



**Thank you, Chair,**

My delegation

one another on investigation

modified form of universal jurisdiction over international crimes. Accordingly, a person that commits a crime against international law or an international crime specified in Ethiopian legislation, or an international treaty or a convention to which Ethiopia has adhered, is liable for trial in Ethiopia. Crime Against humanity falls within this category.

Nevertheless, mutual legal assistance in the field is enforced through bilateral, regional and other related international treaties. We believe, mutual legal assistance and cooperation on the basis of voluntary undertaking of the states concerned is the most effective and lawful avenue.

This said, we believe the principle on immunity of state officials against foreign jurisdiction and non-interference in internal affairs of states must be fully respected and we seek to see a clear provision to this effect in the draft articles. We have several instances where universal jurisdiction is abused to achieve a political end, against African countries. We therefore hesitate to formalize or codify any practice as a standard practice in this regard.

**Finally, Chair,**

Notwithstanding this, we follow the discussions in this committee very closely and with interest. Consistent with this policy position, Ethiopia believes the draft articles under discussion must be centered around national laws, investigation, prosecution and judicial processes at the national level.

**Thank you!**