

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour of speaking on this issue of which continues to be of critical importance.

Criminal actions carried out by UN officials and experts are unacceptable. The UN and its Member States must push forward with a zero-tolerance policy towards such crimes, through preventive measures, legislation, and action. It is essential that these crimes are investigated and prosecuted both for the sake of the victims of the crimes and for the credibility and integrity of the UN and its Member States.

The Nordic countries welcome the Secretary General's report on the policies and procedures of UN entities regarding credible allegations revealing that United Nations officials or experts on mission may have committed a crime. We also reiterate our support of the Secretary General's recommendation

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jurisdiction over crimes committed by their nationals while serving as UN officials or experts on mission.

All Member States must uphold the principles of due process and the rule of law. Moreover, it is equally important that all Member States 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  
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