

**Statement on behalf of the Republic of South
Africa**

by

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Thank you, Chair, for giving my delegation the floor and for an opportunity to address this house on this topic, the importance of which has resonated across the globe and has impacted numerous communities. My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Uganda on behalf of the African Group.

Chairperson,

discussions of a substantive nature on the draft articles and wish to highlight that we remain confident that we will find a middle ground that will drive us towards a convention in this regard. For us, a step closer to an achievement would be to see a built up on the engagements and interactions of the previous resumed session which we hope will lead us to an agreement on some of the next steps on this matter. We encourage the continuation of the fruitful debate with an end goal of ensuring that our citizens and the international community as a whole are protected from perpetrators of Crimes Against Humanity. Failing which, they should at least be afforded justice when they become victims of these crimes.

Chairperson,

The need for a convention on Crimes Against Humanity has become even more critical now as we are experiencing the most horrendous international crimes some of us could ever witness in our lifetime being carried out by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population. The impetus to bring perpetrators of these crimes to book is relevant now more than ever before. With the advancement in the international system s accountability

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