



# THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by Mr. CHOI, Yonghoon**

**Legal Counselor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea  
Sixth Committee of the General Assembly**

**Item 77 : Criminal Accountability of the United Nations Officials and  
Experts on Mission**

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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation would like to express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report, A/67/213, on “Criminal Accountability of the United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission.”

Criminal Accountability is a vital element of the Rule of Law. The Republic of Korea is convinced that bringing UN personnel who committed a crime into justice is a crucial part of our fight against impunity. If such serious violations are not prosecuted through an appropriate procedure, the United Nations may create the false impression that its officials and experts can improperly use immunities for their private benefit. The recurring abuses of their immunities could bring about serious damage to the credibility and impartiality of the Organization itself.

In this context, my delegation wishes to note with appreciation that the Office of Legal Affairs referred the cases of 17 United Nations Officials to States of nationality for investigation and possible prosecution. My delegation would like to emphasize that the States of nationality should take necessary steps forward, including thorough investigation in cooperation with the United

Nations. This delegation is also of the view that it is desirable for the States of nationality to periodically inform the Organization of ongoing progress including the details of their legal procedure, as well as the final results of the cases within their jurisdiction.

Mr. Chairman,

The Republic of Korea believes that one of the most important goals of today's debate lies in the prevention of possible crimes committed by UN personnel. My delegation would like voice our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts and the practical measures described in his report in order to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through pre-deployment and in-mission induction training.

My delegation is of the view that it is not only the Secretary-General's duty, but also the responsibility of Member States to make a concerted effort to prevent such offenses. My delegation would like to emphasize the value of the discipline and importance of training prior to deployment, especially as performed by each Member State.

For example, the Republic of Korea provides a three-month intensive training course to the selected personnel for Peacekeeping Operations. They have been chosen through an extremely rigorous process among many able soldiers, and are inspired much more by the enhancement of professional ethics with this training program.

My delegation believes that both the United Nations and each Member State must do their utmost alongside each other to end impunity and to prevent crimes committed by United Nations Officials and Experts.

Thank you.