

Agenda Item 80: Crimes against Humanity
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Thank you, Chair.

The United States has a long and proud history of supporting justice and accountability for those responsible for crimes against humanity, dating back to the fundamental role the United States played in the first prosecution of such crimes before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg. However, more than 75 years after the Nuremberg trials, there is still, more than 75 years after

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the Sixth Committee to have a robust and in-depth discussion of the substance of the Draft Articles. We have also benefited from the written submissions made by so many Member States. In 2022, the General Assembly decided that the Sixth Committee would take a decision during the 79th Session on this matter. The United States supports the Sixth Committee taking a decision in November to begin a process to negotiate a convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity. We think that now is the time to proceed to the next stage of this process. The United States has accordingly joined more than 70 other States in co

humanity convention at this stage. Although the United States agrees that there are still important substantive issues that remain in the Draft Articles, the United States does not view this as an obstacle to moving forward. Rather, these substantive differences of view can themselves be the subject of negotiation. In order to address concerns and take the next step to substantively engage with this text, we should begin a negotiation process. We do not think there must be consensus on all substantive aspects of these Draft Articles in order to achieve consensus on a decision to launch a treaty negotiation process.

We look forward to engaging with all our colleagues in the coming days so that we can