

Mr. Chairman, Dire Tladi, on his second report. Besides offering a comprehensive summary on the previous consideration of the topic, the report efficiently puts forward the criteria for the

We do not believe that having an illustrative list could impair the development of *jus cogens*. We are confident that progressive development will be the rule in the evolution of *jus cogens*.

An illustrative list might be useful if it includes a short body of the norms and principles Organization's towards one another. Obligations erga omnes bear witness to the existence of and belief in such norms and principles. We are aware that even a short list of the most widely recognised imperative norms could raise complex questions. However, we do not see such complexity as a reason to hamper the Commission to engage in such endeavor. We maintain that the focus of the Commission on identifying criteria for jus cogens will bring about substantial theoretical developments. This should shed good light on the efforenthat insurance becomes more percentible to more actors

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Please allow me to finish my intervention by congratulating Ms. Marja Lehto for her appointment as Special Rapporteur for the topic «**Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts**».

Portugal is confident that, under the guidance of the new Special Rapporteur, the Commission will give continuity to the work conducted so far and that the final outcome of the ILC's work on this topic will have a positive impact on the protection of human beings and the environment by contributing to the limitation of the effects of armed conflicts