

PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT

by

Mr. Mirza Pašić, Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations

at the Sixth Committee of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

on Agenda Item 107,

Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like, on behalf of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to extend my sincere congratulations upon your election as Chairperson of the Sixth Committee for the sixty-ninth session of the UN General Assembly.

Bosnia and Herzegovina aligned itself with the statement of the European Union delivered today and now, I wish to deliver additional remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Bosnia and Herzegovina attaches great importance to the prevention of and fight against all forms of terrorism, undertaking numerous activities to establish a safe and secure environment on national level and contributing to the efforts in fighting against terrorism on regional and global level.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has made progress in increasing its counterterrorism capacity by harmonizing its legislation with the UN and EU standards and by adopting the Strategy for Preventing and Combating Terrorism for the period of 2010-2013 as general framework, which has developed measures and instruments for the prevention and fight against terrorism.

Reforming the criminal legislation, the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina has adopted the new Criminal Code of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which paid particular attention to Article 201 related to the criminal offences related to terrorism and to Article 202 related the financing of terrorist activities in June 2003. On June 25 of this year, the Law on Amending the Criminal Code of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which prohibits and sanctions a participation of the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina on foreign battlefields, has come into force. Article 162b of the Law on Amending the Criminal Code provides the investigation and criminal prosecution of individuals who join the foreign paramilitary or parapolice formations, as well those who are encouraging, supporting, financing or in any other way assisting such individuals. Last week, the Security Council adopted the historic resolution 2178 underlining the importance of the foreign terrorist fighter threat and international flow of terrorist fighters. Bosnia and Herzegovina has continued to reaffirm its commitment to fight and prevent terrorism by co-sponsoring this resolution. In September of this year, 16 people in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been prosecuted under the Law on Amending the Criminal Code, which is one of the first activities of this kind in combating terrorist activities in the region. Such activities are reducing the space for terrorism recruitment tactics.

The Court and Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina processed cases against perpetrators of acts of terrorism, as well as against those who support such acts. The Joint Terrorism Task Force, led by the Chief Prosecutor of Bosnia and Herzegovina has begun its operations in January 2011, including the stakeholders from state and entity levels.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has signed and ratified all relevant United Nations conventions and protocols on the fight against terrorism and dedicated itself to implement various UN Security Council resolutions promoting its commitment to fighting all types of terrorist activities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina supports the establishment of the Working Group on International Terrorism of Sixth Committee's at the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, and advocates for the adoption of the Comprehensive UN Convention on International Terrorism.

Thank you