Statement of the Republic of Korea
Item 79 - Report of the ILC on the work of the seventy-fourth session
Sixth Committee, 78
th
 Session of the UNGA
October 2023
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General Principles of Law
Madam Chair,
First and foremost, my delegation welcomes the adoption of the draft conclusions on general
principles of law on first reading, together with the commentaries to the draft conclusions, at the
74
th
 ILC session. My delegation would like also to extend our gratitude to Special Rapporteur Mr.
Marcelo Vázquez-Bermúdez and all the ILC members involved for their unwavering efforts and
dedication.
It is hoped that, by incorporating comments and observations made by governments in the draft
conclusions adopted on first reading, the Commission will b敇熖牖退瘀䰀啐ሖ䨀
which will shed further light on one of the fundamental questions of international law, that
is, the sources of international law.
contemporary international law by replacing
anachronistic expressions including “civilized nations” with “community of nations.”
Second, as for Draft Conclusion 3(b) and 7 that provide for the additional category of “general
principles of law formed within the international legal system”, my delegation is aware that there
are different views among the ILC members, scholars and the governments.
My delegation would like to ask the ILC to focus its discussion on the following aspects.
First, there is concern that introduction of this category might blur the distinction between
customary international law and general principles of law

Conclusion 7(1). In particular, it is questionable whether the principle of