



STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

delivered by
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Agenda Item 81 : Crimes against Humanity
Sixth Committee

75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
15 October 2020, Conference Rooms 1-3
UN Headquarters New York

The Philippines joins other delegations that have expressed the need for the Sixth Committee to further study the draft articles submitted by the International Law Commission.

We consider the draft articles as an important contribution to the international of concluding a convention on Crimes Against Humanity based on them is a conceptual leap that requires further examination both by Member States on a national level, and by this Committee in the exercise of its mandate as the primary forum for the consideration of legal questions in the General Assembly. This is a process that cannot proceed in haste.

The prohibition of crimes against humanity is considered a peremptory norm of international law. We recognize the need to prevent and punish crimes against humanity, and the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction with respect to it. As such, the Philippines has had since 2009, national legislation punishing crimes against humanity.

The Philippine Act on Crimes against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide and Other Crimes Against Humanity declares that the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole must not go unpunished and their effective prosecution must be ensured by taking measures at the national level, in order to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of these crimes and thus contribute to the prevention of such crimes, it being the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over criminalizes, at a national level, crimes against humanity, a primary obligation called for in the draft articles.

