

Statement by
Mr. Ali Nasimfar, Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Before the Sixth Committee of the
75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
on
“Prevention and punishment of Crimes against Humanity”
(Agenda item 81)

New York, 15 October 2020

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

My delegation extends its gratitude to the International Law Commission for its valuable work in providing the draft articles on the “Prevention and punishment of Crimes against Humanity”, and reaffirms Iran’s unwavering commitments to the prevention and punishment of these heinous crimes.

With respect to the draft articles presented to the Sixth Committee, we have expressed our viewpoints in the previous meetings and I will highlight today a few points, in view of time constraint.

On the way forward: Given the divergence in the comments and observations of the Member States it is obvious that further work is needed so as to allow the relevant authorities of the Member States to provide their comments and engage in an inclusive and intergovernmental negotiation. The work of the ILC could be considered as a source, in this process that should be shaped under the auspices of the Sixth Committee. Therefore, it is premature at this stage to call for a diplomatic conference to adopt the proposed draft articles.

Mr. Chairman,

with respect to substance, my delegation would like to raise following points:

1. The obligation of States to prevent crimes against humanity, as currently drafted, is too broad and will therefore add on to the legal ambiguity on the scope of prevention. It is recommended that draft articles articulate the obligations of

In conclusion, my delegation believes that the draft articles on the “Prevention and punishment of Crimes against Humanity” should be remain open to further in-depth discussion and consideration of member states in this committee. It is important to focus on legal issues, avoid politicization and selectivity and create a framework that genuinely addresses the plight of mankind, whenever they face crimes against Humanity, in full conformity with the principles and objectives of the UN Charter.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.