



Mr. Chair

I am particularly delighted to be part of this important discussion. Nigeria aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Representative of Uganda on behalf of the African Group. However, we would like to make the following statements in our national capacity.

2. Nigeria condemns crimes against humanity in totality and calls for more concerted efforts in tackling these abhorrent crimes through an elaborate convention. We commend the International Law Commission for their effort on the draft article for the elaboration of a convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity. It provided a robust basis for our discussions during the intercessional session in April last year. In our next engagement, we will continue to support open, constructive, and inclusive dialogue that will lead to consensus, while taking note of existing national and international laws.

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these crimes. We will continue to collaborate with the international community with the view to ensuring that the international legal frameworks for preventing and punishing such heinous crimes are fully always utilized.

Mr. Chair

5. The Federal Government of Nigeria created the Complex Case Work Group (CCWG), in response to crimes against humanity. It is working assiduously to create an electronic case file and evidence database to serve as a repository for such crimes including terrorism and corresponding judgement thereof. This data base will help Nigerian prosecutors to build better cases against perpetrators of egregious crimes to better address impunity. The Government appointed Investigators and Prosecutors as Serious Crimes Response Team (SCRT) to address alleged serious human rights violations and other crimes committed within the Nigerian territory.

Mr. Chair,

6. For any meaningful and sustained progress to be achieved, the international community must do more to ensure equity, fairness, and justice in dispensation of justice and prosecution in all global mechanisms set up in combating these crimes. All states parties must be equal before the law.

7. Nigeria expresses its unwavering support to the Rome Statute, and we will be guided by its principles and use this occasion to call on States Parties that have not yet acceded

the founding Statutes of the international criminal tribunals and

10. As we resume deliberations next year, Nigeria looks forward to a constructive and collaborative exchange of ideas and views and is committed to work with you all to collectively rid the reW*ⁿBF2 14.5