STATEMENT BY
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AT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL’S SYMPOSIUM
ON INTERNATIONAL COUNTER-TERRORISM
COOPERATION

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Mr. Chairman,

I thank the Secretary General for taking this initiative. I am delighted to participate in this important symposium.

For a decade now, we have taken robust measures in fighting terrorism.

We have collaborated in strengthening infrastructures to combat terrorism.

We have scored some notable victories. We have made significant progress.

And yet much more needs to be done.

The threat of terrorism is still mounting.

Terrorists can strike anywhere, anytime.

The global nature of this challenge has not changed. Terrorist cells are interconnected, networked and trans-boundaries.

They are also adaptable, autonomous and techno-minded.

Efforts to combat terrorism are growing more complex and difficult.

The entire international architecture must address the evolving threat of terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

This challenge defies national solution. It demands international cooperation and collaboration. Precisely the kind of challenge the United Nations is most capable of addressing.

The General Assembly, and not only the UN Security Council, must play a major role in the fight against terrorism.

In 2006, we adopted the UN Global Counter-terrorism Strategy.

We must implement the four pillars of the Strategy in a thorough, balanced, and consistent manner.

No pillar is less important and no pillar comes before another.
Mr. Chairman,

Let me share a few thoughts on how to further strengthen our efforts at fighting terrorism.

First, regional and national measures should be in concert with global efforts.

There should be synergy between the UN Global Counter-terrorism Strategy with national, bilateral and regional efforts.

It is important for each region to develop its own action plan to implement the Global Strategy. UN bodies should assist capacity challenges and gaps of each region.

That is why we have established the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation: to enhance the capacity of law enforcement authorities in the Asia Pacific region.

To-date, the Centre has conducted more than 406 courses and trained more than 9515 participants from 47 countries in the Asia Pacific region.

That is why Indonesia hosted the Workshop on the “Regional Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in South East Asia,” in Bali, Indonesia, 3-5 November 2010.

And that is why in ASEAN, we have adopted an ASEAN Convention on Counter-terrorism to strengthen cooperation and capacity building among ASEAN member countries in the fight against terrorism.

Second, we must address the root causes of terrorism

The root causes of terrorism are varied and complex. The strategy to address them must be comprehensive and interlinked.

It should take into account all factors that work against terrorism—including law enforcement, the legislative framework, foreign policy, and socio-economic policy.

We should also address local circumstances and conditions that give rise to terrorism: political grievances, communal conflicts, human rights issues, economic and social marginalization, and poverty, to cite a few.
Third, broad and long-term strategies that makes use of soft power is essential

Law enforcement measures will never be enough. We must take measures in socioeconomic, intellectual and spiritual realms.

It requires us not just to advance freedom, but also to spread tolerance, and to steer people away from extremism and radicalism and empower the moderates among them.

Indonesia continues to use a soft power approach through de-radicalisation programmes and initiatives. We promote in our society a culture of tolerance and the value of moderation.

In our foreign policy, we advocates and promotes interfaith dialogue and dialogue among civilizations. This promotes pluralism and tolerance between and within faiths.

At the same time we emphatically reject the notion of associating terrorism with particular nations, ethnicities, cultures or religions.

Fourth, efforts to eradicate terrorism must be in conformity with democratic principles

All measures against terrorism must be consistent with the rule of law and a deep and abiding respect for human rights. They must be in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations.

At the end of the day, we want defeat of terrorism but also have a world of greater peace, social justice and shared prosperity.

Effective law enforcement measure is an essential component of the fight against terrorism. We must deter, frustrate and put out of commission every terrorist cell and operative that we discover — while fully respecting human rights.

In this regard, Indonesia has made notable gains. Since we enacted anti-terror legislation in 2003, we have, as of August 2011 arrested and brought to justice more than 611 terrorists. Of these, 436 have been tried before a court of justice and convicted. Meanwhile, 60 terrorists were rendered ineffective while resisting arrest.

We have gained valuable experience in anti-terror law enforcement, which we can share with other countries.
Mr. Chairman,

The efforts against terrorism is a long term struggle.

It demands a long term strategy and comprehensive approach.

It demands that we all work hand in hand.

You can count on Indonesia to be an active part of such efforts.

I thank you.