

Seventy-seventh session
Sixth Committee

Check against delivery

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Secretary-General (the two Reports of the Secret
A/77/225, and A/77/237) as well as the previous re
item (A/63/260 and Add.1; A/63/331; A/64/183 a
Add.1; A/67/213; A/68/173; A/69/210; A/70/208; A
A/72/205; A/73/129, A/73/128; A/73/155, A/74/1
A/76/205, A/76/208, together with a web-based upda
provision); the Note by the Secretariat on criminal
officials and experts on mission (A/62/329); and Ge
December 201.

II. Proceedings of the Working Group

4. Pursuant to paragraph 16 of resolution 6/106
Human Resources and of the Conduct and Dis
Management, Strategy Policy and Compliance, the E
Oversight Services, the Office of the Special
Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, the V

of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat were present on 6 October 2022 to provide a briefing to delegates. The briefing was followed by question and answer segment.

5. The Working Group held two meetings, on 11 and 20 October 2022. This was against the backdrop of the plenary debate at the 5th and 6th meetings of the Sixth Committee, on 6 October 2022. The Working Group adopted its programme of work and agreed to conduct its discussions in the framework of informal consultations.

6. The Working Group focused its consultation on whether the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission should be addressed in the form of a convention, and if so, when; on what substantive issues a convention should cover; and on any matters that could be included in this year's resolution to further enhance the mechanisms of accountability initially developed in resolutions 62/63 and 63/119.

7. The following section of the report constitutes a brief informal summary for reference purposes only, not an official record of the proceedings, of the exchange of views in the Working Group.

III. Informal summary of discussions in the Working Group

8. During their briefing, the Secretariat representatives set out the respective roles and responsibilities of the units in addressing the item under examination, and provided updates on relevant policies and procedures, as well as information on other developments.

9. At its meetings, on 11th and 20th October, the Working Group had an exchange of views among delegations regarding the three questions mentioned above (para. 6). The views of delegations continued to remain divided as to whether and when was the appropriate time to commence negotiations on a draft international convention relating to the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on missions. Views expressed in the plenary debate on the item were recalled. Moreover, questions were raised about the scope *ratione personae* of a potential convention, which crimes it would cover and how such a convention would interact with national legislation. It was also highlighted that a potential convention would only apply to those States that would become parties to it. However, it was also suggested that a convention would be important to establish a harmonized standard as to the jurisdiction of its States Parties and would fill a legal vacuum. It was noted that the work of the Group of Legal Experts could be a basis for work on a draft convention and that procedural modalities for such work should be explored. The importance of ensuring accountability was emphasized, as was the need to enhance (T)-15.6 (h)-119

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Mr. Chair,

10. I am most grateful to delegations for their cooperation and assistance in building capacity as Chair of the Working Group, I remain available to work with delegations to ensure that there is no impunity for criminal activity committed by United Nations