

74th Session of the General Assembly/Sixth Committee

Agenda Item 79

Adoption of the draft resolution entitled "*Crimes Against Humanity*"

Explanation of Position After Adoption

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to deliver this explanation of position on behalf of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Uruguay and my own country Austria.

Our delegations welcome the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on crimes against humanity, its adoption of the draft articles and commentaries thereto and its recommendation regarding the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the facilitators of the resolution on crimes against humanity for their efforts.

We regret, however, that the Sixth Committee was not able to agree on an ambitious and structured approach for our future deliberations on the recommendation of the ILC to elaborate a convention on the basis of its draft articles. We would have welcomed more time for our discussions in order to be able to accommodate the differing views on the way forward, and are aware of the wish of some delegations to have more time to examine and reflect on the draft articles of the ILC on crimes against humanity. We look forward to the opportunity for further discussion in preparation of the next session of the 6th Committee and very much hope that the Sixth Committee will be able to find consensus on providing efficient guidance on the way ahead for this very important issue at its next session.

I thank you, Mr. Chair