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**National Statement of Hungary
on the**

**‘Report of the International Law Commission on the work of
its seventy-fourth session’**

Cluster I.

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Intervention by

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Mr. Chairperson,

As this is the first time I take the floor to address the Report of the International Law Commission, I would like to commend the Commission for the productive session it has completed, and thank the ILC Chair for the introduction of the Report.

At the beginning, let me address some of the decisions taken by the Commission this year.

First, we welcome that the Commission has **included the topic “Non-legally binding international agreements” in its programme of work**. We are convinced that the Commission’s work in this area will prove to be useful in addressing practical aspects of concluding international agreements. Therefore, taking also into account the importance of addressing the challenges posed by the fragmentation of international law, we are looking forward to discussing this timely topic next year, after the Commission has discussed the first report.

Second, we welcome the decision of the Commission to hold a **seventy-fifth anniversary commemorative event** during its seventy-fifth session in Geneva in 2024, including a meeting with legal advisers of Ministries of Foreign Affairs dedicated to the work of the Commission. This will provide a unique occasion for addressing questions of mutual interest and identifying timely topics, where the analysis undertaken by the Commission could either have practical value, or lead to the adoption of draft articles. According to our view, finding the right balance between topics leading to different type of outputs by the Commission is of the utmost importance.

As regards the topics discussed by the Commission this year, today we would like to address the question of **sea level rise**. Hungary aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. Now I would like to make some remarks in our national capacity.

First, we would like to welcome the additional paper to the first issues paper prepared by two of the Co-Chairs of the Study Group, Mr. Bogdan Aurescu and Ms. Nilüfer Oral, which analyses issues and principles assessed by member states as the most relevant. Hungary is a landlocked country; nonetheless, we recognize the challenges caused by sea level rise. Hungary has been actively engaged in discussions concerning climate change, and we are of the view that a clear and transparent analysis of international legal regulations addressing climate change, including also the related topic of sea level rise, is essential for effectively tackling these phenomena.

As regards the additional paper, the Co-Chairs have undertaken a thorough analysis of the questions at hand, and have managed to narrow down the scope of principles applicable to the aspects of sea level rise discussed in the first issues paper. The authors draw several preliminary conclusions, most of which relate to questions of maritime delimitation, the central conclusion being that there exists no obligation for regular updating of baselines. While we agree with this conclusion, and share the view that maintaining legal stability is essential, we consider that in the final report to be issued in 2025 further thought should be given to finding the most appropriate form to reflect these conclusions.

With respect to the future work of the Commission on this issue, we are looking forward to discussing statehood and questions related to the protection of persons affected by sea-level rise next year and the final substantive report in 2025.

Thank you for your kind attention.