Draft Outcome document of the special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee commemorating the adoption of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the establishment of the Committee

The Counter-Terrorism Committee:


2. Also recalls that resolution 1373 (2001), considering terrorism a serious threat to international peace and security, focuses the efforts of the international community on the need to address the challenge of terrorism through concrete actions at the national, regional and international levels and requires that States, among other actions, criminalize terrorist acts, deny terrorists safe haven and financial resources, ensure that terrorists are brought to justice and cooperate with other States to bring terrorists to justice.

3. Condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, reaffirms that all terrorist acts are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed, reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, or ethnic group, and reaffirms that terrorism should be unequivocally condemned universally.

4. Recognizes that over the past twenty years notable successes have been achieved, and significant steps taken in the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) by Member States, including a significant increase in the number of States becoming party to the international counter-terrorism instruments, the criminalization of terrorist offences, the strengthening of criminal justice systems, the successful prosecution of terrorist cases, and the introduction of robust measures to counter terrorist financing and measures to enhance cooperation at the political, technical and operational levels.

6. Remains deeply concerned that terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, continues to pose a serious threat to international peace and security, and to undermine global stability and prosperity, and that this scourge has become more diffuse, with an increase, in various regions of the world, as evidenced notably by terrorist attacks, including those motivated by intolerance or extremism, and of terrorists’ adaptation to, and use of information and communication technologies for terrorist purposes, including communication, propaganda, financing, planning, recruitment and operational purposes.

7. Notes with concern that terrorist groups have sought to exploit grievances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to radicalize to violence and recruit sympathizers, incite the commission of, and conduct terrorist attacks, and emphasizes the need to continue anticipating, monitoring and mitigating the potential short-, medium- and long-term impacts the pandemic may have on the evolution of the global terrorist threat.

8. Expresses concern that foreign terrorist fighters increase the intensity, duration and intractability of conflicts, may pose a serious threat to their States of origin, the States they transit and the States to which they travel, as well as States neighbouring zones of armed conflict in which foreign terrorist fighters are active and that are affected by serious security burdens, and noting that the threat of foreign terrorist fighters may affect all regions and Member States, even those far from conflict zones, and expressing grave concern that foreign terrorist fighters are using their extremist ideology to promote terrorism.

9. Notes with concern the close connection between terrorism and transnational organized crime, in some contexts and in some regions, including trafficking of illicit drugs, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking, and illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials.

10. Expresses condolences to the families of victims of terrorism, expresses solidarity with countries that have suffered terrorist attacks, and its support for the survivors and victims of violence committed by terrorist groups, including sexual and gender-based violence.

11. Reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and stresses that Member States have the primary responsibility in countering terrorist acts and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

12. Reaffirms that Member States must ensure that any measures taken to counter terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, international refugee and international humanitarian law, underscores that effective counter-terrorism measures and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are complementary and mutually reinforcing, and are an essential part of a successful counter-terrorism effort, and notes the importance of respect for the rule of law so as to effectively prevent and counter terrorism and further notes that failure to comply with these and other international obligations, including under the Charter of the United Nations, is one of the factors contributing to increased radicalization to violence and fosters a sense of impunity.
13. Also reaffirms that, notwithstanding the real and significant achievements of the last twenty years, much remains to be done at the national, regional and international levels to fully implement all provisions of resolution 1373 (2001).

14. Urges all Member States to ensure zero-tolerance towards terrorism and take urgent action to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations through the full and effective implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant international instruments relating to terrorism, and further urges Member States, consistent with their obligations under resolution 1373 (2001), to:

- Prevent those who finance, plan, facilitate or commit terrorist acts from using their respective territories for those purposes against other States or their citizens and to deny safe haven to persons engaged in these activities.

- Afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal proceedings relating to the financing, planning, preparation, perpetration or support of terrorist acts, urges such assistance, inter alia with regard to those States where, or against whose citizens, terrorist acts are committed, including with respect to assistance in obtaining evidence in their possession necessary for the proceedings, and urges States to act in accordance with their obligations under international law, in order to find and bring to justice, extradite or prosecute any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the direct or indirect financing and activities conducted by terrorists or terrorist groups.

- Prevent the movement of terrorists, including the supply of weapons, through effective border controls.

- Take the necessary measures relevant to prevention and suppression of the financing of terrorism, in accordance with their obligations, including those set forth in UNSC resolutions 1373 (2001), 2178 (2014), and 2462 (2019).

- Adopt a whole of government and whole of society approach and stresses the importance of cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, particularly civil society, in countering terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

- Develop comprehensive and integrated national counterterrorism strategies that fully comply with the rule of law, fully respect the dignity and human rights of all, and reach out to, and actively involve all parts of society and all communities.

- Develop and implement comprehensive strategies to effectively address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including radicalization and recruitment for terrorism, and take necessary and appropriate steps to prevent and counter incitement to commit terrorist acts, within a framework of dialogue and understanding and in accordance with their international legal obligations.

- Act cooperatively when taking national measures to prevent terrorists from exploiting technology and communications for terrorist acts, as well as to continue voluntary cooperation
with the private sector and civil society to develop and implement more effective means to counter the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, including by developing counter-terrorist narratives and through innovative technological solutions, all while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in compliance with domestic and international law.

- Continue efforts to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and youth across all counter-terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism approaches and strategies.

15. Underscores also the need of an all-of-UN approach and the importance, in this regard, of strong coordination and cooperation between CTED and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), as they work within their mandates and in their respective roles to ensure effective United Nations engagement to Member States to improve the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner as well as counter-terrorism resolutions, and highlights the important role of the Global Counter Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, particularly UNOCT, and other providers of capacity-building assistance in technical assistance delivery through international cooperation, aimed at achieving impactful deliverables and results.

16. Underlines that the overarching goal of the Committee is to ensure the full implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant resolutions, recalls CTED’s crucial role in supporting the Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate, and resolves to continue its endeavors to promote, monitor and assist Member States to ensure the full implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), with the support of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate including by focusing on ways and means to identify emerging trends and challenges, as well as address gaps in the implementation of the relevant resolutions.