

# Islamic Republic of I R A N

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Statement by:

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Before the Sixth Committee  
On Agenda item 105:

## “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Mr. Chairman,**

I would like to join other delegations in congratulating you on your election as the Chair of this Committee. Our congratulation also goes to other members of the Bureau. We assure you of our full support and cooperation. I would begin by aligning myself with the statements delivered yesterday by the coordinators of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been a victim of terrorism for decades, and is still suffering from terrorist attacks under different forms and manifestations, including State terrorism. As a target of terrorism sponsored by certain States, we fully understand the untold consequences of acts of terrorism for the victims and for the society at large. We have a high regard for the large number of Iranian victims of terrorism in numerous terrorist incidents, and the Government has taken all possible measures to address their situation properly. The victims are best evidence of failed policies of terrorist groups and those who support them.

**Mr. Chairman,**

So sadly, State terrorism continues to endanger peace, security and basic human rights of people. State terrorism has targeted scientific and technological development by assassinating the elite human resources in the developing countries. During the recent years, there have been several incidents that professional scientists have fallen victim of terrorist attacks in Iran which unfortunately received least reaction from those who should have taken true measures to combat and eliminate international terrorism. These cases are among the very examples that show a main challenge in countering terrorism: double standard and simply categorizing good and bad terrorism based on the narrow political interests. Selective or double standard approaches in dealing with terrorism should be strictly rejected and we warn that such approaches could undermine international trust and cooperation in countering terrorism. The international community should come united to have a unified approach in fighting this scourge in an indiscriminate manner. It is indeed a key in advancing a worldwide fight against terrorism.

We must indeed reject functional approach toward terrorism. While it is always repeated that all forms of terrorism should be condemned by all States, in reality, there is a discriminatory stance by some States toward terrorism. Some States take preferential treatments to those terrorist groups which work in their short-sighted political interests. A recent case is the decision to delist the notorious terrorist group that has killed and injured thousands of Iranians, from their list of terrorist organizations. Although even that listing didn't put practical restrictions on the group's activities in those countries but such clear political moves demonstrate the actual challenges the international community faces in fighting terrorism.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The threat of terrorism continues to affect our societies and we still seem to be far from uprooting this menace. For decades a number of root causes and factors have led or contributed to the spread of terrorism. Unlawful use of force by some States, foreign aggression and occupation as well as foreign interference and meddling in internal affairs of other States are among such causes and factors, to name a few. Unlawful use of force and occupation as well as excessive and/or disproportionate use of military force in the name of countering terrorists which has proved to be more fatal to the innocent ordinary people than to terrorists, prepares ground for vicious cycles of violence and terrorism.

I should refer to the situation in our neighboring countries where many people come under direct military attacks very tragically and disturbingly. The agonies of those increasing numbers of men, women and children who fall victims to blind air strikes and indiscriminate bombings could not be explained away as unfortunate collateral damages. Their unfair sufferings as innocent human fellows should be addressed as seriously as those of innocent people who are victimized by acts of terrorism.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation. Meanwhile, As it was stressed in Tehran Conference on Terrorism which was held last year, vicious attempts to associate or attribute terrorism to a particular culture, religion or nationality is deplorable and would only lead to distrust, hatred and division among nations as well as giving a leeway to terrorists. We welcome all initiatives that seek to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions.

Moreover, fighting terrorism should not be misused to advance other agendas. We are of the view that countering terrorism should be done in full conformity with the United Nations Charter and international law, international human rights and humanitarian law. The rule of law and respect for civilian's rights and humanitarian law should be our guiding principles in fighting terrorism.

**I thank you.**