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STATEMENT

BY
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PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS
ON
CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY
AT THE 76TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
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Madam Chair,
 My Delegation commends the International Law
Commission for its report on the progressive
development of international law and its codification,
as well as the improvement to the draft articles on
the prevention and punishment of crimes against
humanity. Nigeria is appreciative of the relentless
efforts by the UN General Assembly in addressing
the agenda item.
2. Crimes against humanity threatens peaceful co-existence and security of lives and properties. If
these crimes go un-checked, impunity will strive in
the absence of justice. Nigeria calls on Member
States to take appropriate actions to prevent and
address atrocities especially the ones committed
against minorities and under-represented population
across the world.
3. Crimes against humanity as codified in the
founding statutes of the international criminal
tribunals and international laws should be respected

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and implemented accordingly. By ignoring such
crimes, it means ignoring the suffering of the people.
It is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal
jurisdiction over alleged crimes categorized as crimes
committed against humanity.
Madam Chair,
4. My delegation calls on Member States to
consider the recommendation to elaborate the draft
articles into convention. If elaborated, it will serve as
a firm legal framework in the promotion of
accountability at national level. Nigeria, therefore,
would support an open and inclusive dialogue by all
parties involved and we welcome the collective
proposals emanating from various deliberations by
Member States that will lead to consensus on this
agenda item, while taking note of existing national
and international laws.
5. In respect to Article 12, my delegation supports
a comprehensive approach by States to take all
necessary measures to ensure equal access to

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competent authorities and for all victims,
complainants, witnesses are protected against ill-treatment or intimidation. Protective measures
should be without prejudice. Nigeria also joins other
delegations in welcoming the promotion of Mutual
Legal Assistance under Article 14, that will afford
States under relevant laws and treaties access to
investigations, prosecutions, judicial and other
proceedings, as the case maybe.

Madam Chair,
6. Nigeria has consistently demonstrated strong
political will to fulfill its international law
obligations. In concluding, Nigeria would like to
reiterate its unwavering commitment to her
international obligations, by continuing to adhere to
international laws and respect for human rights,
dignity, self-determination, and promotion of

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this end, we call on Member States to come together
and agree to move forward with the view of achieving
a common goal.
7. I thank you madam Chair.