

**Statement by Ghanshyam Bhandari, Deputy Permanent Representative,
Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations on ‘Measures to Eliminate
International Terrorism (agenda item 114) at the Sixth Committee of the
Seventy-Fifth Session of the General Assembly
6 October 2020**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the Bureau of the Sixth Committee of the 75th Session of UN General Assembly. I also congratulate other members of the Bureau.

Nepal is honoured to represent Asia Pacific Group in the Bureau as a Vice-Chair, and we express our commitment to engage constructively in fulfilling this responsibility towards the successful deliberations of the Committee.

We would also like to thank the outgoing Chair His Excellency Mr. Michal Mlynar and other members of the Bureau for the excellent stewardship of the Committee during its 74th Session.

I align my statement with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on this agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

We are confronting unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic- with severe impacts in lives, livelihoods, societies, and economies.

However, the world has already been grappling with other challenges that are equally grave.

Terrorism is one of them.

Unlike the virus, the threat of terrorism does not emanate from contagion, but from human psyche.

Narratives of anti-immigrant sentiments, racial hatred, and religious intolerance are used to stoke social dissension and disrupt communal harmony.

New technologies, internet and social media are misused as they easily transcend the borders, and terrorist groups can manipulate them to entice large number of young people to join them, rendering them a false dream.

The current pandemic has provided a fertile ground in disguise for terrorism. While the Governments' efforts are more focused on coping with the crisis, the terrorist groups have been promoting anti-State narratives and trying to exploit the situation in the cover of political motives.

Terrorism recognizes no borders. And no country can fight terrorism alone.

A concerted and coordinated response, based on effective multilateralism, is a key to finding an appropriate solution. Therefore, we must urgently take collaborative steps to fight terrorism and to achieve peace and stability in the world.

The United Nations must be placed at the centre of all our efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

Nepal strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whoever and for whatsoever purposes.

Nepal has been taking utmost caution not to let anyone use its soil against any country.

Nepal is a party to six international anti-terrorism instruments as well as SAARC Regional Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, 1987, and its Additional Protocol 2004.

We have also established appropriate legal mechanisms to deal with transnational organized crime and terrorism. We have enacted the legal provisions to curb terrorist financing.

We also believe that protecting and preserving human rights is important to prevent violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism.

Defeating terrorism warrants that the underlying root causes and conditions fuelling terrorism are addressed effectively.

Poor and unemployed youths, particularly from the marginalized community, are most vulnerable to fall prey to the terrorist groups. So, investment in poverty reduction, creating jobs, and education is of paramount significance in curbing the acts of terrorism.

Nepal is committed to doing its part in the global fight against terrorism. We stand ready to join international efforts and initiatives for combating and preventing terrorism.

Nepal appreciates the important role played by the United Nations in responding to the evolving global terrorism threats through comprehensive multilateral counter-terrorism architecture.

We support the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and has been sincerely incorporating and streamlining the strategies, policies, and guidelines in national policies and implementation framework.

We call for an early conclusion of a comprehensive convention against international terrorism.

Financial and technical assistance is vital for the capacity-building of developing countries. The partnership among countries for sharing information and technology is a key to combating terrorism.

To conclude, it is evident that collective global response is more effective in tackling global problem of terrorism. We must, therefore, redouble our efforts with United Nations at the core, to wipe out terrorism from the world.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.