

ቀዋሚ ሚሽን ሃገረ ኤርትራ ናብ  
ወድብ ሕቡራት ሃገራት  
ኒ-ኖርክ



البعثة الدائمة لدولة إريتريا لدى  
الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

---

*Check against delivery!*

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF ERITREA**

**SIXTH COMMITTEE RESUMED 78<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**AGENDA ITEM 80: "CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY", ILC Recommendation**

**1-5 AND 11 APRIL 2024, NEW YORK**

**Thank you Chair,**

In response to the ILC's recommendation on the elaboration of a convention by the General Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of the Draft Articles, Eritrea stresses that this should only come into being on the basis of a widely acceptable consolidated text. We are keenly interested in having an unambiguous framework that will serve its true intentions, without selectivity, politicization, and double standards.

My delegation notes with concern the impetuous proceeding by other delegations in this regard, altered so as to not lose its chance of passage, while there remains an overwhelming divergence of views on the most key elements of the Draft Articles, such as the definition of crimes against humanity and the contextual requirements. My delegation also notes inconsistencies in the commentaries and the selective nature of the Draft Articles regarding the codification of existing law and the progressive development of international law, irrespective of their parallel discussions.

My delegation believes that these imbalances should be addressed first. Moving forward in the context of treaty negotiations based on the present draft articles would be very difficult and a significant concession for many States.

To conclude, Eritrea has closely followed the discussions in the past two resumed sessions and the general debates within the Sixth Committee. My delegation wishes to reiterate its position that it is premature to engage in negotiations. We are apprehensive

of the present Draft Articles on many points and question whether they would serve the purpose for which it is desirable. Therefore, my delegation suggests that Draft Articles on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity should be reverted to the ILC for further consideration and revision to take into account the divergent views of member states in an exhaustive and inclusive manner.

**Mr. Chair,**

Allow me to take this opportunity and follow the distinguished representatives from Cameroon and the State of Palestine in sharing a proverb, in one of the Eritrean languages that nicely sums up the virtue of patience: መልክዕ ገረብ ቆጽሊ፣ መልክዕ ሰብ ዓቕሊ, which translates literally as "the beauty of a tree is its leaves, the beauty of a person is patience".

**I thank you.**