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STATEMENT OF GHANA DELIVERED TO THE SIXTH COMMITTEE AT THE 76TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

"CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY" (AGENDA ITEM 74)

10th October 2022 Security Council Chamber, United Nations, New York

Mr. Chairman,

The growing incidence of crimes against humanity being committed by state and non-state actors alike, entrust upon us a responsibility to bring such crimes effectively within the fray of our international criminal justice system through the development and adoption of a requisite international convention as pertains to the crime of genocide and war crimes.

Crimes against humanity, together with genocide and war crimes constitute serious threats to international peace and security as they threaten the very existence of our humanity and the endurance of our international system.

We, therefore, welcome the continuing consideration in the Sixth Committee of this agenda item with the view to closing the jurisdictional gap that exists in our international criminal justice system in relation to crimes against humanity and, align ourselves with the statements of the African Group.

We re-iterate our support for the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission and submitted to the General Assembly. The draft articles, in our view, reflect, our shared considerations for the prevention of such heinous acts anywhere and against any group of people, avoiding impunity and ensuring justice for victims.

The success of our endeavors to codify the rules of international law in respect of crimes against humanity is reliant upon our ability to foster an open and inclusive dialogue on the draft articles in a manner that garners consensus on the elements of an internationally binding convention and the modalities as recommended by the ILC. We, encourage the intensification of efforts by Member States to advance the work that has so far been done and look forward to working with all other Member States.

Ultimately, we must keep at the core of our endeavours, the interests and concerns of the people whose very existence and survival hinge upon our capacity to forge through legal quandaries and to bring a message of hope to all humanity.

I thank you for your kind attention.