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Statement by H.E. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations at the 78th Session of the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly on agenda item 76:

Criminal Accountability of the United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission

(New York, 10 October 2023)

Mr. Chair,

I would like to thank you for holding the Committee debate on this pertinent agenda item.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive reports.

Aligning with the statement delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, my delegation is adding a few points in our national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

The crucial role and relevance of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, acceleration of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, and promotion of social justice and human rights cannot be more exaggerated.

United Nations officials and experts on mission are the frontliners who serve in advancing the principles and purposes of the United Nations in the field would shape the public image of this important Organization.

UN personnel should be exemplified by their professionalism, conduct, and discipline in the field embodying the credibility, integrity, and overall respect of the UN.

Their highest standard of behavior and performance during their services can only win civic trust and confidence by the

Mr. Chair,

Timely response to the referrals of the UN Secretariat with status updates on the investigation of credible allegations and prosecution of criminal cases is crucial to render justice to the victims.

Any criminal misconduct, fraud, and unethical offense committed by UN officials and experts on mission must not be condoned under any pretext.

No UN personnel should abuse the loophole of diplomatic immunity for impunity.

The state of nationality of the alleged UN personnel or experts should be primarily responsible not only for the investigation and prosecution of the criminal conduct but also for holding the perpetrator accountable.

Impactful implementation of “zero tolerance” policy to allegations of criminal acts, fraud, corruption, and financial crimes is essential for ending impunity.

Mr. Chair,

