

Statement by Ms. Indira Gohiwar Aryal, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations on ‘Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (agenda item 111) at the Sixth Committee of the Seventy-Sixth Session of the General Assembly

New York, 6 October 2021

Time: 7 Minutes

Madam Chair,

I join other delegations to congratulate you and members of the Bureau upon taking charge of this important Committee. I assure you full support and cooperation of my delegation throughout this session.

I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for bringing out a comprehensive report on this agenda item.

Nepal aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Madam Chair,

For the second year in a row, we are convening at this difficult time under the continued shadow of COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has ravaged lives and livelihoods in unprecedented ways. Economic activities are curtailed; access to education is restricted; unemployment is increased; poverty and inequalities are widened.

These pervasive disruptions have caused economic hardships and ignited frustration, mistrust, and anger among people.

The socio-economic, political, and cultural environment of those regions, which are already facing intercommunal tensions, have been further jeopardized.

The growing frustration, mistrust and tensions have created an environment conducive to terrorism, making counterterrorism more challenging than ever.

To address this, the Governments and the international community have to remain focused and allocate more resources to respond to the humanitarian crisis and COVID-19 pandemic.

Madam Chair,

Terrorism is a longstanding challenge humanity has been facing. It is a great threat to international peace and security.

The acts of terrorism not only cause the enormous loss of human lives and properties, but they also decimate the trust and understanding that bind humanity.

Make no mistake, terrorism is a global phenomenon. It is in no way associated with any religion, nationality, civilization, and ethnic group.

Terrorist groups gain space when the migrants are vulnerable, youths are unemployed, ideologues become extremists, and religion becomes intolerant.

We must build stronger cooperation through multilateral approach in addressing drivers of terrorism and violent extremism.

Together, we can end the menace of terrorism and make this world a better place to live.

Madam Chair,

As the birthplace of Gautam Buddha- the apostle of peace, Nepal always believes in tolerance, harmony, and coexistence.

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

Our foreign policy is guided by an ethos of amity with all and enmity with none.

Nepal does not allow its territory to be used against any country.

With a strong counter-terrorism institutional and legal frameworks at home, we maintain a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and violent extremism.

Nepal is a party to seven different international counter-terrorism instruments, and we have been effectively implementing the obligations of these instruments.

We are closely working with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to prevent terrorist financing.

In 2020, we have prepared the National Risk Assessment Report on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (ML/TF).

We also regularly publish the sanction list of individuals and entities as updated by the UN.

We have Mutual Legal Assistance Act and Extradition Act in order to cooperate and coordinate in transnational criminal activities.

Madam Chair,

Nepal emphasizes on the need of financial and technological assistance to developing countries for their capacity building in preventing and combating terrorism.

We also emphasize on sharing of intelligence as an important aspect of global fight against terrorism.

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

We are working with UNODC for technical assistance and capacity building for the management of criminal assets.

As part of maintaining international peace and security, Nepal is contributing to peacekeeping operations. Nepal always stands ready to work with the international community in the global fight against terrorism.

Nepal appreciates the convening of the Seventh Biennial Review Conference of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) in June 2021 and welcomes the adoption of the GCTS review resolution by consensus.

We incorporate and streamline all the four pillars of the GCTS in our national policies and implementation frameworks.

We also appreciate the convening of the Second United Nations High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States this year.

We call for an early conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism (CCIT).

To conclude, Madam Chair, fighting terrorism is a complex task. It demands strong cooperation and collaboration at the national, regional, and global levels.

Nepal is committed to doing its part in fighting against international terrorism and violent extremism.

I thank you for your attention.