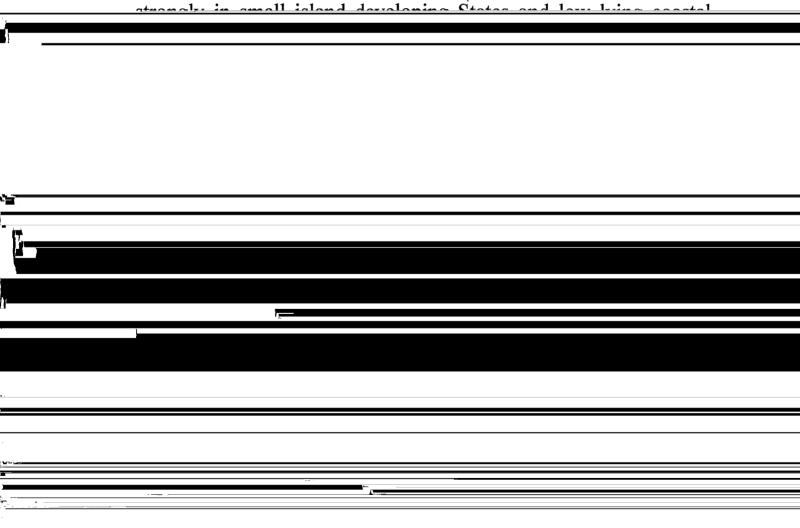
Agenda Item: 79.



**WORK OF ITS SEVENTY – FIRST SESSION** 

CLUSTER II: CHPS: IV (Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts), VIII (Immunity of the State

- 1. Mr. Chair, Belize would like to thank the International Law Commission for submission of its Report on the work of the 71<sup>st</sup> session to the General Assembly. In particular, Belize welcomes the ILC's decision to establish a Study Group to examine the legal implications of sea-level rise, a topic of critical importance to our State.
- 2. Sea-level rise is a global concern, but its effects are felt most



states like Belize. Our largest city sits at sea level, and our

no longer be treated as hypothetical. Rising seas may affect SIDS most acutely, but these effects will soon be felt by all States. It is time for international law to respond to this issue

8. First, moving towards fixed baselines is consistent with existing international law. In accordance with the language of UNCLOS Article 5, a number of SIDS have defined their baselines as those "reviked on large scale charts officially recognized by the coastal	? · · -	7. With this in mind. Belize calls upon the ILC to reflect on two kev
international law. In accordance with the language of UNCLOS  Article 5, a number of SIDS have defined their baselines as those		
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that shift gradually, as they have in the past. They are not equipped
that shift gradually, as they have in the past. They are not equipped
to handle the drastic future projections for climate change-induced
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