



The Nordic countries remain deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct of UN officials and experts. In this regard, we wish to emphasize the need for continued focus on sexual exploitation and abuse.

If not investigated and appropriately prosecuted, the ensuing impression that UN officials and experts operate with impunity will be detrimental to the important work of thousands of UN officials working to fulfil the mandate of the United Nations. It will put the very credibility and integrity of the UN and its missions at stake.

Therefore, we wish to stress the need for both the UN and its Member States, through policy, legislation and action, to exercise a zero-tolerance policy towards crimes committed by UN officials and experts on mission.

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therefore imperative that States establish jurisdiction over crimes committed by their nationals while serving as UN officials or experts on mission.

When investigating and prosecuting these cases, all Member States must uphold the principles of due process and the rule of law. Moreover, it is equally important to ensure the effective protection of victims, witnesses and whistle-blowers.

The Nordic countries urge all Member States that have not yet done so to submit, at their earliest convenience, relevant information to the Secretary-General regarding the status of their domestic legislation on this matter, in accordance with paragraphs 26 and 27 of resolution 72/112.

M(r/s) Chair,

In addition to reporting, further measures to ensure transparency and provide incentives for Member States to undertake the necessary legislative amendments must be considered. In this regard, the Nordic countries would like to reiterate our previous proposal on developing a general policy on minimal requirements for States whose nationals serve as UN officials or experts on mission. A policy of this kind could draw on the Voluntary Compact on Preventing and Addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. An essential requirement in this respect should be that all States have established relevant jurisdiction to enable the effective investigation and prosecution of potential crimes committed by their nationals while in service for the UN abroad.

The Nordic countries also look forward to a constructive debate on a comprehensive international legal framework to address criminal conduct by UN officials and experts on mission. This could be an important step towards fighting impunity. We would once again like to thank the Group of Legal Experts for the Draft Convention.

M(r/s). Chair,

In closing, the Nordic countries would like to reiterate the importance of ensuring accountability for crimes committed while in serv

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Thank you.

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