

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Majid Takht Ravanchi
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United
Nations**

**Before
The Sixth Committee of the
75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
On
"Measures to eliminate international terrorism"
(Agenda item 114)**

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In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including state terrorism and economic and medical terrorism through the imposition of unilateral coercive measures.

To eradicate terrorism once and for all, there is no choice but to harness the power of the multilateral approach and ensure close cooperation as well as coordination between relevant stakeholders in the spirit of global partnership among all actors at the national, regional and international levels. The fight against terrorism must also be carried out in accordance with the United Nations Charter and should include respect for well-established international humanitarian and human rights laws. The principles of independence and sovereign equality of states, as well as non-interference in domestic affairs, must be fully respected as they are essential in ensuring an effective global counter-terrorism response.

Despite the vital importance of collective and coordinated responses to terrorism and its devastating impacts, certain challenges still exist largely emanating from unilateral approaches. For instance, unilateral coercive measures deny the essential tools for a collective response to terrorism and hinder international cooperation in this regard. Terrorizing nations has been and continues to be a major global challenge for the international community as it claims countless lives of innocent people while simultaneously leading to devastating consequences on the stability and security of countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the state of health for a multitude of communities. The imposition by the US of its laws and regulations with an extraterritorial impact on my Country and others is, by definition, tantamount to terrorism which has severely exacerbated the overall health conditions during the pandemic. The coercive measures are manifestations of structural violence that violate human rights, *inter alia*, the right to peace, right to development, right to health and above all, the right to life. Article 2 of the CCIT, which is agreed among member states in the Sixth Committee, describes terrorism as causing death with the intention of intimidation of a population, or to compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

Mr. Chairman,

The United States' maximum pressure policy against Iran is designed to deliberately and indiscriminately target innocent civilians with the purpose of causing pain and suffering among them as well as creating social unrest in line with its corrupt policy of regime change. All of these actions constitute, by definition, a terrorist act and, in the broader context, economic terrorism.

Furthermore, the United States' brutal and cowardly assassination of Major General Qasem Soleimani, a champion of fighting terrorists in the region, while on an official visit to neighboring Iraq, is another obvious example of State terrorism pursued in gross violation of the fundamental principles of international law, entailing the criminal responsibility of its perpetrators. This tragedy was a big gift to Daesh and other terrorist groups in the region who celebrated his assassination.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been at the forefront of the fight against terrorism in the region, particularly in combating and eliminating the ISIS and other UN-designated terrorist groups which have been financially and materially supported by certain countries in the region and beyond.

The imposition of unilateral coercive measures have affected our economy. However, these illegal measures have not affected or will not affect our unwavering resolve towards our vision for a world free of terror.

In conclusion, it is an established fact the U.S. has been promoting terrorism not only in our region, but almost everywhere in the world. The United States through its interventionist policy in our region has helped to create terrorist groups such as Al Qa'ida and ISIS. It continues to train and provide weaponry and explosives to its terrorist proxies and partners including Pejak , Tondar and jeishol adl, to wage terrorist attacks in Iran. Moreover, the US has been harboring the MKO, a notorious and dangerous terrorist organization responsible for the killing of at least 12,000 Iranians and many Iraqis.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.