United Nations General A
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction
 
Mr. Chairman, 
 
Brazil thanks the Secretary
referred to in document A/75/151 on the scope and application of 
universal jurisdiction. The report confirms that state practice on this 
matter is not uniform: it varies on both the range of crimes that trigger

3
Brazil has obliged itself to repress through treaties or conventions, such 
as torture. Under Brazilian legal framework, it is necessary to enact 
national legislation to enable the exercise of universal jurisdiction or to 
persecute and judge an action or omission, which is considered a crime 
under international law. It is not possible, thus, to exercise universal 
jurisdiction over a crime under customary international law alone, 
because the lack of specific legislation would result in a violation of the 
principle of legality. 
Mr. Chairman, 
Although there is a difference between universal jurisdiction and 
the exercise of criminal jurisdiction by international tribunals, we must 
acknowledge that these two tools share a common objective: to deny 
impunity to the perpetrators of serious international crimes. Hence, they 
should be complementary to each other, in a manner that favors