

**Statement by  
DELEGATION OF VIET NAM  
at the 77th Session of the Sixth Committee of UNGA  
on Agenda Item 77: “Report of the International Law Commission”  
Cluster II (Chapters VI and IX)**

*Please check against delivery*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*Distinguished delegates,*

We would like to first address the topic of “**Immunity of State officials from criminal foreign jurisdiction**”, Chapter VI of the Report of the International Law Commission.

First of all, we would like to extend our gratitude to the excellent work of the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Concepción Escobar Hernández as her contribution was significant for the Commission to conclude its first reading of the draft article on the immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction. In that regard, we highlight the continuation of this topic and expect the Commission to soon assign a new Special Rapporteur to be in charge of the topic.

As can be seen, immunity for state officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction originates from customary international law. Thus, the codification of the rules in this matter needs to be carefully undertaken with due regard to the principles of sovereign equality, non-intervention in the domestic affairs of States as well as the need for the maintenance of international peace and security, ensuring the balance between the benefits of granting immunity to State officials, the need to address impunity and the protection of State officials from politically motivated or abusive exercise of criminal jurisdiction.

*Mr. Chairman,*

On the topic of “**Sea-level rise in relation to international law**”, my delegation commends the Commission for accomplishing two issues papers analyzing the legal impacts of sea-level rise on international law, statehood, and the protection of affected persons. These are all urgent issues that need to be studied in order to find a timely solution.

Viet Nam is one of the world’s most vulnerable countries to the adverse impact of climate change in general, and of sea-level rise in particular. The rising of sea-level has been substantially impacting the coastlines and low-lying areas offshore of Viet Nam, thus affecting the livelihoods, health, culture, and well-being of our people, especially those habituating alongshore.

For these reasons, my delegation shares the necessity and urgency to continue the work of codifying and developing international regulations in this regard, especially when this phenomenon may even threaten the statehood of certain countries, the most crucial subject of international law. Accordingly, it is of great importance that this codification takes into account the principle of sovereign equality of states.

Viet Nam believes that all solutions to sea-level rise shall be based on international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out in order to ensure the stability of maritime borders, maintaining peace and stability in international relations. Moreover, the Commission should also take into consideration principles of international environmental law during its work on this topic.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman/.