

19 March 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter from H.E. Mohamed Edrees, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations, the co-facilitators overseeing the seventh biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (GCTS).

Sequel to my letter dated 13 March 2020, regarding the decision to adopt a new format for the GCTS review process in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the enclosed letter conveys the proposed work plan for the process in the upcoming weeks. As hitherto conveyed, the co-facilitators are available to engage directly with respective Member States and/or Groups. My office will continue to support the co-facilitators and Member States in this important process.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York



## Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations



New York, 19 March 2020

## Excellencies,

We are writing to you as a follow up to our letter dated March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to provide you with an updated overview on our work plan during the upcoming weeks in view of the rapidly evolving situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Given the current situation, we will try to proceed with our work as best as possible, given the prevailing situation:

- Looking forward to the written comments/remarks of Member States on the broad questions specified in our letter dated March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. In this regard we kindly ask you to submit your inputs by March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- Following that we will be working towards releasing a zero draft capturing the general agreement on the main issues as received in the feedback of Member States.
- Member States will then have approximately two weeks to review the zero draft in consultation with their respective capitals, and are encouraged to provide textual proposals during a time frame to be shared later.
- The Co-facilitators will endeavor to make use of the textual proposals in developing the zero draft into Rev. 1 to be shared by the end of April 2020.

The aforementioned proposed work plan aims at fully utilizing the time we have in March and in April 2020, hoping that the UN will restore the necessary functionality in May 2020. Should the COVID-19 situation develop further in the upcoming weeks extending the measures currently in place to May 2020, there will be a re-assessment of the GCTS review situation accordingly, in view of the possibilities of adopting the review resolution by the end of June 2020 as envisaged.

While we are aware that we are operating under exceptional circumstances until the overall situation hopefully improves in the weeks to come, we are counting on your invaluable support and cooperation in guiding us to make the best use of the available time and tools at our disposal.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.

**Mohamed Edrees** 

Co- facilitator
Permanent Representative of Egypt
to the United Nations

Agustín Santos Maraver

Co-facilitator
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

To all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers of the United Nations

**New York**