

PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT BY MR NATHANIEL KHNG, COUNSELLOR (LEGAL), PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 78, ON CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, SIXTH COMMITTEE, 10 OCTOBER 2022

Thank you, Mdm Chair.

1 Singapore reiterates its appreciation to the International Law Commission for its work on this important topic. Crimes against humanity are among the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. It is imperative that the international community works together to end impunity for perpetrators and provide justice for victims. In this regard, the Commission's draft articles and commentaries can contribute to the strengthening of accountability by providing useful practical guidance to States on this topic.

Mdm Chair,

2 Singapore was among those delegations that(0)4(n)4(n)-3(s)-3()-467(t)4cR3(n)

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3 To cite one example, under draft article 7, multiple States may have national jurisdiction over a criminal offence and wish to exercise such jurisdiction. The draft articles do not explain how such potential conflicts of jurisdiction can be resolved. Draft article 13, paragraph 12, simply provides that a State in whose territory the alleged offender is present is to give due consideration to the extradition request of the State in whose territory the alleged offence occurred. In this regard, Singapore remains of the view that where such conflicts of jurisdiction exist, the draft articles should accord primacy to the State which can exercise jurisdiction on the basis of at least one of the limbs in draft article 7, paragraph 1, rather than a custodial State that can only exercise jurisdiction on the basis of paragraph 2 alone. This is because the former State would have a greater interest in prosecuting the offence in question. We invite delegations to refer to the other parts of Singapore's written comments, which are available on the Commission's website.