11 May 2016

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter, dated 9 May, 2016 from H.E. Mr. Martín García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina and H.E. Mr. Einar Gunnarsson, Permanent Representative of Iceland, the co-facilitators for the fifth review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, informing Member States of the first meeting on Friday, 13 May, 2016 in the ECOSOC Chamber. This meeting will provide an opportunity for a preliminary exchange of views on the issues at hand.

I take this opportunity to encourage the active support and participation of Member States in the proceedings of this meeting.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York.
Excellencies,

On 22 April 2016 the President of the General Assembly informed all delegations of the appointment of the undersigned, Martín García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina, and Einar Gunnarsson, Permanent Representative of Iceland, to jointly co-facilitate the fifth review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy on his behalf. We would like to use this opportunity to thank the President of the General Assembly for entrusting us with this important task at the 10th Anniversary of the Strategy.

As decided in General Assembly resolution 68/276, the review will undertake an examination of the newly published Report of the Secretary-General (A/70/826) on progress made in the implementation of the Strategy since its adoption in September 2006 (A/RES/60/288). In this context, as decided in General Assembly resolution 70/254 in February this year, the General Assembly will also give further consideration to the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (A/70/674-A/70/675).

The co-facilitators intend to hold the first meeting on Friday, 13 May 2016 at 3 pm for preliminary exchange of views on the issues at hand. We envisage shortly after to circulate an elements paper, based on the discussions at that meeting, to facilitate further discussions in the week of 23-27 May. The discussions on elements would then form the basis for a zero draft to be circulated by the end of May. That would give the membership three weeks to consider the draft with a view to finalize the resolution by 23 June, so it can be adopted at the plenary meeting dedicated to the issue scheduled to be held by the end of June.

To all Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers of the United Nations
New York
We highly value the importance of an open, transparent and inclusive process and encourage all interested delegations to raise any ideas or concerns they may have with us. Should delegations or groups of delegations wish to schedule bilateral consultations with the co-facilitators, please contact the Mission of Argentina (Mr. José Luis Fernández Valoni, email: jfe@mrecic.gov.ar) or the Mission of Iceland (Ms. Sesselja Sigurðardóttir, email: ss@mfa.is).

We are looking forward to engaging with delegations on this important subject.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Signed by

Martin García Moritán
Co-facilitator
Permanent Representative of Argentina
to the United Nations

Einar Gunnarsson
Co-facilitator
Permanent Representative of Iceland
to the United Nations