PPT

~~

CELAC 2014

Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations Pro Tempore Presidency

69th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations

STATEMENT OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF COSTA RICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARRIBEAN STATES, CELAC

Mr. Chairman,

Item 78

Report of the International Law Commission

New York, 27 October, 2014

-Please check against delivery-

I have the ho nor to speak on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, CELAC. I should first

like to recall that in CELAC's second

international, regional and sub-regional courts and tribunals, and academic institutions, is also key in this process. CELAC hence highlights the need for all Member States to continue providing strong support to the work of the Commission.
CELAC welcomes that the ILC Report indicates, in Chapter 111, a list of specific issues -concerning seven of the items on the Commission's agenda- on which comments from Member States would be of particular interest of the ILC.

In this regard, CELAC would like to highlight the difficulties faced by many States and their legal departments to provide the required information. We wish to emphasize that this is explained by the asymmetries in resources among teams of international lawyers in different countries, and not by lack of interest. In order to increase the legitimacy in the progressive development and codification of international law, it is extremely important that we do our utmost to ensure that all States effectively participate in our discussions.

Mr. Chair

While the Commission continues to hold its sessions at the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva, CELAC reiterates its call to hold half of the ILC sessions in the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The positive impact of such simple measure would be remarkable: Sixth Committee delegates would be able to attend the deliberations as observers, and this would foster an early engagement in the topics, including by our capitals, even before the ILC Report is circulated. Consequently, CELAC once again invites delegations to consider this proposal.

While recognizing and appreciating the efforts made in recent years, CELAC is of the opinion that more can be done to strengthen cooperation and dialogue between the Commission and Member States. It is regrettable, for example, that due to budgetary constraints not all special rapporteurs dealing with topics under discussion can come to New York to interact with Sixth Committee delegates. Their participation is essential to the effectiveness of "thematic debates" in the Sixth Committee, given its informal nature. This should always be scheduled at a date close to the meeting of Legal Advisers, and