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REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, COUNTER-
TERRORISM COMMITTEE AT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 14, 2011**

I have had the honour to chair the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) since the beginning of this year. It has been an extremely eventful year, and today it gives me great pleasure to brief the Security Council on the work of the Committee since the previous briefing held in May earlier this year.

Perhaps the most significant event of the year for the Counter-Terrorism Committee was the special meeting held on 28 September to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Representatives of Member States, United Nations entities, and other international and regional organizations had a comprehensive exchange of views on counter-terrorism during the day-long event, which was held at United Nations Headquarters. The Committee also adopted an outcome document, in which the Committee urged “all Member States to ensure zero tolerance towards terrorism and take urgent action to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations through the full and effective implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant international instruments relating to terrorism.” The outcome document has been circulated as a document of the Security Council and is also available on the Committee’s website.

A separate event for members of civil society was also held on the margins of the meeting.

Coinciding with the special meeting, the Committee issued an updated global survey of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) by Member States, prepared by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), at the request of the Security Council, on the basis of information available as of 31 May 2011. The global survey provides a comprehensive overview – on regional as well as thematic basis - of the status of counter-terrorism efforts around the world as they relate to the implementation of the resolution.

The global survey of resolution 1373 (2001) evaluates Member States’ strengths and vulnerabilities, identifies gaps in implementation of resolution 1373, and recommends future action.

The survey underscores that Member States continue to struggle, amongst other concerns, to secure porous borders, monitor financial systems, strengthen their judicial systems, and prosecute or extradite terrorist suspects. Inadequate funding and training constrain the ability of many States to be as effective as they would wish. The survey expresses concern that terrorists are turning increasingly to the Internet and other new technologies to recruit, incite, and raise funds for their activities. Another area of concern is the link between terrorist networks and organized crime.

However, despite these challenges, States have made significant progress since the adoption of the resolution which, over the past decade, has strengthened solidarity and dialogue among Member States in their efforts to counter the terrorist threat.

The survey offers several recommendations aimed at strengthening the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). It is essential that Member States address terrorism with means other than law enforcement, and prevention is critical and a condition of effectiveness of any comprehensive strategy to counter terrorism as noted in the survey, “Effective responses will necessarily include other aspects of legal and social policy.” Development, education, social integration, rule of law and human rights are among the key components of such responses.

The Committee continues to be guided in its work by the relevant Security Council resolutions, especially resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005) and 1963 (2010), and continues to play a critical role in promoting and facilitating their implementation.

Pursuant to resolution 1963 (2010), CTED is currently preparing a global survey of the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), for submission by 31 December 2011.

The Committee continues to focus on regional-specific discussions and on issues identified in the 2011 global survey (S/2009/620, annex). The Committee also continues to organize and participate in discussions and workshops on thematic issues. Some of the major issues considered by the Committee during the last six months include facilitating the provision of technical assistance to Member States, and the challenges involved in adopting and implementing counter-terrorism measures relating to legislation and law enforcement, with an emphasis on prevention and emergency response.

As part of enhancing its interaction with international and regional organizations and United Nations entities, the Committee has also heard briefings on counter-terrorism by the Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges of NATO and the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms While Countering Terrorism.

CTED has also been active in conducting a number of workshops on specific topics, aimed at a specific regional audience. Important workshops organized during this period include the 4th regional workshop for police officers, prosecutors and judges in South Asia (held in Thimphu, Bhutan, in May 2011); the regional workshop on the links between transnational organized crime and the financing of terrorism for police, financial intelligence unit (FIU) and intelligence officers of Member States of South-East Europe (held in Belgrade, Serbia, in June 2011); the seminar for prosecutors in follow-up to the seminar on bringing terrorists to justice (held in Ankara, Turkey in July 2011); and the second follow-up workshop for States of East Asia and the Pacific on preventing abuse of the non-profit sector for terrorist financing (which was held last week in Auckland, New Zealand).

Major forthcoming events include the subregional workshop on control of physical cross-border movement of cash and bearer negotiable instruments, which begins tomorrow (15 November) in Kuala Lumpur; the subregional workshop for East African Member States on the implementation

of resolution 1624 (2005) to be held in Nairobi from 29 November to 1 December 2011; and the 5th regional workshop for South Asian police, prosecutors and judges, which will be hosted by India early next year.

In addition, the Committee and CTED continue to enhance their ongoing dialogue with Member States, donors and beneficiaries on the facilitation of technical assistance for capacity-building, either at national and sub-regional levels.

I would like to emphasize that the Committee and CTED have continued and will continue to pay close attention to the question of respect for human rights and the rule of law in the counter-terrorism measures taken by States, in accordance with the mandates conferred by the Security Council.

I attach high priority to enhancing transparency, public outreach, and strengthening cooperation with international, regional and sub-regional organizations. In my capacity as Chair, I participated in the meeting of the 10th Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law Enforcement Organizations on Counter-Terrorism, held in July in Saint Petersburg, and the Workshop on Public-Private Partnerships on Enhancing Tourism Security, held in Vienna in September, 2011.

The Committee and CTED have organized briefings for the wider membership. Member States were this year invited to a regional presentation on Central Asia and to a thematic presentation on Prevention and Detection of Fraudulent Travel and Identity Documents.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the Committee will continue to play a critical role in the global fight against terrorism, and will strive to do so in a more strategic and transparent manner so that it can more effectively contribute to the global counter-terrorism efforts, within the scope of its mandate.

I should like to conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation to Mr. Mike Smith, Executive Director of CTED, and to his team, for their excellent work on the Committee's behalf, and to thank the Secretariat for its continued support.

Thank you.