

UNGA 68th session
Sixth Committee
Agenda item: 110
"Measures to eliminate international terrorism"

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. OD OCH,
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NATIONS**

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to you on your well-deserved election and pledge my delegation's full support in discharge of your important duties. Our sincere felicitations also go to the other members of the Bureau.

As a country which constitutionally proclaims human rights and freedom, democracy and the rule of law, Mongolia endeavors to contribute to the international efforts on combatting terrorism. We believe that, in taking measures to combat terrorism, principles and norms of the United Nations Charter and international law should be complied with, the rule of law should be observed and human rights should be respected.

Terrorism threatens world peace, destabilizes legitimate governments and disrupts national and international security. The country's national security and foreign policy echoes such concerns of the world community. It is a matter of permanent concern for us to ensure safety and security of the population and to prevent our territory from locating terrorist assets and providing haven to terrorists.

Mr. Chairman,

Recognizing the need for a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism as well as for a comprehensive legal framework to eliminate international terrorism in all its forms and dimensions, Mongolia appreciates the efforts of the Ad Hoc Committee on elaboration of a draft convention on international terrorism and supports constructive discussions towards convening of a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

While noting the complexity of finalizing the definition of terrorism for universal criminalization and of deciding the scope of the convention to cover all aspects of international terrorism, Mongolia welcomes any determined actions towards reaching an agreement with political wills of states to resolve outstanding issues not covered by the existing conventions.

Mr. Chairman,

As an active member of the world community, Mongolia is undertaking step-by-step legislative and institutional measures to ensure implementation of its international obligations with respect to counter-terrorism, including international treaties, United Nations Security Council Resolutions as well as the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the most comprehensive one of the existing international documents for fighting and preventing terrorism.

Mongolia is a party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as well as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime along with other ten conventions related to counter-terrorism.

Acts of terrorism and other related acts are criminally punishable offences under the laws of Mongolia. Investigative and prosecution powers are vested in intelligence agencies. The Coordinative Council on Counter-Terrorism was formed with functions to exchange information for terrorism prevention and to regulate activities among relevant government organizations. A system of supervising internationally-listed persons is set up.

Mongolia declared its high-level political will to cooperate with the Financial Action Task Force and Asia Pacific Group on money-laundering with a view of improving its strategy on combating money laundering and terrorism financing. The most recent legislation is the revised Law on Combating Money-Laundering and Terrorism Financing as well as the amended the Counter-Terrorism Law which stipulates the new definition of a "terrorist act".

In implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1267 and 1373, as well as in response to the FATF recommendations, the Government of Mongolia is currently considering draft procedures on the freezing of terrorist assets.]

Mr. Chairman,

Measures to eliminate terrorism may not be successful if sustainable development is not in place and conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism remain. Unemployment and poverty may cause aggressive responses from the society. Social and economic instability can make people vulnerable to influences from outside.

Stressing importance of relevant education in this context, my delegation underlines the importance of the UNGA Resolution 97/18 on Education for Democracy Resolution for integration of education for democracy along with civic education and human rights education.

Sharing the concern of the international community about the close links of terrorism with transnational organized crimes as well as use and transfer of weapons, our Government underscores timeliness of the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty, the first international agreement to regulate the international trade of conventional weapons. I am pleased to inform that two weeks ago Mongolia became one of its 113 signatories.

Mr. Chairman,

Mongolia highly commends the leading role of the United Nations in promoting the cause of counter-terrorism and stands for the strengthened position of the United Nations in combating international terrorism. My delegation would like to emphasize its support to the work of the UN bodies, including United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, in assisting states in their implementation of the Global Strategy.

We need to enhance international cooperation on combating, preventing and deterring terrorism through implementation of projects and programs at regional and sub-regional levels taking into account special needs of countries in disadvantageous position as well as through provision of technical assistance to developing countries on strengthening the capacity of their law enforcement authorities.

For countries, like Mongolia, without serious domestic concerns and direct threats related to terrorism, preventive measures and preparedness are of a more focus for effective international cooperation. In such context, Mongolia seeks support from the United Nations in its proposal to host a sub-regional training centre on counter-terrorism and looks forward to support from major stakeholders in such our efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, my delegation would like to reiterate the commitment of the Government of Mongolia to increased cooperation with the member-states in our joint endeavours for peace and security of all our peoples.

I wish to assure our strong support for a fruitful outcome of this session under your able guidance.

I thank you.