



Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Angola to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY

**ANGOLAN DELEGATION ON
AGENDA ITEM 79: CRIMINAL**

**ACCOUNTABILITY OF UNITED NATIONS
OFFICIALS AND EXPERTS IN MISSION**

76Th SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT THE 6TH COMMITTEE

New York, October 2021

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Madam Chair,

Distinguished Members of the Bureau,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you, on your election to preside the work of the 6th committee during this session and assure you of the full support of my Delegation.

Madam Chair,

The Republic of Angola attaches great importance to the discussion of the agenda item on criminal accountability of the United Nations officials and experts in mission . The continued allegations of abuses, violence and sexual exploitation committed by individuals from United Nations Peacekeeping Forces, humanitarian workers, and other civilian workers at the service of the organization, constitute grounds for repudiation by the Republic of Angola.

The sexual violence cases allegedly committed by humanitarian workers from UNICEF, WHO, IMO, during the Ebola epidemic in 2019, in the Democratic Republic of Congo for example, must be investigated and their perpetrators must be exemplarily punished.

Angola supports the Zero Tolerance Policy of the Secretary General of United Nations with respect to criminal misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations officials and expert in missions and welcome the continuous commitment and strengthening of measures addressed at protection of victims, based on principles of transparency, accountability and impartiality.

Madam Chair,

It is indeed regrettable and paradoxical that United Nations Peacekeeping Missions personnel entrusted with the main task of ensuring the protection of civilians take advantage of women, girls and boys in extremely fragile situations for such despicable human rights violations.

One way to mitigate this problem, would be in our view, to increase the number of Women's Protection Advisers in Peacekeeping operations, to monitor, analyze and report on conflict related sexual violence, assuring and enhancing prevention, early warning and timely responses to conflict related sexual violence.

On the other hand and in order to ensure that those accused of committing such crimes are brought to justice, States that have not yet done so, must establish jurisdiction over crimes committed during missions.

Madam Chair,

Angola urges troop-contributing States to take all necessary measures to ensure that internal disciplinary mechanisms are in place and are harmonized with United Nations standards in order to support better action by local authorities.

We urges States to cooperate in providing assistance in criminal investigations or extradition proceedings in relation to crimes of a minor nature committed by UN officials and mission experts, as well as ensuring the protection of victims.

All cases of suspected misconduct of crimes must be reported, investigated and the perpetrators of such crimes must be held accountable.

Finally the Republic of Angola takes good note of the recommendations contained in the Secretary General's report in document A/76/205 of 21 July 2021 on the criminal responsibility of UN officers and Experts in missions, and considers that States should take steps to implement them.

Thank you very much.