

GHANA



PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
19 EAST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
TEL. 212-832-1300 • FAX 212-751-6743



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC
OF GHANA ON AGENDA ITEM 111:**

**MEASURES TO ELIMINATE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 3RD AND 4TH OCTOBER 2018

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me join others who have spoken before me in congratulating you and the members of the bureau on your election and to assure you of my delegation's cooperation throughout this session. My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and The Gambia, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Africa group respectively. We also wish to thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on terrorism contained in document A/73/125.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism is a serious security threat which transcends national and regional borders and a global menace which requires both national and international measures to combat. The threat posed by terrorist groups has been heightened by the dramatic shifts in its methodology and modus operandi. It has now assumed new and alarming proportions with devastating consequences on lives and properties and thus require member states to take appropriate concerted measures to confront and address the growing menace.

It is gratifying to note the initiatives that have been taken under the auspices of the United Nations to address terrorism and the calls for cooperation at all levels to address this issue. Ghana believes that cooperation can be enhanced at the bilateral, Sub-Regional, Regional and International levels through intelligence sharing and early warning systems, capacity building and technology transfer.

Mr. Chairman,

For this reason, Ghana calls for an enhanced international cooperation, coordination and technical assistance towards the full and effective implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017), including the timely sharing of information and adoption of best practices to address the radicalization, recruitment, travel patterns, operationalization, financing, return, rehabilitation and reintegration of the Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) into society. The levels of assistance and support should be tailored to the specific needs of recipient States.

Mr. Chairman,

Ghana equally welcomes the consensus adoption of the 6th biennial review document of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS) on 26th June, 2018, including the

provisions, which highlight the importance of building-capacity, international cooperation, information sharing, border security, investigation, judicial processes, and extradition towards addressing the threat of the FTFs phenomenon. We believe the revised Strategy reflects the desire of the international community to seek and act with a united voice to tackle the threats and trends of terrorism and, therefore, a balanced and transparent implementation of its four pillars should be observed.

Mr. Chairman,

We cannot also deal with terrorism without linking it to money laundering and financing terrorism. Money laundering and the financing of terrorism can have devastating economic and social consequences for countries, especially those in the process of development and those with fragile financial systems. The economy, society, and ultimately the security of countries used as money laundering platforms are all imperiled.

Mr. Chairman,

Ghana remains committed to the fight against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing and other transnational organized crimes and continues to make progress in improving its Anti Money Laundering /Combating Financing of Terrorism efforts. Ghana's Parliament passed into Law the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act 2014, Act 875 and the Anti-Money

Please check against delivery

Laundering (Amendment) Act 2014 Act 874. The broad objective of both pieces of legislation is to make the 2008 Anti-Money Laundering Act consistent with international Anti Money Laundering /Combating Financing of Terrorism standards. The Anti-terrorism Act remedies an ambiguity regarding the freezing powers of the High Court relating to terrorist funds. The Anti Money Laundering Act gives the Financial Intelligence Center's (FIC) power to request information on currency transaction reports stronger and more flexible. Also in March, 2014 the FIC, Ghana's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), was admitted into the Egmont Group of FIUs.

Mr. Chairman,

In 2016, Ghana became the first ECOWAS country to conduct a National Risk Assessment on money laundering and terrorist financing. This feat is consistent with the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF's) Recommendations. Ghana again is the first ECOWAS Member State to undergo the Second Round of Mutual Evaluation conducted by the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa(GIABA) an FATF styled Regional Body. The report, indeed, echoed the need for strengthening measures to deal with terrorist financing and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in line with UN Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373,1718,1540, 2178,2253. Subsequently, Ghana is

implementing an Action Plan to immediately rectify all the strategic deficiencies identified in the report.

Mr. Chairman,

The steps taken by Ghana, are aimed at criminalizing terrorism and acts related to financing of terrorist activities; support for terrorist acts; harbouring persons committing terrorist acts; provision of training and instruction to terrorist groups; incitement; promotion or solicitation of property for a terrorist act; and provision of facilities to support a terrorist act. The ultimate objective is to ensure that all acts related to the commission of any terrorist acts will be punished.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to reiterate the calls for support with the aim of building capacity of member states to improve and ensure effective implementation of the various counter terrorism initiatives and related resolutions thereby addressing terrorism in all its aspects.

I thank you.