



Statement

by

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to the **United Nations**

at the
Sixth Committee

Item 111: “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”

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Madame Chair,

Let me start by congratulating you and the members of the Bureau on your election to steer the work of this Committee, and be assured of my delegation's support throughout the session. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for its support to our work.

My delegation associates itself with the statements from the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Madame Chair,

Several of us last year, at this debate, warned about the impact of the pandemic and its related measures, particularly on the exacerbation of inequalities and grievances, and about how terrorist and violent extremist groups sought to exploit them.

One year later, these grievances and inequalities may be further amplified by the disparities, as we have witnessed in the global access to COVID-19 vaccines, leading to further risks of terrorist and violent radicalizations. This is a proof of the importance of a comprehensive approach in preventing and countering the terrorist threat. Such approach is contained in the mutually reinforcing four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and in this regard Lebanon welcomes the conclusion and consensual adoption of the seventh review in July of this year, and is committed to its implementation.

My delegation continues to call for the importance of tackling root causes that can contribute to the spread of terrorism. We also continue to emphasize the importance of promoting inclusive societies, fostering socio-economic opportunities, women and youth empowerment, respect for human rights, and finding a resolution to protracted and unresolved conflicts. In these times of increased tensions and divisions, we need to double down on and enhance international cooperation and solidarity.

Madame Chair,

In the midst of a financial, social and humanitarian crisis, Lebanon is grateful for the help of the UN system and to our international partners. We thank those countries that have provided support for the Lebanese Armed Forces and Security forces, heavily impacted by the current crisis as well as the assistance provided to help alleviate the humanitarian impact endured by people in Lebanon.

Madame Chair,

Too many Lebanese have borne the brunt of terrorism, and I here reiterate my country's firm condemnation of all terrorist acts, committed around the world. It is essential to recall that terrorism cannot be associated with any religion, nationality or ethnic group. Furthermore, in no way should terrorism be equated with the right of people to resist foreign occupation, rooted in international law, in an attempt to crush the legitimate aspirations of people for self-determination.

Lebanon is party to various international legal instruments to prevent terrorist acts and is committed to ensure respect of relevant UN resolutions. Lebanon adopted in previous years a national public terrorist list in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1373, as well as regulations to implement 'freezing without delay' requirements.

Recently, the Special Investigation Commission – a Lebanese financial intelligence unit whose role is to fight money laundering and terrorism financing – issued a guidance document on the implementation of financial measures connected with UN Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1373.

This guidance seeks to help banks, financial institutions and other reporting entities in the freezing requirements of individuals connected to terrorism, especially those listed on the 1267 or 1373 national list.

Furthermore, and as we expressed it last year, Lebanon is completing the elaboration of a national counter-terrorism strategy which will rest on four pivotal elements: Prevention, Protection, Security and Response. It will also complement the 2018 National Strategy to prevent violent extremism.

Madame Chair,

Lebanon remains strongly determined to see the Special Tribunal for Lebanon complete its work in 2022. Again, I wish to thank the UN and the countries that have supported the Tribunal since its establishment to find the truth and end impunity in Lebanon.

Justice, Madame Chair, remains a key component in promoting accountability, big relief answers to the victims and their families as well as ending impunity.