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STATEMENT

BY

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Resumed Session of the Sixth Committee  
of the United Nations General Assembly

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The Sierra Leone delegation is delighted to emphasize key aspects regarding the fifth cluster, specifically on 'safeguards' encompassing Articles 5, 11, and 12 of the , / & · Articles addressing the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity.

In this debate, we wish to highlight three points:

First, on Article 5, , our delegation reiterates the significance of this article and appreciate s its prohibitive nature, regarding a State s responsibility to prevent the occurrence of crimes against humanity. We subscribe to the proposals of adding additional guarantees for persons concerned with more safeguards based on well -established international and regional legal mechanisms . We do however agree that further deliberation on the inclusion of this draft article is necessary.

Second, and on Article 11,

, Sierra Leone welcomes the inclusion of provisions ensuring fair treatment of persons . In international criminal law, the rights of suspects and defendants are frequently overlooked, and we appreciate the emphasis placed on this aspect .

Third, and regarding , ,  
Sierra Leone emphasizes the paramount importance of victims' rights under international law. We acknowledge the Commission's inclusive provision covering participation and

racial equity , we still hold firm on our reservations on the scope of implementing these provisions.

This is particularly true for small and conflict -fragile states that may not have the available resources to respond to reparatory obligations, and even when such resources are available, they

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thereby reducing the burden on States but at the same time, ensuring victims receive the reparative justice due them.

Let me proceed to clarify that this is not a move to absolve

States who are perpetrators from their obligation of reparative

justice, but rather to find a reasonable balance in this

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provide an avenue for the monetary aspect of reparations to

be addressed.

In closing, I would like to express my delegation's deep gratitude to the Chair of the Sixth Committee and the Bureau members, and co-facilitators, for their commendable guidance during this rich and insightful exchange of views .

We also thank the Secretariat of the Sixth Committee for the excellent preparations and facilitation and my esteemed colleagues for their valuable contributions to our discussions.

