



STATEMENT

by H.E. Mr. Robert Abisoghomonian, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia

Special Session on the Review of the Amendments on the Crime of Aggression

Madame President of the Assembly,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour to address the Assembly on behalf of the Republic of Armenia.

At the outset, we express our sincere appreciation for convening this timely Special Session and for the efforts towards open and inclusive dialogue on the review of the Kampala Amendments related to the crime of aggression.

Armenia has consistently supported international legal mechanisms to prevent grave violations of international law and to ensure accountability. Against the background of deepening security crises and the recent history in our region, where Armenia has faced issues related to the maintenance of peace and upholding of international law, robust mechanisms for early warning, early action, and the responsibility to protect are as urgent as ever.

Today's session and the process of consultations that preceded it serve for an honest reflection on what has been achieved, and how to ensure ICC can effectively prevent and punish the unlawful use of force. In this regard, the jurisdictional constraints imposed by the Kampala Amendments continue to limit the Court's ability to address this grave crime comprehensively.

This Special Session presents a historic opportunity to address these jurisdictional limitations through the adoption of a proposed amendment. This will be an important step toward ensuring that the ICC can effectively fulfill its mandate to prevent and punish the unlawful use of force, which remains a fundamental threat to international peace and security.

Armenia acknowledges the diversity of perspectives among the States Parties concerning the operationalization of the crime of aggression. We do not view this diversity as a complexity, but

rather as a testament to the richness of the international legal discourse and the value of fostering consensus through respectful and inclusive dialogue.

In this vein, Armenia reiterates its commitment to ongoing dialogue focused on fostering shared understanding, strengthening the legal framework, and ensuring that future progress is rooted in international law and widely endorsed by the global community.

Madame President,

We believe that any evolution of the Court's jurisdiction and practice must be guided by the foundational principles of the Rome Statute and our collective commitment to prevent the most serious crimes of concern to the international community.

In conclusion, Armenia remains committed to the integrity of the Rome Statute system, and we stand ready to engage constructively in all discussions that contribute to a fair, effective, and universally respected international criminal justice system.

I thank you.