

## **Statement of the Principality of Liechtenstein – Informal Interactive Dialogue on R2P**

6 September 2016

[INFORMAL TRANSCRIPTION]

Thank you very much, Chair. I would like to welcome this discussion as a supporter of the RtoP principle and I welcome the panelists. In particular, Jennifer Welsh, who we are thankful to for all the work she has done and of course it is a great pleasure to see Ed Luck and Adama Dieng on the panel as well.

Liechtenstein is a member of the Group of Friends of RtoP, and, in this context, I would like to comment briefly on our disassociation from the statement offered by the Group earlier. In this debate, we do believe that one of the important inhibitors, as Jennifer Welsh has called it, in this discussion is accountability for the crimes under question. And while we do understand and respect and acknowledge that not all States, including not all States that have joined our international Friends' Group, are not members of the ICC Rome Statute, we never the less believe that a reference to that institution is necessary in order to give a complete and comprehensive picture on what we are trying to do here. We are grateful to our friends from the Netherlands for the comments they have offered in their national capacity and look forward to continuing the discussion in our Group.

Secondly, I would like to refer to the Code of Conduct elaborated by the ACT Group. We had the honor of being the drafters of that Code of Conduct. Many other States have referenced this in the course of this discussion and we are grateful to them.

In our view, the consensus reached in 2005 at the Summit should now be transferred into a mode of implementation, also on a consensual basis in the Security Council. We strongly believe that the Code of Conduct, now subscribed to by 112 states, at this point, is the best way of moving this consensus forward. The Code of Conduct is a political commitment that has two aspects: first, a positive aspect to react to and prevent atrocity crimes; and, second, to not vote against credible proposals put forward in the Council to that end.

It goes hand in hand with the Rights upfront Initiative launched by the Secretary-General and this requires, as the next step for the implementation of the Code of Conduct, to establish formats for the Secretary-General to submit information to the Security Council on mass atrocity crimes that may or are being perpetrated in accordance with the authority given to the Secretary-General under Article 99. Formats, to this end, have been tested in the past. Horizon Scanning is one of them but there certainly are others.

Finally, let me join those who have called on States to not only join the Code of Conduct, but also to ratify the Kampala Amendments on the Crime of Aggression, which we do believe to be complementary to the effort reflected in the discussion today.

Thank you, Chair.