Universal jurisdiction is a jurisdiction based solely

Crimes against the environment and corruption
being similarly classified. it must, however, be appreciated that
criminalization of these offenses is not merely about which of
these

sort of transnational crime. We need to distinguish these features and appreciate the distinction.

International criminal tribunals also have a vital role to play in combating impunity as a complement to national courts. In the wake of mass atrocities and of oppressive rule, national judicial systems have often been unable or unwilling to prosecute serious crimes under inter national law, this

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clearer and sounder principles to guide the exercise of universal jurisdiction by national courts should help to punish, and thereby to deter and prevent, the commission of these heinous crimes. Nevertheless, the aim of sound principles cannot be simply to facilitate the speediest exercise of criminal jurisdiction, always and everywhere, and irrespective of circumstances. We must be guarded against Improper exercises of criminal jurisdiction, including universal jurisdiction, as it may be used merely to harass political opponents, or for aims extraneous to criminal justice as in politics and misuse of law. What is needed are principles to guide, as well as to give greater coherence and legitimacy to, the exercise of universal jurisdiction. These principles should promote greater accountability for perpetrators of serious crimes under international law, in ways consistent with a prudent concern for the abuse of power and a reasonable solicitude for the quest for peace.

We must take cognizance, as some academics say that it is a peremptory norm that must be given primacy of place whilst other7mn[t)125ola

offenses gets very complicated. This is one area I believe that needs to be carefully considered. (Thank you.)

We must stand firm on the footing that to stop this cycle of violence and to promote justice, impunity for the commission of serious crimes must yield to accountability. We know that that is easier said than done. But how can this be done, and what will be the respective roles of national courts and international tribunals is also Td( )88 Span W tot no totot h   3

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