

## **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

#### PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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# Statement by Mr. Kim In Chol Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations

At Sixth Committee of the 75th Session of the General Assembly
On Agenda Item 114 "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism"
New York, 6 October 2020

#### Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the DPRK delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chair of this committee. I am confident that under your able stewardship, this session will turn out to be successful.

#### Mr. Chairman,

One of the biggest challenges facing the world today is terrorist acts which undermine international peace and security and threaten the sovereignty of countries.

Almost day-to-day terrorist acts in different parts of the world are claiming lives of innocent civilians, destabilizing the regions and societies and gravely threatening the global peace.

On the other hand, cases of intentionally linking terrorist acts to religion or ethnicity remain unabated, which aggravates antagonism, distrust and stand-offs among states and nations, hugely detrimental to socio-economic development worldwide.

Against this backdrop, there is an urgent need, as never before, for all countries to work out ways in real earnest on how to effectively counter terrorism with a correct understanding of its root causes.

In this regard, the DPRK delegation would like to draw your attention particularly to the following issues for international fight against terrorism.

Firstly, primary attention should be paid to ending state-sponsored terrorism aimed at overthrowing the systems of sovereign states.

State-sponsored terrorism aimed at the "regime change" in sovereign states is a gravest terrorist act in a flagrant violation of the UN Charter which sets out principles of respect for sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs as well as international law.

However, certain countries are labeling sovereign states as terrorism sponsors and applying sanctions and pressure to them at discretion in pursuit of their own interests. Worse still, they support anti-government terrorist organizations while continuously resorting to acts of overthrowing governments.

This year alone, there have been attempts to overthrow legitimate governments and blockade-oriented acts of economic terrorism against sovereign states such as Venezuela and Syria.

No one should allow the fight to counter terrorism to be abused by certain states or forces as leverage for their political goals.

The DPRK delegation holds that a comprehensive convention on combating international terrorism currently under discussion should contain explicit provisions for calling into question and terminating acts of state-sponsored terrorism by certain states that flagrantly violate the sovereignty of states in exercise of high-handedness and arbitrariness.

Secondly, proper attention should be paid to removing root causes of terrorism.

Terrorism is traced back to domination and interference, poverty and social inequality, racial and religious discrimination and so forth.

Only when precedence is given to removing root causes of terrorism, can the international efforts to combat terrorism achieve its intended end, which will pave the way for completely eliminating terrorism on the globe.

Especially, the prevailing turmoil caused by the unprecedented crisis of world pandemic carries the risk of triggering disastrous terrorist acts, and it urgently requires all countries to redouble efforts for rooting out causes of terrorism.

In this context, our delegation welcomes the recent adoption of the UNGA resolution (A/74/306) at the 74th session, which calls upon all member states to take strong action

against racism, xenophobia, hate speech, violence and discrimination in response to the COVID-19.

### Mr. Chairman,

It is the consistent stand of the government of the DPRK to oppose terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and any support thereto.

DPRK is strictly implementing legal and administrative measures to prevent terrorism in view of the particular situation on the Korean peninsula and in conformity with the relevant provisions of international conventions on counter-terrorism.

DPRK has acceded to a number of international conventions on counter-terrorism including the "International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism" and the "United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime" and is closely cooperating with the United Nations in its efforts to combat terrorism by implementing in good faith relevant provisions incorporated into domestic legislations.

The government of the DPRK will, in the future, too, discharge its responsibility and role in eliminating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and safeguarding peace and stability of the Korean peninsula and the region.

Thank you.