Seul le texte prononcé fait foi

Crimes against humanity are indeed among the most serious crimes, which it is essential to prevent and punish. It is therefore high time to fill the gap that remains in this area, decades after the codification of genocide and war crimes.

The convention will complement treaty law on core international crimes. Its universal value across legal systems and cultures will be a powerful symbol. Moreover, the convention will help States to implement their primary responsibility to investigate these crimes. It will promote interstate cooperation in investigation, prosecution and sanctions. Ultimately, it will be an essential tool for ensuring accountability and bringing the perpetrators of these crimes to justice.

We have already had occasion to say that this convention should fit well into the framework of existing international law. In this respect, Switzerland welcomes the fact