



INDIA
भारत

STATEMENT BY

DR. KAJAL BHAT

COUNSELLOR/LEGAL ADVISER

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UN

ON

AGENDA ITEM 112

“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”

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UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Madam Chair,

My Delegation congratulates you and members of the Bureau on your election. I take this opportunity to assure you of our support during the proceedings. We thank the Secretary General for his Report in document A-76/201.

2. Terrorism continues to persist globally, spreading into new areas, with terrorists having significantly enhanced their capabilities by gaining access to new and emerging technologies like drones, virtual currencies and encrypted communications for furthering their objectives and accomplishing their evil acts. COVID-19 pandemic has further aggravated the situation. Isolation due to lockdown, distress and economic uncertainty has made the world more susceptible to radicalizing narratives and violent extremist propaganda.

3. My delegation condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and firmly believe that there cannot be any exception or justification for any act of terrorism, regardless of motivations behind such acts, and wherever, whenever and by whomsoever they are committed. There cannot be bad terrorists or good terrorists based on their intentions or objectives. Terrorists at one place are threat to the whole world. And therefore, it requires action from all of us, without any exception, to fight terrorism collectively.

4. We welcome the adoption of 7th review resolution of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) by the General Assembly by consensus in June 2021. GCTS represents a common strategic and operational approach to fight terrorism collectively. My delegation contributed constructively to the negotiations, especially to strengthen the language on countering financing of terrorism, prevention of misuse of emerging technologies, strengthen the rights of victims of terrorism, providing greater financial resources to UN CT architecture and obligations of member states to take effective measures to prevent terrorist activities. We hope the member states will walk the talk and implement the strategy by taking effective measures.

5. The fight against terrorism has to be unrelenting and across all fronts. All member States must fulfill their obligations enshrined in international counter terrorism instruments and conventions. While some states lack the legal-operational frameworks and necessary Combating of Financing of Terrorism (CFT) capacities, others are clearly guilty of aiding and supporting terrorism by providing financial assistance and safe

havens to terrorists. We must enhance capacities of the former, but must collectively call out the latter and hold them accountable.

Madam Chair,

6. We believe that when right action is not taken at the right time, then it is time itself that causes the action to fail. In 1996, long before the adoption of Resolution 1373, the initiative to pilot the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism with the objective of providing a comprehensive legal framework to combat terrorism was taken by India. We strongly urge States to unite in our efforts and end the stalemate preventing the adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

7. We all need CCIT as law enforcement instrument that should strengthen the existing framework of global anti-terrorism conventions. India reiterates the need for early finalization of Draft CCIT We firmly believe that UN needs to do more in this direction. India hopes that GA Resolution 75/145 of 15 December 2020 which in Para 25 recommends to Sixth Committee to establish the “Working Group with a view to finalize the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism will bring finality to the most important task in hand before the international community.

8. The normative efforts at the UN should also collaborate with other fora such as Financial Action Task Force (FATF). We recognize and appreciate the essential role of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in setting global standards. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) should continue to identify and remedy weaknesses in anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing frameworks.

9. India is a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and undertakes National Risk Assessment (NRA) related to terror financing regularly. This aids in assessing the threats posed by terrorists and in identification of methods and instruments used by terrorist groups to attract, move or use funds for criminal purposes. We believe that NRA has helped us to make tremendous progress in implementing the recommendations of FATF with regard to Money Laundering and terror financing risks. India is already in the process of upgrading its Financial Intelligence Network to ensure quicker referral of terror-financing cases to law enforcement agencies.

10. Before I conclude, let me express my dismay that Pakistan has once again misused this August Forum to repeat at *adnauseam* their litany of lies. Here is the biggest perpetrator and supporter of terrorism masquerading as its victim. We

condemn their Pavlovian response wherever the name of India is mentioned and reject all their allegations and insinuations. Jammu and Kashmir is, and will always be apart of India. We call on Pakistan to stop cleansing their own minorities including Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhist and others.

11. Let me conclude my statement with eight-point action plan for the UN system to credibly address the menace of terrorism suggested by our Minister for External Affairs and I quote,” (i) We need to summon the political will to combat terrorism, and not allow terrorism to be justified and terrorists glorified. (ii) Terrorists are terrorists; there are no good and bad ones. (iii) We must reform the working methods of the Committees dealing with Sanctions and Counter Terrorism. Transparency, accountability and effectiveness are the need of the day. (iv) We must firmly discourage exclusivist thinking that divides the world and harms our social fabric. Such approaches facilitate radicalization and recruitment by breeding fear, mistrust, and hatred among different communities. (v) Enlisting and delisting individuals and entities under the UN sanctions regimes must be done objectively, not for political or religious considerations. (vi) Linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime must be fully recognized and addressed vigorously. (vii) In combating terrorist financing FATF should continue to identify and remedy weaknesses in anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing frameworks. (viii) Adequate funding to UN Counter Terrorism bodies from UN regular budget requires our immediate attention.

I thank you, Madam Chair.
