



Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to address the topic 'Protection of the Atmospheer' and to comment on it.

The level of impact of the degradation of the streambeds on aquatic life is

Mr. Chairman

Portugal believes that the basis for this complex and challenging topic has to be a very clear and value-oriented approach. Law is not neutral and it has to reflect the

fundamental values of a given society. To best serve the overall interests of the international community a careful balance has to be struck between State sovereignty and equality, the rights of individuals and the need to avoid impunity for serious crimes under international law.

It is our conviction that, to strike this balance, the Commission has to identify the existing rules of International Law, but it has also – as it is foreseen in its mandate – to embark upon an exercise of progressive development.

This progressive development has to take into account that immunities are an important tool for the conduct of foreign relations. It is not possible to

applied within the context of the current evolution as far as fundamental human values

To conclude, we encourage the Commission to continue its work on this matter.

complete next year its work on first reading, after considering the extremely important issue of procedural concepts and safeguards.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.