

**Statement by the Delegation of Uganda to the 6<sup>th</sup> Committee  
Agenda Item 109 - "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism"**

**October 9, 2019**

**Presented by Ambassador Duncan Muhumuza Laki**

**Mr Chairman,**

I take this opportunity to congratulate you Mr. Chairman, and members of the Bureau upon assuming the leadership position to steer the work of the Committee during this session. I pledge my delegation's support for a successful outcome during the 74<sup>th</sup> session. Allow me also to acknowledge your predecessor Ambassador Michel Xavier Biang of Gabon for successfully leading the Committee's work during the 73<sup>rd</sup> session.

Uganda aligns itself with the statements made by Zambia, on behalf of the African Group, Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, and by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). We welcome the Secretary-General's report A/74/151 that provides an update by various stakeholders on the measures taken to eliminate international terrorism.

**Mr Chairman,**

Uganda condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, for whatever purpose and by whomsoever. Terrorism can never be justified under any pretext. We reiterate our position that in order to have a meaningful/successful fight against terrorism, we must be prepared to take the hard decisions, including assigning a comprehensive definition to terrorism. This is a minimum requirement that isolates terrorism; and thus, differentiating it from other legitimate struggles.

Terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. Terrorism and violent extremism continue to bring death and suffering to innocent people. Terrorist groups such as Daesh, Al-Qaida, Al-Shabaab, and Boko Haram continue to inflict death and devastation. They continue to manipulate young minds by exploiting real or perceived injustices and grievances. The international community must adapt to this changing landscape. We must be unwavering in our resolve to combat terrorism and Uganda, will continue to support and actively participate in global counter-terrorism efforts.

A comprehensive fight against terrorism must address the conditions under which it thrives. Indeed, in order to eradicate the problem, the root causes must be identified. It is therefore imperative to address the issues of poverty as one of the conditions under which terrorism thrives.

My delegation fully supports the ongoing efforts to refine the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy as well as to achieve consensus regarding the draft comprehensive Convention on international terrorism. Uganda supports the proposal to convene a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate an international response to terrorism in all its forms and

manifestations. The onset of the ISIS and its reprehensible methods should act to strengthen our resolve to get rid of these barbaric forces as a matter of urgency.

**Mr Chairman,**

Uganda has been engaged in the fight against terrorism for a long time, whether it is the so-called Lord's Resistance Army (LRA); the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF); and the Al-Shabaab in Somalia, Ugandan men and women have been leading at the frontline. Gladly to mention, The LRA was defeated and routed out of Ugandan territory.

We must collectively engage in efforts aimed at denying terrorists any havens, eradicating sources of terrorist financing, reducing state vulnerability, and enhancing emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Under the auspices of the African Union, Uganda is the biggest contributor to the AMISOM forces, and in that capacity, Uganda has been at the forefront of fighting the Al-Shabaab terrorist group. In many situations, terrorists take advantage of weak government structures in order to force recruits into their ranks. Accordingly, all efforts should be stepped up with assistance to the Government of Somalia so as to develop institutions which have the capacity to deal with the terrorist organisations that ever in search of safe havens from where to plan and plot their activities.

Within our borders, the members of the public have been mobilized, to be vigilant and to always be on the lookout. These efforts have been successful, leading to the capture of terrorist operatives before they could carry out their evil operations. In fighting terrorists of this kind, we believe that ultimately, there must be recourse to a robust judicial process. Uganda is therefore grateful to the neighbouring Governments which have been cooperative in facilitating the arrest of terrorist ring leaders. Such efforts have led to the arrest of Mr. Jamil Mukuru, who is currently on trial before the International Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda. Uganda continues to pursue the terrorists and to stop them in their tracks before they can cause mayhem and suffering to innocent people.

**Lastly Mr. Chairman,**

We reiterate our call to address the issue of toxic waste dumping off the coast of Somalia. Even though, we have shouted ourselves hoarse over this matter, unfortunately, the appeals continue to be largely unheeded. We promise not to grow weary until this matter, with its wide-ranging ramifications is addressed comprehensively. The international community can only ignore this issue at its own peril because one day, the toxic waste dumping sites could be turned into ready arsenals by terrorists if they could recycle the material in their quest for weapons of mass destruction. These reprehensible dumping actions must stop, and the culprits must be held accountable for their indiscretions and must be required to clean up their mess.

I thank you.

manifestations. The onset of the crisis and the subsequent developments should not be interpreted as a sign of agency response to get better organized as a matter of agency

the situation. Uganda has been engaged in the fight against terrorism for a long time, whether it is as a result of the assistance from the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) or the assistance from the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB). The ADF has been engaged in the fight against terrorism for a long time, whether it is as a result of the assistance from the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) or the assistance from the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB).

We must collectively engage in efforts aimed at enhancing the capacity of the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) to respond to the challenges of terrorism. We must collectively engage in efforts aimed at enhancing the capacity of the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) to respond to the challenges of terrorism. We must collectively engage in efforts aimed at enhancing the capacity of the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) to respond to the challenges of terrorism. We must collectively engage in efforts aimed at enhancing the capacity of the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADF) and the African Development Bank (ADB) to respond to the challenges of terrorism.

Within our borders, the members of the public have been required to be vigilant and to exercise their rights. These efforts have been successful, leading to the capture of several terrorists before they could carry out their operations. In fighting terrorism of this kind, we believe that ultimately there must be recourse to a judicial process. Uganda is a state party to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, which has been cooperative in providing the most of terrorist and leaders. Such efforts have been successful in the past, and we are confident that the international community will continue to support us in our efforts to combat terrorism and to bring to justice those who are responsible for these heinous crimes.

Lady the Chairman

We remain committed to address the issue of terrorism in the context of Somalia. In an effort to have a more coordinated response, we have invited several countries to be largely involved. We believe that the international community should be more actively engaged in the fight against terrorism. The international community should be more actively engaged in the fight against terrorism. The international community should be more actively engaged in the fight against terrorism. The international community should be more actively engaged in the fight against terrorism.

I thank you.