

## **Sixth Committee**

"Resumed session on Crimes Against Humanity: Cluster V"

## Statement by Matthijs Boerma Legal Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kingdom of the Netherlands

NEW YORK, 13 April 2023

Thank you Mr./Madam Chair for giving me the floor

My delegations align itself with the statement made by our distinguished colleague from the European Union.

Allow me to share a few very brief remarks in my national capacity.

The Netherlands welcomes article 5 as drafted, as it represents an essential protection under international law.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands attaches great importance to fair trial and due process, as is stipulated in the European Convention of Human Rights and different UN human rights treaties. We are a proponent of strong language on this matter.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands recognises that there is a general development in both national and international criminal law aimed at strengthening the legal position of victims of serious crimes.

As this is the last formal statement my delegation will deliver this week, the Kingdom of the Netherlands would like to recognize the important work of our colleagues from civil society. For example, Amnesty International has included a number of amendments to the draft articles in its 17-point program, that would ensure that victim's rights are fully recognized.

This concludes our brief remarks for cluster 5. Thank you, Mr/Madam Chair.