

New York, 10 October 2018

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Viet Nam aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

2. We would also like to thank the Secretary General for his report as contained in document A/73/123, on the occasion of the 65th Session of the Non-Aligned Movement

4 We are of the view that universal jurisdiction should only be exercised over the most serious international crimes, and should only be exercised as an option of last resort and complementary to other jurisdictions which have a stronger link to the crimes, such as territorial jurisdiction. Furthermore, universal jurisdiction should be exercised by States only in instances where the alleged perpetrator is present in its territory and after having consulted with the State where the crime occurred and the State of nationality of the person concerned about the possibility of extraditing the person to those States for prosecution, subject to the principle of dual criminality.

5 We recognize that there still exist divergent views among states regarding the scope and application of this principle of universal jurisdiction and unsettled issues concerning its definition, the list of serious international crimes and conditions for application of universal jurisdiction. We are convinced that our discussion would benefit from the decisions and judgments of the International Court of Justice and the work of the International Law Commission as useful resources.

Mr. Chairman,

6 Viet Nam considers universal jurisdiction an important instrument for states to combat international crimes and fight against impunity. Viet Nam's revised 2015 Penal Code provides for universal jurisdiction for certain crimes in