

**H.E. Ambassador Khalid Ba Omar,
Permanent Observer for the Cooperation Council for the
Arab States of the Gulf to the United Nations**

**Counter-Terrorism Compact Retreat
*"Strengthening Partnerships Between Regional Organizations
and the UN Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact
through Policy Interventions and Capacity Building"***

25 June 2025, 10 a.m., UNHQ

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

**Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,**

It is an honor to speak at this important session focused on coordinating international efforts to combat terrorism, enhancing international cooperation, and building the capacities of Member States in this field.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries have previously suffered from the scourge of terrorism and extremism. Thanks to God, first, and then to our wise leadership, we have confronted this dangerous threat through all intellectual and material means. These include:

- Enhancing societal awareness to instill the values of dialogue and tolerance among peoples.
- Rejecting hatred and extremism and promoting international and regional coordination to combat terrorism that threatens security and stability.

Mr. President,

The GCC has always been at the forefront of regional organizations, affirming its commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and continuing to work with international organizations to achieve international peace and security.

From this standpoint, the leaders of the GCC reaffirmed the following principles in the final communiqué of the Kuwait Summit held last December, reflecting the Council's firm positions on this issue:

1. **Enhancing cooperation** with the United Nations and regional and international organizations in combating terrorism while ensuring effective coordination for a swift response to security challenges.
2. **Affirming the necessity** of adhering to international law when addressing terrorism issues, while supporting national efforts in combating terrorism in accordance with their needs.
3. **Calling for strengthening measures** to combat the financing of terrorism, including compliance with international standards on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.
4. **Emphasizing the importance** of confronting extremist ideologies and promoting moderate discourse through media, civics educational efforts, and academic institutions.
5. **Stressing the need** to link security efforts with sustainable development goals to address the root causes of terrorism.

From this perspective, I would like to reaffirm the GCC's support for the initiatives of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including:

1. Close coordination with civil society and academic institutions to develop innovative programs to counter extremism and cut off its intellectual and financial sources.
2. Efforts to encourage and support specialized centers in GCC countries to promote the values of dialogue, tolerance, and rejection of division and extremism.
3. Consolidating a culture of openness and acceptance of others, which strengthens social cohesion and prevents the spread of extremist ideas that threaten security and stability.
4. Cooperation with international and regional organizations to promote these values, which are fundamental pillars for achieving peace and sustainable development in the region and the world.

5. Establishing strategic partnerships based on transparency and mutual trust.

Mr. President,

Combating terrorism is achieved through the following fundamental principles; intensifying international efforts to support countries most affected by terrorism—not only through security plans but also through development, education, and community empowerment—alongside enhancing technical and technological cooperation and building bridges of partnership among relevant parties by strengthening ties between regional and international organizations.

In conclusion, we welcome the adoption of United Nations General Assembly resolution A/79/L.91, which aims to enhance cooperation between the GCC and the United Nations on issues concerning global peace and security, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the outcomes of the Summit of the Future.