



PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT BY THE CUBAN DELEGATION UNDER ITEM 83 STATUS OF
THE PROCEEDINGS ADDITIONAL TO THE GENERAL CONVENTIONS OF 1949,
AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF ARMED
& 21) / , & 76

New York, 4 November 2020

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Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Cuba welcomes the Report of the
Secretary-General A/75/263, drawn up from
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international terrorism, transnational crime and other scourges that are besetting humanity. We oppose attempts by certain countries to reinterpret those norms in order to evade their strict observance.

Increasingly often, civilians become victims and direct targets of all kinds of abuses by the armed forces involved in conflicts, in violation of the principle of distinction.

Similarly, civilian facilities, including hospitals and schools, have been indiscriminately attacked. The situation is aggravated by the increasing use of highly sophisticated weaponry, in particular unmanned aircraft, which do not guarantee compliance with obligations under international humanitarian law.

Mr. Chairman,

Cuba honors its status as a State party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional

Protocols of 1977. In order to ensure their proper implementation, the Military Criminal Law is currently in force to regulate actions or omissions which may constitute offenses under international humanitarian law. The Cuban national legislation also contains the necessary guarantees for the protection of civilians.

Since 1994, the Center for the Study of International Humanitarian Law (CEDIH) has been operating in Cuba. It was created upon the signing of a Collaboration Agreement between the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Cuban National Society of the Red Cross, with the aim of disseminating IHL and promoting, through education and scientific research, the ideals and fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The functions of the Center include the training at the national level of heads and officers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) and the Ministry

The international community must hold accountable any State that violates IHL, as well as those States that promote internal conflicts within other sovereign States in order to impose external agendas.

Cuba reiterates its willingness to work for the global implementation of the norms of IHL and will continue to collaborate with the International Committee of the Red Cross and its various associations in the noble endeavor to disseminate education and respect for international humanitarian law.

Thank you