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**International Day of Remembrance and Tribute
to the Victims of Terrorism**

Ceremony to launch the exhibit “Surviving Terrorism: Victims’ Voices”

United Nations Headquarters, New York, 17 August 2018

Statement of

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*Mr. Secretary-General,
Your Excellencies the Permanent Representatives of Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria and
the United States,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We are about to hear the voices of victims of terrorism.

And we must not only hear, but also listen closely to those voices.

Those voices will ask not for revenge, but rather for justice.

Together with Member States, we at the UN must strengthen our focus on the victims of terrorism, as well as on practical ways to address their needs and concerns.

Our support for the victims should be inspired by our unwavering belief in remembrance, dignity, justice and truth.

We must never forget that the victims of terrorism represent us all, and represent entire communities and societies that have been subjected to acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

And we must never neglect our duty to recognize, protect and assist the victims; to seek justice on their behalf; and to guarantee their rights.

It is now my honour to give the floor to His Excellency, Ambassador Mahmoud Saikal, the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan.