

Joint special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee with Member States, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and other relevant international and regional organizations

“Depriving Terrorist Groups from Accessing, Raising, and Moving Funds: Practices and Lessons Learned”

United Nations Headquarters, New York, 13 December 2016

Closing remarks of

**H.E. Mr. Amr Abdellatif Aboulatta
Chair, Counter-Terrorism Committee**

Excellencies, members of the Committees, ladies and gentlemen,

Our meeting today has given us all an opportunity to consider national practices and regional initiatives to address the threat posed by terrorist financing.

Our discussions have also shed light on a number of effective practices employed by Member States to target money used by, or made available to, terrorists, as well as to disrupt terrorist activity.

Today's meeting provided us with the opportunity to underline the urgency of tackling the financing of terrorism in the broader context of counter-terrorism efforts.

We have discussed States' efforts to identify and address terrorism-financing vulnerabilities, but I also wish to reiterate the importance of improving information-sharing in all counter-terrorism matters, both domestically and internationally.

We must improve our sharing of information with private-sector entities, and we must address obstacles to inter-agency cooperation.

Information should be collected not only by traditional CFT entities, but also by law enforcement, customs and the private sector.

Sharing such information can help strengthen our understanding of the mechanisms used to finance terrorist activities. It can not only inform our policy and operational responses, but also strengthen our ability to prosecute the individuals or entities concerned.

Since the adoption of resolution 2253 (2015), countering terrorism financing has been high on the international community's agenda.

We must maintain this momentum and we must remain focused.

The ISIL core may now have less funding available to support the activities of its affiliates, but terrorist groups and small terrorist cells continue to identify new ways to raise funds, using both traditional and sophisticated techniques.

We have many tools and instruments at our disposal, including many that were developed to fight organized crime.

We must ensure that we use these tools and find ways to overcome institutional barriers.

Countering terrorism financing is a matter of the utmost urgency for our two Committees and for the United Nations as a whole.

I would like to thank the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, FATF, and all the participating experts for their invaluable contributions to our discussions

I thank you all once again for your attention and look forward to pursuing our dialogue in the months to come.

I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. Gerard van Bohemen, Chair of the ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

Thank you.