

Statement to be delivered by H.E. Mohan Peiris, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York at the Sixth Committee

Cluster III - Chps: VI (), VIII (Non-legally binding international agreements) and IX (Succession of States in respect of State responsibility)

**Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ
..... October 2024 (10 minutes)**

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

Sri Lanka appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this important dialogue as the global community increasingly relies on flexible instruments to address complex issues within international law, the need for clear criteria and bring clarity will enhance legal certainty, reduce disputes, and promote stronger cooperation among states. Sri Lanka supports the tireless work in this area and emphasizes the importance of widely accepted frameworks to address these evolving issues in the international legal system.

Permit me the indulgence of making some observations(Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea)

With regard to this chapter VI we like to make following remarks. As a nation with a strong commitment to safeguarding the maritime domain, Sri Lanka supports initiatives that enhance **regional and international collaboration including** fostering partnerships among states to share intelligence, enhance law enforcement capabilities, and strengthen legal frameworks for **community engagement in maritime safety and**

the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, are crucial. We advocate for collaboration among affected States, including through regional initiatives like the Indian Ocean Rim Association, to strengthen legal frameworks and enhance enforcement capacity.

Sri Lanka recognizes the importance of **Article 5**, which establishes States' obligations under international law. Effective measures, including legislative, administrative, and judicial actions, are essential to enhance maritime safety. Comprehensive frameworks must criminalize piracy and armed robbery, ensuring provisions for prosecution, extradition, and mutual legal assistance. Aligning domestic laws with international conventions, such as UNCLOS, is vital for jurisdictional clarity. We also emphasize the need for strong regional cooperation to strengthen maritime surveillance and enhance information-F1 12.3f1 0

international norms and accountability.

Potential Legal Effects of Non-Legally Binding International Agreements

Determining the legal status of an agreement, particularly **whether it constitutes a legally binding treaty**, necessitates **a careful assessment of its specific characteristics** rather than relying on assumptions. This evaluation is vital

Lanka recommends developing and reflecting a comprehensive legal framework that distinctly outlines the transfer of responsibilities and rights. This framework should address obligations stemming from wrongful acts and provide clear guidelines to minimize conflicts over inherited

