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**Statement on the Sixth Committee, 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNGA  
by the delegation of Georgia**

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**Item 111 – “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”**

**New York, 6 October 2021**

Madam Chairperson,

On behalf of my delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your well-deserved election. Let me assure you of our full support in all your endeavors.

Georgia aligned itself with a statement delivered by the European Union and following remarks are in my national capacity.

At the outset, let me reiterate that Georgia categorically and unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities and exacerbated threats from terrorism and violent extremism.

Therefore, addressing both, traditional and non-traditional security threats requires international community’s heightened resolve and inclusive multilateral cooperation. In this regard, we welcome the adoption of the 7th review of Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.

Over the years, Georgia has made outsized contributions in the fight against terrorism, including through our robust participation in the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan. Today, we see the urgent need of international community's redoubled collective efforts to address the root causes of terrorism and focus on prevention.

While the direct impact of terrorism in Georgia is assessed as somewhat low, considering the global security landscape, no country is immune from this truly global threat to international peace and security. Therefore, the Government of Georgia works actively to detect and deal with continuously transforming landscape of terrorism and develop efficient, coherent and coordinated ways of responding to them.

At the national level, the Government of Georgia takes effective and comprehensive counter-terrorism measures. This includes upgrading legislative framework, carrying out law enforcement measures and ensuring effective coordination on national, bilateral, regional and international levels. At the same time, various projects and programs aimed at prevention and threat-reduction are implemented nation-wide.

The Government of Georgia is currently working to update the National Strategy of Georgia on Fight against Terrorism and respective Action Plan. Moreover, the process of drafting a new counter-terrorism strategy in cooperation with relevant agencies and the civil society is underway. **The document will focus on assessing new and evolving terrorist and extremist threats, and developing ways to combat them.**

Madam Chairperson,

In recent years, Georgia has made significant improvements on issues related to anti-money laundering and terrorism financing. In 2019, Georgia adopted new Law on Facilitating the Suppression of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, which creates legal mechanism for prevention, detection and suppression of money laundering and terrorism financing.

In the same year, Government approved the National Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Risk Assessment Report and related Action Plan. According to the report, Terrorism Financing risks in the country are assessed as low.

As a member of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL), Georgia was assessed, under the fifth evaluation round conducted during MONEYVAL's on-site visit in Tbilisi in 2019. Based on this assessment, the MONEYVAL discussed and approved the mutual evaluation report of Georgia in September 2020. The report highlighted the progress and achievements Georgia has made in recent years in Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism. Report positively assesses Georgia's efforts in TF investigation and prosecution for having achieved a substantial level of effectiveness.

Madam Chairperson,

Despite the numerous activities and policies of the Georgian Government to combat terrorism, continued illegal occupation of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia by the Russian Federation prevents Georgian Government to carry out its activities on all of Georgia's territory. These regions are not only beyond the Georgian government's effective control, but remain inaccessible for international monitoring, including relevant UN bodies as well as the European Union Monitoring Mission, which has a clear mandate to access both occupied regions. As a result, grave security, human rights and humanitarian situation therein creates a fertile ground for all sorts of illicit activities, including spread of terrorism and pose serious threat to regional and international peace and security. We call on the Russian Federation to allow unhindered and immediate access of international monitoring mechanisms to Georgian regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia/Tskhinvali and live up to its obligations under the EU-mediated August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement.

Madam Chairperson,

Against the background of the above mentioned challenges posed by the ongoing occupation by the foreign force, Georgian Government is fully committed to use all existing national, regional and international mechanisms and implement policies required to effectively fight the common threat of terrorism.

I thank you.