

MYANMAR

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Statement

by

Ms. Nang Phyu Sin Than Myint Alternate Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

On Agenda Item 108
"Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism"

Before the Sixth Committee of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (New York, 4 October 2016)

Statement by Ms. Nang Phyu Sin Than Myint,
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Mr. Chairman,

- 1. First of all, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to you and members of the bureau for your well-deserved elections. My delegation will fully cooperate with you in discharging your important duties. I am fully confident that your leadership will steer us toward successful conclusion of the work of our Committee.
- 2. My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statements delivered by the representative of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the representative of Lao PDR on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) under this agenda item.
- 3. May I take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" contained in document A/71/182. We also wish to thank all the Member States who have provided valuable inputs and shared their best practices for inclusion in the Secretary General's report.
- 4. My delegation acknowledges the important role of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) in providing technical assistance to the Member States in countering terrorism.
- 5. Myanmar welcomes the outcomes of the 5th Review of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy conducted by the General Assembly and the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. We view that the biennial review is an effective mechanism, which provides States with an opportunity to improve and enhance their national implementations and to strengthen partnership and cooperation at the regional and global levels.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Terrorism remains a serious global threat to mankind inflicting untold suffering and loss of lives throughout the world. The threat of terrorism has even more formidable with the recent rise of violent extremism and terrorist attacks.

7. Terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, race, nationality or ethnicity. While combating terrorism, it is also necessary to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stipulated in the UN Charter and principles of international law, especially the international humanitarian law and international human rights laws.

Mr. Chairman,

- 8. Despite the efforts of the international community, the threat posed by global terrorism remained undiminished. The global response must be concerted, comprehensive and based on each State's responsibility to uphold the rule of law and to give full support to the international community's efforts to combat international terrorism.
- 9. Myanmar has taken a series of concrete measures to fight against terrorism at the national, regional and international levels. At the national level, Myanmar has strengthened its legislation and institutions by enacting the domestic law on combating terrorism in June 2014, and criminalized various forms of terrorism as well as financing and abetting terrorism. Special Branch (SB) of Myanmar Police Force has upgraded its Counter-Terrorism Section to Departmental level on 1st December 2015 in order to effectively respond to terrorist attacks.
- 10. As part of its efforts in preventing and suppressing terrorist financing, Myanmar enacted the Control on Money-Laundering Law in 2002 and ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism in 2006. Myanmar has already established the Central Control Bodies and the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) to oversee the issue.
- 11. At the regional level, Myanmar is a member of the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering. Myanmar also enacted the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Law in 2004 and ratified the ASEAN Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters in 2009. Furthermore, Myanmar signed the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT) in 2007, which laid a framework for greater regional cooperation in combating international terrorism. The Plan of Action for ACCT has been put in place to serve as a good example in counter-terrorism measures. Such cooperation involves exchange of information among States, and between States and international organizations. To date, Myanmar is a State Party to 11 international instruments relating to counter terrorism. The Government is also looking at the possibility of signing or acceding to other remaining international and regional instruments related to counter terrorism.

- 12. Myanmar has taken an active role in ASEAN's efforts to countering international terrorism during its chairmanship in 2014. As the country coordinator of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Partnership, Myanmar facilitated the adoption of the updated ASEAN-Australia Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism during the recently held ASEAN Summit in Vientiane, in keeping with the evolving situations.
- 13. Myanmar's regional cooperation in the area goes beyond Southeast Asia. With a view to effectively prevent and suppress terrorist financing together with South Asian countries, Myanmar became a state party to the BIMSTEC Convention on Combating Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking in 2009. Myanmar has been actively participating in the meetings on Asia-Pacific Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) organized by INTERPOL.

Mr. Chairman,

14. Myanmar reinforced its commitment to anti-terror cooperation by acceding to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) in 2014 and ratifying the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and on their Destruction in 2015. In addition, Myanmar has deposited the instrument of ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty at this year's Treaty Event held on 21 September.

Mr. Chairman,

15. In concluding, I would like to reaffirm Myanmar's commitment to continue working hand in hand with the international community in our common endeavour to fight against terrorism to create a world free of terror and fear.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.