

Seventy-eighth session of the Sixth Committee Agenda Item
 Report of the International Law Commission on the work
 of its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions
 Sealevel rise in relation to international law
 27 October 2023

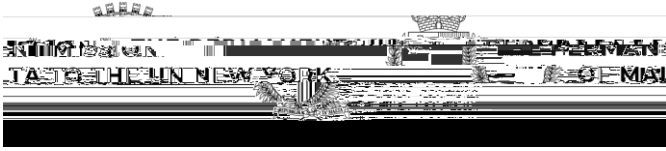
Malta Statement delivered by H.E. Mrs. Vanessa Frazier, Ambassador
 Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative

I thank you Chair,

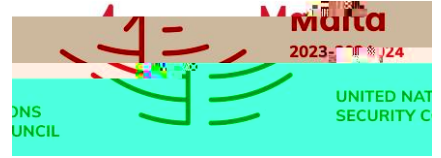
We studied the Report of the International Law Commission on the work of
 its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions, paying close attention to
 Chapter VIII included in Cluster b of the 2023 ILC Report, namely "Sealevel
 rise in relation to international law". We thank the International Law
 Commission, and in particular the open-ended Study Group on the topic,
 for the reconfirmed dedication to further advance in-depth consideration
 of the legal implications of the phenomenon. We find the report rich and
 well-articulated in its legal reasoning and we would like to share the
 following considerations:

Sealevel rise has a direct impact on people and communities across the
 globe, constituting a threat to international peace and security. On 14th of
 February of this year, the Security Council held an open debate entitled "Sealevel
 Rise Implications for International Law". Many delegations echoed the need for
 legal certainty, for policy development, and for burden sharing to tackle the





phenomenon

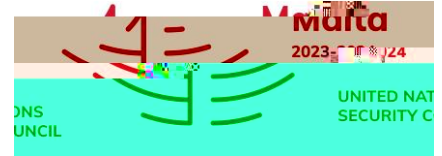
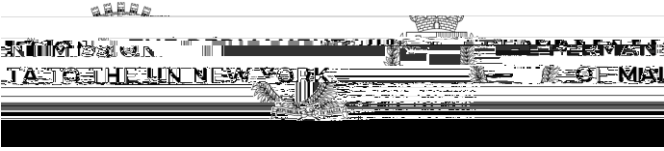




in the Face of Climate Change-Related Sea Level Rise³ as endorsed by the Pacific Islands Forum in 2021, particularly in relation to maritime zones, which, as established and notified to the Secretary-General in accordance with UNCLOS, shall continue to apply without reduction.

We share the view that while a territory constitutes a prerequisite for the establishment of a state, sovereignty refers to the whole territory, and that

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International Law Commission on the topic of Sealevel rise in relation to international law .

I thank you.