

Statement by Mr. Saad Ahmad Warraich, Counsellor, at the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly on Agenda item 84: “the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction”

17 October 2019

Mr. Chairman,

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

We take note of the Secretary General’s report, A/74/144.

While the imperative underlying the principle of universal



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At its core, the principle of universal jurisdiction is not a license to undermine state sovereignty, but, instead, a call for 'non-indifference' to impunity; a means to ensure that jurisdictional gaps do not serve as an escape route to evade justice, in full conformity with principles of international law and the UN Charter.

It is not a primary jurisdiction but instead, is to be exercised in exceptional circumstances; it is subordinate to the territoriality and

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remedies must be given priority.