



New York, 19 February 2021

Excellencies,

On 5 November 2020, the President of the General Assembly informed Member States of our appointment to co-facilitate on his behalf the Seventh Biannual Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS), that had to be postponed last year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would like to start by expressing our appreciation to the President of the General Assembly for entrusting us with this important task, that we intend to fulfill with the utmost neutrality, consistency and openness.

As in prior GCTS reviews, the Seventh Review will evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the Strategy, as well as the different developments that have taken place since the Sixth Review. In this regard, throughout the last months we have met with Member States, Regional Groups, UN entities and CSO involved in CT efforts, in order to get a better understanding of the issue. Many important points were addressed and we think that they will be reflected positively during the negotiation process.

In order to start the Review process, we plan to conduct the first meeting on Friday, 5 March 2021 at 10:00 in the General Assembly Hall. Its main purpose will be to listen to the views of the Member States on the different issues of the Review and get advice and direction for our work in the preparation of the Zero Draft of the resolution, which is to be presented by mid-March. We will also provide the Member States further update on the program of work.

At the beginning of the meeting we will invite Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, to brief Member States on the main points of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system in implementing the GCTS.

In case the Member States have any question or would like to schedule bilateral consultations at any time, they are kindly invited to approach Mr. Ahmed Al Zadjali, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of Oman (Email: meer11@gmail.com) and Mr. David Izquierdo, Counselor at the Mission of Spain (Email: david.izquierdo@maec.es).

We look forward to a constructive and fruitful meeting, providing the basis for an effective and successfull Review process.

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

Mohammed Al Hassan Co-facilitator

Permanent Representative of Oman 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