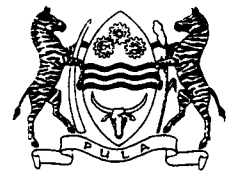


REPUBLIC OF
BOTSWANA

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT BY

**MR. NKOLOI NKOLOI
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**BEFORE THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
OF THE 69TH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

ON AGENDA ITEM 107 ENTITLED:

***“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”***

08 OCTOBER 2014, NEW YORK

Please check against delivery.

Mr. Chairman,

1. Let me at the outset congratulate you most heartily as you assume the chairmanship of this Committee.
2. My delegation wishes to add its voice to the debate on this very important topic entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".
3. Mr. Chairman, my delegation has been following with horror and disbelief, the emergence of violent extremist groups and foreign terrorist fighters who have no regard for human life.
4. During this year alone, terrorists have visited the skies, the high seas, our towns and cities to kill, maim, bomb and behead innocent people with frightening regularity.
5. The recent spate of beheadings captured on video by these savage groups goes to prove that no nations can single-handedly fight and root out organized terror.
6. There is no doubt that the existence of the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is a blatant challenge to our souls - an apparent threat to international peace and security.
7. It is now clear that terrorism is at the doorsteps of every nation and every neighbourhood. Our lives are in danger.
8. Women and children can no longer walk freely in the streets. Humanity is under siege. But we must work together as a collective to fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
9. Every day we wake up to gruesome pictures of innocent journalists, peacekeepers, humanitarian workers put under slaughter by savages who thrive on human blood, pain and suffering.

Mr. Chairman,

10. Botswana, like many peace-loving nations is perturbed and sickened by atrocious acts perpetrated by organized militias and terrorist groups masquerading as beast of prey.

11. We are encouraged by the Secretary-General's commitment to galvanize international efforts to fight terrorism at national and international levels and we sincerely commend him for that.

12. To this end, we welcome the adoption of Security Council resolution 2178 of 24 September 2014 which we were very happy to co-sponsor.

13. As a preventative measure, we believe it is the duty of every nation to share information and experiences on any infiltration by armed militias and terrorist fighters on its shores.

14. We must prevent foreign fighters from crossing our borders and have laws to criminalize these fighters. We must be alert and nip them in the bud by dealing with those who finance them.

15. We further believe that countries should make it illegal for their nationals to join, sponsor or take part in activities of terrorist groups anywhere in the world.

16. Lastly, my delegation pledges to join the international community as it mobilizes all UN counter-terrorism bodies to push back the frontiers of terrorism and to monitor terrorist tendencies.

I thank you.
