

Statement by
DELEGATION OF VIET NAM
at the 74th Session of the Sixth Committee of UNGA
on Agenda Item 79: “Report of the International Law Commission”
Cluster II (Chapters VI, VIII and X)
New York, 5 November 2019

Thank you Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair,

1. With respect to Cluster II, my Delegation would like to first address the

topic of **Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts.**

2. Viet Nam has been well aware of and made immense efforts to overcome the consequences of armed conflicts, including damages to the environment. It is undeniable that armed conflicts, regardless of the intentions of the belligerents, have tremendous and lasting impacts on not only the civilian populations habituating in the area of its affection, but also for the nature itself, including the fauna, flora, soil, air and waters as well as the ecosystem. Though the war ended many decades ago, the effects of the war are still very visible and clearly felt in

Viet Nam. The same is true for all other armed conflicts that have occurred around the world.

3. It is for these reasons that Viet Nam continues to underline the importance of this topic and is very supportive of the continuation of the work of the ILC on this topic in order to establish State responsibility in dealing with remnants of war, particularly those related to damages to the environment. Our delegation notes with

4. The research of the Commission should be in complementarity to existing

7. Immunity for state officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction originates from customary international law. Thus, the codification of the rules in this matter needs to be carefully undertaken with due regards to the principles of sovereign equality, non-intervention into the domestic affairs of States as well as the need for the maintenance of international peace and security, ensuring the balance between the benefits of granting immunity to State officials, the need to address impunity and the protection of State officials from politically motivated or abusive exercise of criminal jurisdiction. In this regard, our delegation notes with regret that no specific proposals regarding the exceptions of immunity or procedural aspects.

including procedural guarantees, were submitted in the recent report, though we concur the view of several members of the Commission mentioned in paragraph 150 to 152 of the report.

9. As the Commission's report of its 71st session has not been adopted

connection with international law, tuning its focus firstly to issues relating to the law of the sea.

10. Viet Nam is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the adverse impact of climate change. Rising sea level, as a result of climate change, has become a growing global phenomenon and thus generating global problems

Nam, thus affecting the livelihoods, health, culture and wellbeing of our people,