



SLOVENIA

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STATEMENT

BY

Ms. Zala Crček Beović, Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the United Nations on Agenda item 79: Criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission

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Sixth Committee**

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Madam Chairperson/Mr. Chairman,

Slovenia fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. In addition it would like to contribute to this crucial debate in its national capacity.

Firstly, allow me to thank the Secretary-General for his important report on allegations of crimes that may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission and which includes information on policies and procedures of the United Nations Secretariat, funds, programmes, and other entities.

Slovenia supports the Secretary-General's systemic approach to preventing and responding to crimes committed by officials and experts on mission, in particular the Secretary-General's efforts to improve and harmonize policies and procedures. We welcome the United Nations' commitment to prepare recommendations aimed at ensuring that the relevant policies and procedures are coherent, systematic and coordinated throughout the United Nations system.

Charter of the United Nations in the third paragraph of Article 101 stipulates that in ensuring the employment of staff and in determining the conditions of service, the most important consideration is the need to provide the highest standards of efficiency, competence and

integrity. Slovenia acknowledges that the matter in question is regulated in the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

Madam Chairperson/Mr. Chairman,

Member States and the United Nations need to cooperate together to prevent crimes. Their collaboration should be based on efforts to achieve enhanced communication and result in the forming of the necessary partnerships. In addition, we must strive to build a positive relationship between the Member States and the United Nations on the one hand, and the host States and their people on the other. These interrelations all add up to a successful discharge of UN missions within the objectives set and to the enforcement of responsibility for non-compliance or breaches.

Madam Chairperson/Mr. Chairman,

Slovenia supports appropriate preventive procedures, including those aimed at providing adequate training for officials and experts on missions. We need to do and accomplish more in terms of establishing appropriate services to deal with relevant issues. These services should be able to act promptly, appropriately and efficiently in the event of suspicion that a criminal offence has been committed, to protect the victim and take a victim-centered approach.

Slovenia is striving to carefully monitor various forms of crime and to strengthen preventive work at the national level, which has proven very effective. During the past five-year programming period for monitoring committed crimes, their number has decreased significantly. The presented data show that Slovenia has improved its preventive measures by upgrading the resources needed to protect citizens, establishing the necessary information systems architecture, and strengthening the research and fight against various forms of crime in general. Slovenia also aims to strengthen multidisciplinary cooperation with other States on justice, home affairs, and protection and rescue.

Madam Chairperson/Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, I would like to underline that we must constantly strive to effectively detect and investigate crimes, and to be one step ahead of them. A genuine zero-tolerance policy for misconduct and commission of crimes shall be a prerogative to build up and nurture the credibility, integrity and impartiality of the United Nations and its missions.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson/Mr. Chairman.