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Mr/Madam Chairperson,

1. On the topic '**protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts**', the United Kingdom welcomes the Commission's completion this year of the first reading of a set of draft principles and accompanying commentaries. The United Kingdom expresses its

appreciation to the Special Rapporteur, Ms Marja Lehto, for her work, and is grateful to the Commission for its careful consideration of this

in conflicts to which they are not a party. The United Kingdom does not accept that Common Article 1 contains such an obligation.

6. Nor does the United Kingdom accept the blanket prohibition against reprisals in draft principle 16. In the United Kingdom's view, this does not reflect the current state of customary international law and reservations by States to article 55(2) of Additional Protocol 1 to the Geneva Conventions.

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Mr/Madam Chairperson,

7. Turning to the topic '**immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction**', the United Kingdom notes the developments in the Commission this year, which are reflected in Chapter VIII of its report and in the interim report of the Drafting Committee.
8. The United Kingdom reiterates its view that this is a topic of vital importance and practical significance.
9. The United Kingdom is grateful for the inclusion in the seventh report by Special Rapporteur, Professor Concepción Escobar Hernández, of ~~nine draft articles regarding procedural aspects for consideration by the~~

Commission. Notwithstanding this welcome progress, the Commission is still very far from being in a position to submit a clear and acceptable

protect the sovereign equality of States by preventing politicisation or

abuse, but without proposing draft articles.

11. Debates on the sixth and seventh reports in this year's session indicated a measure of agreement within the Commission that procedural safeguards are needed to address concerns regarding potential politicisation or abuse, but disagreement as to what those safeguards should be.

12. The Drafting Committee provisionally adopted one draft article (draft article 8 *ante*), which would be the opening article of a new Part Four on procedure.

13. Although the United Kingdom welcomes the Commission's general

~~claim that procedural safeguards are needed to guard~~

~~against potential politicisation and abuse, the United Kingdom does not~~

sees for its work on this topic, which the United Kingdom assumes will be a convention open to ratification by States.

*national criminal courts and international criminal courts for the purposes of immunity treatment*", without consideration of the decision of the IGC Appeals Chamber in the *Al-Bashir* case. The United

19. The United Kingdom welcomes the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, which provides the best available science on the wide range of impacts of climate change on the ocean and the cryosphere, and potential measures for building resilience to those impacts.

important topic as part of the suite of actions that the international community must take as a matter of urgency to address the impacts

of climate change.

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Thank you, Mr/Madam Chairperson