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350 EAST 35TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016  
<http://www.china-un.org>

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*(translation)*

**Statement by Mr. Liu Yang**

*Chinese Delegate*

**At the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly**

*On Agenda Item 109*

**Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism**

***New York, 7 October 2019***

Mr. Chairman:

At present global counter-terrorism situation is still complex and grave. International terrorism is experiencing a new round of resurgence. Despite our efforts, ISIS has yet to be rooted out. Instead it is wasting no time in building a global network of violent terrorism and spreading more terrorist activities to areas of security vulnerabilities. In addition to rising extremism and proliferation of cyber terrorism, return of foreign terrorist fighters, settlement of their families, settlement and reintegration of the released personnel also pose challenges to countries across the world. We have a long way to go before terrorism can be eliminated, thus international cooperation can only be strengthened rather than weakened. Recently, Mr. Wang Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China, elaborated on China's counter-terrorism position at the Ministerial Debate on the United Nations Cooperation with Regional and Subregional Organizations in Maintaining Peace and Security. Here China would like to further underscore the following four points.

First, to uphold a consistent standard and strengthen cooperation. Terrorism is an enemy of mankind and counter-terrorism is a shared responsibility of all countries. Parties should put aside their geopolitical self-interest, unequivocally oppose and fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We must firmly fight terrorist activities regardless of their perpetrators, time and location, or pretexts. There should be no double standard in counter-terrorism, much less selectivity. Countries should keep the concept of a community of shared future for mankind in mind, foster a security vision that promotes common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security for all, and strengthen counter-terrorism cooperation in judicial, law-enforcement, counter-terrorism financing and other relevant fields.

Secondly, to adopt a multi-pronged approach to tackling both the root causes and symptoms. Response to terrorism should start from its root. International community should work to advance political settlement of regional conflicts, promote peaceful resolutions to disputes, and through such integrated measures as promoting economic development and improving education, help members of UN reduce and eliminate poverty

and realize sustainable development so as to prevent social tension and turbulence. It is important to strengthen member states' capacity-building in counter-terrorism and de-radicalization, promote dialogue and communications among different civilizations and religions to achieve harmony, and take preventive counter-terrorism measures so as to eliminate the breeding ground for terrorism. Terrorists should not have free rein on the internet. We should focus on countering cyber terrorism, in particular, on-line spreading of extremist ideologies and incitement of terrorist activities by terrorist organizations.

Thirdly, to strengthen the role of the United Nations. The United Nations should focus on promoting the full implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism and the UN Global counter-terrorism Strategy and strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels. Expertise of UN bodies such as the UN Counter-Terrorism Office, the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee and the 1267 Committee should be fully utilized. Coordination among various counter-terrorism mechanisms and their communication with member states should be strengthened and the authority and effectiveness of counter-terrorism and sanctions mechanisms be safeguarded.

Fourthly, to strictly abide by international law. counter-terrorism operations should abide by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries. Those international counter-terrorism treaties which are universally accepted by the international community and other rules of international law punishing terrorist crimes should be implemented. We look forward to the early conclusion and adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism under the framework of GA to further improve the international counter-terrorism legal basis.

Mr. Chairman,

China strictly implements various UN counter-terrorism resolutions and is deeply involved in international counter-terrorism cooperation based

on the principles of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit. China has set up bilateral and multilateral consultation mechanisms on counter-terrorism with over 20 countries and regional organizations. We have taken an active part in counter-terrorism cooperation within the frameworks of the UN, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the BRICS, G20, APEC, ASEAN Regional Forum and Global counter-terrorism Forum and others. Through mechanisms such as China-UN Peace and Development Fund, China provides support within our means to counter-terrorism capacity-building of other member states.

China is a victim of terrorism. Faced with present threat of terrorism and extremism, China has taken resolute measures to advance preventive counter-terrorism and de-radicalization according to law, thus effectively preventing terrorist activities from occurring repeatedly and frequently, and providing maximum guarantee for people of all ethnic groups' basic rights such as rights to subsistence and development. These measures are supported and welcomed by them. The de-radicalization measures by China are a specific way to implement the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, constitute China's important contribution to international counter-terrorism efforts and fully comply with the purposes and principles of the UN of combating terrorism and ensuring basic human rights.

China faces direct and present threats from Eastern Turkistan terrorist forces represented by Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM). A terrorist organization listed by the UN Security Council, ETIM has highly integrated with international terrorist forces in recent years and poses a rising threat to international and regional security. The fight against Eastern Turkistan terrorist forces such as ETIM is our core counter-terrorism concern and an important part of international counter-terrorism efforts. We hope the international community could continue to support and cooperate with China's counter-terrorism efforts so as to jointly maintain global and regional security and stability.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.