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AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

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 The delegation of Sierra Leone aligns this statement to the statement delivered by the Distinguished Representative of the Republic of Uganda on behalf of the African Group.

2.

4. The Secretary - \* HQHUDO · V UHSRUW doRnfulm Vs/KLV \ an increasing State practice based on the universality principle. This is why my delegation is looking forward to reviewing the report to be submitted by the Secretary General, as per paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution A/77/111 , 'to the Assembly at its seventy -ninth session reviewing all the submissions of Member States and relevant observers, as well as views expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee, since the sixty session of the Assembly and identifying possible convergences and divergences on the definition, scope al jurisdiction for application of univers the consideration of the Committee μ

Chair,

5. Sierra Leone applies the universality principle in a limited scope. This is pursuant to the Geneva Conventions Act 2012, which provides for offences and penalties for specific violations of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols . This covers offences committed by citizens of Sierra Leone or criminal conduct carried out on our territory , and also WR SHUVRQV RI

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comment on the question 'RQ WKH UHOHYDQW HORD ZRUNLQJ FRQFHSW RI XQLYHUVDO contained in operative paragraph 3 of the resolution A/7 7/11 1,

13. Part of the justice mechanisms efforts is the need to address the critical gap in the exercise of jurisdictions or lack thereof on sexual and gender -ba sed crimes. In the view of the delegation of Sierra Leone, member States can start preparatory work collectively on universal jurisdiction codification for sexual and gender -based crimes. In essence, we cooperate as Member States to ensure access to justice, and consequently remedies

high interest to member States and the whole of the international community, reinforc ing our international