

**Session of the General Assembly Sixth Committee
Agenda Item 82: Report of the International Law Commission
on the Work of its Seventy-Second Session
Cluster Two
Maegan Conklin, Assistant Legal Adviser
United States Department of State
October 29, 2021**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

With respect to the -

efforts to find reliable solutions. The United States recognizes that rising sea levels are a very real threat and is committed to working with others to promote our common goal of protecting maritime zones from challenge and doing so in a manner that we can all support as consistent with international law.

The United States also notes that the Study Group intends to explore a range of additional sources of law on the matter of baselines and maritime zones. In this regard, we would emphasize the universal and unified character of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. For example, under existing international law, as reflected in the Convention, coastal baselines are generally ambulatory, meaning that if the low-water line along the coast shifts (either landward

on steps that can be taken to
context of sea level rise.

We note our appreciation for the efforts of Special Rapporteur, Concepcion Escobar Hernandez, on this challenging topic. We welcome also the thoughtful contributions by other members of the Commission.

The United States reiterates the concerns detailed in its prior statements in this Committee. In particular, we do