

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

UNGA 78 United States Statement
Report of the ILC on the Work of its 74th Session: Cluster 2
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Thank you, Chair. The United States is pleased to address both topics in this cluster, settlement of disputes to which international organizations are parties and prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea.

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 that definition. This clear articulation of the international crime of piracy in Article 101 has been
 widely accepted since the adoption of the 1958 Convention on the High Seas. It remains fit for
 purpose, and serves important functions, including that states seeking to enforce their laws can
 distinguish between criminal acts that are subject to universal jurisdiction and those that,
 appropriately, are not. In this regard, we question whether draft articles are the most appropriate
 or useful vehicle for this particular topic. Moreover, international cooperation is important
 regarding both piracy and other crimes at sea that do not fall within the meaning of piracy under
 international law, with potential considerations that can vary depending on the nature of the
 offense. To that end, we appreciate that the Commission will continue to take the opinions and
 practices of states carefully into account, and we follow with interest as the Commission
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 treatment of conduct that falls within their jurisdiction but outside the definition of piracy under
 international law, including armed robbery at sea.