



LSOH RI

Non

DSSOL

all

o

y

s

al

ns

In this regard, the involvement of incumbent high-ranking officials should be addressed in conformity with international law. By invoking universal jurisdiction, the exercise of criminal jurisdiction by national courts over high-ranking officials who enjoy immunity under international law violates one of the most fundamental principles of international law, namely, the sovereignty of States.

The Movement therefore submits that the immunity of the States' officials, which is deeply rooted in the Charter of the United Nations and firmly established in international law, should be fully respected.

In this regard, it is important for the Sixth Committee to be cognizant of the context in which this item was included in the agenda of the Sixth Committee. As you may recall, the African Group requested the inclusion of this agenda item in the Sixth Committee to address the issue of the uncertain scope and application of this principle as well as its abuse in February 2009.

Although universal jurisdiction provides a tool for the prosecution of the perpetrators of certain serious crimes under international treaties, there are questions and controversies concerning universal jurisdiction, including understanding the range of crimes that fall under this jurisdiction as well as the conditions for its application. Furthermore, the

Further clarification is also needed in order to prevent any misapplication or improper utilization of universal jurisdiction. The decisions and judgments of the International Court of Justice and the work of the International Law Commission are among the sources which might be useful in our discussion.

