

**Speech Text**  
**H.E. Mr. Adel bin AbdulRahman ALASOOMI**  
**President of the Arab Parliament**

**The United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism**  
**“Advancing the rights & needs of victims of terrorism”**

**New York, 8 - 9 September 2022**

**Excellencies, distinguished audience,**

**Peace be upon you**

I wish first to express my pleasure at participating in this important Global Congress which addresses one of the most important groups that must receive sustained support and care at all levels, namely victims of terrorism, and I would like to convey my thanks and appreciation to the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism for its able efforts in organizing this Congress.

**Distinguished audience,**

Over the past few years, the international community has made real progress in supporting the rights and needs of victims of terrorism by adopting a number of major United Nations resolutions. As a legislator, I emphasize the pivotal role that parliamentarians can play in translating these international resolutions into national legislation and providing the binding legal framework for guaranteeing and protecting the rights of victims of terrorism.

Actually this subject receives a serious focus of attention in the agenda of the Arab Parliament, with a view to reducing the gap between international commitments towards victims of terrorism and the practical implementation of these commitments at the national level.

In this connection, the Arab Parliament has been firmly engaged in the diligent work of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to launch a set of Model Legislative Provisions for Victims of Terrorism to support and protect their rights and needs, where the Arab Parliament participated in the six conferences that resulted in this considerable effort which was launched in February 2022.

And in order to mobilize efforts to implement these universal Model Provisions on the ground, the Arab Centre for Counter-Terrorism and Extremist Ideology, newly established by the Arab Parliament as an Arab mechanism to support Arab States' counter-terrorism efforts, is in the process of drafting a unified Arab law to support victims of terrorism, guided by these Model Legislative Provisions, with the aim of assisting Arab States in reviewing and updating their relevant national legislation to comply with the international commitments adopted by the United Nations in that regard. Further, this unified law will serve as an important reference for Arab States without legislation in this field.

**Distinguished audience,**

The victims of terrorism are most in need of hearing their voices, supporting their needs and protecting their rights, and our role in assisting them must not only stop at the limits of solidarity with them, but there must be practical and tangible measures to support their needs continuously. We also need to raise global awareness of their rights and of the amount of suffering caused by terrorism to them and their relatives, and I believe that our today's Congress is a significant step in this direction, which must be built upon.

**Thank you for listening so well.**