

**Statement by Ms. Pham Thi General for his annual**

**application of universal jurisdiction, which was  
its and observations from Member States and**

**universal jurisdiction is an important principle  
action**

Concerning the application of this principle, we would like to emphasize that universal jurisdiction should be applied with much caution and within well-founded framework in order to avoid any abuse that may go against the principles of the sovereign equality, political independence and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. Universal jurisdiction should be supplement to other jurisdictions, which have a stronger link to the crimes, such as territorial jurisdiction or nationality jurisdiction since the primary responsibility for investigation and prosecution of crimes always rests with the territorial State or the State of nationality. Further, a State may exercise universal jurisdiction over a crime only when the alleged perpetrator is present in its territory. In addition, the prosecution and trial of an alleged perpetrator on the basis of universal jurisdiction must comply with universally recognized standards of human rights and international humanitarian law.

Mr. Chairman,