

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished members of the Sixth Committee

1. It is been a great honour to sit at this podium in my capacity as Chair of the 74th session of the International Law and to have shared this great privilege with the current chair, PGT. The strong words of support you have shown us is much appreciated.
2. I will say just a few final words as Mme Chair has covered the important points all of which I fully agree with.
3. The annual meetings of the Sixth Committee are very important for the Commission, and this year especially important as we have just commenced a new quinquennium with many new members and importantly new topics, four including non-legally binding agreements.
4. These past two weeks have provided us with a rich source of comments and views from you. We appreciate very much the high level of participation of member States with very clear and substantive remarks which will guide our work.
5. The comments of member States are very much taken into account in our work and for this reason it is important for States from all regions to make their views known on our work. In this regard, the Commission has made enhanced dialogue and outreach with the Sixth Committee and communication of our work a priority as stated by my co-chair. As my dear cochair said, we will continue to work on this.
6. I also take this opportunity to also thank the members of the Commission, members of the Bureau, the Special Rapporteurs, Co-Chairs and Chairs of the Working Group. In addition a special thanks to those members who were able to participate in this meeting, many travelling long distances.
7. The participation of members of the Commission is not part of our mandate, even for Special Rapporteurs and so, except for the Chair of the Commission, the participation of members is on a voluntary basis.
8. I thank the Secretariat for their work both at the Commission but also in the Sixth Committee, and a special tribute of thanks to Huw Llewelyn at

what is his last 6th Committee meeting – although happy we will see him in Geneva!

9. Lastly, this meeting of the Sixth Committee took place under very challenging backdrop of conflict in the world. However, what is abundantly clear, international law must be that beacon of light to guide the international community to fulfil the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

10. Thank you