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UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE,
UNGA78, AGENDA ITEM 85

RESPONSIBILITY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

19 October 2023

Delivered by Jonathan Hollis

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Chair,

First, the United Kingdom would like to thank the Secretary-General for his two reports on the responsibility of international organisations.

The position of the United Kingdom on this topic has not changed.

While we consider this topic to be of importance, we note that the Commission was clear that in developing the draft Articles there was limited availability of pertinent practice. The latest reports of the Secretary-General indicate little has changed in this respect.

Further, the Commission highlighted that the draft Articles moved the border between codification and progressive development more towards the latter. It is therefore understandable that there remain differences of opinion between States on the draft Articles and diverging views on the extent to which they reflect customary international law.

For similar reasons, we doubt that opening up the Articles for negotiation would lead to sufficient consensus for the adoption of a convention.

Consequently, it is the view of the United Kingdom that the articles on the responsibility of international organizations should remain in their current form.

Thank you.