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recognizes the importance of this project and the gravity of this subject. An ad hoc committee should consider modalities of work that would enable a substantive and thorough exchange of views by States on the project Q G R Q W K H & R P P L V V L R Q ¶ V U H F R P P H Q G D W convention by the General Assembly or by a conference of States on the basis of the final draft articles.

We believe that this approach would have the greatest probability of ensuringy that a future convention based on the draft articles would be effective in practice and widely ratified by States. Advancing discussion of this project towards the elaboration of a convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity should be based goal. Anything less would fall short of filling this critical gap in the international legal framework.

Thank you, Chair.