

78th Session of the General Assembly

Sixth Committee

Item 80: Crimes against humanity

Thematic Cluster 03 – National Measures

Draft Articles 06 (Criminalization under national law), 07 (Establishment of national jurisdiction), 08 (Investigation), 09 (Preliminary measures when an alleged offender is present) and 10 (Aut dedere aut judicare)

Statement by the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka, H.E. Ambassador Mohan Pieris

03rd April 2024

One of the great legal innovations of the post-war world is the concept of crimes against humanity. Aimed at the protection of civilian populations during both peacetime and wartime, even from civilian populations 'own governments, it remains a major pillar of international law to this day. We are today, dealing with the criminalization of crimes against humanity in our national laws.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation has given careful consideration to draft article six, seven, eight, nine and ten, and wish to state that the criminal law system in Sri Lanka is sufficiently poised to take cognizance of the unlawful activity inclusive of crimes against humanity that is described in these articles and recommendations are presently in place and in the process of consideration, considering the widening in fuller amplitude, the jurisdiction of our courts to deal with these crimes in a befitting manner as best suited to our national requirements.

respondents have the opportunity to be heard and the decisions are based on thorough and unbiased assessment of facts. The rules of natural justice are interwoven into our law in its full measure, the code of criminal procedure and amendments have recognized and

and improve their understanding and monitoring of risk factors as well as the process that can lead to atrocities and measures to contravene it.

It is in this regard. We consider it important that states partner with other actors, such as international and regional organizations, as well as civil society actors to receive support and amplify their efforts in this regard.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.