



**Remarks
by**

**H.E. Mr. Michel Tommo Monthe
Acting President**

on behalf of

**H.E. Mr. John W. Ashe
President of the 68th Session of the United Nations
General Assembly**

**The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy:
Report of the Secretary-General (A/68/841)**

**New York
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Fourth Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

12 June 2014

On Behalf of the President of the 68th Session of the
United Nations General Assembly
H. E. Dr. John W. Ashe

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to deliver this statement on behalf of the President of the General Assembly.

At the outset, I would like to thank the Minister of Territorial Administration and Security of Burkina Faso, and the Deputy Ministers of Indonesia, the Philippines, Spain Tanzania and Turkey for their participation in today's Fourth Review of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.

I am also grateful to the Facilitator of the draft resolution for the Fourth Review, H.E. Mr. Y. Halit Çevik, Permanent Representative of Turkey. He has worked assiduously, consulted openly and broadly with Member States to arrive at a consensus on a draft resolution upon which the General Assembly will take action.

Excellencies,

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a strategic and comprehensive policy framework to combat terrorism. Adopted by consensus in 2006, it signifies universal condemnation of terrorist violence and provides guidance to Member States through its four pillars. It is my hope that this Fourth Review of the Strategy will lead to

comprehensive and balanced implementation on the ground, which remains the primary responsibility of Member States, with assistance and support from the United Nations.

The Review also provides an opportunity to take stock of emerging issues and challenges that have grown in relevance over the recent years and to identify the areas where we need to do things differently, or adopt different lines of action.

The Secretary General in his report entitled “United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy” (A/68/841), documents worrying trends in how terrorists operate and how terrorism can spread including through the exploitation of political turbulence and weak governance; the abuse of the Internet; and the evolution of terrorist groups from centrally controlled outfits to a diverse set of loose networks. It further observes that longer-term success in the global counter-terrorism strategy will depend on fuller implementation of Pillars 1 and 4.

In this connection, the President convened an Interactive Dialogue on Addressing conditions conducive to terrorism including through countering the appeal of terrorism. During the Dialogue, participants exchanged information on counter-radicalization, de-radicalization and rehabilitation initiatives.

Many of these initiatives draw on partnerships comprised of multiple actors including civil society. These actors have the ability to penetrate vulnerable and marginalized sections of society. They engage directly with communities and their leaders, help build consensus and understanding on local issues, and contribute to socio-economic development. Civil society organizations are also amongst the first to identify an emerging threat or violent narrative. Better collaboration between Governments and civil society must be encouraged, and the Review provides us with a way to do so.

Support for victims of terrorism must also be a key aspect of our collective efforts. Victims continue to re-live the horrors of terrorism every day, long after the media

attention has dissipated and the attack itself has become a mere memory. The international community must come together to delegitimize terrorism by providing necessary support to victims of terrorism. We need new and innovative responses on this front. The UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, which was launched yesterday, is an excellent example of concrete and meaningful assistance to victims of terrorism, and I would like to appreciate the efforts of the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) in bringing the Portal to fruition. I repeat my call to all States to contribute to the Portal.

The UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) serves as a vital framework to promote coordination and coherence in the Organization's work against terrorism and to better assist Member States in the implementation of the Strategy. The Review allows us to underscore and support enhanced coordination across the UN system and the central role of the CTITF framework.

The establishment of the United Nations Counter-terrorism Centre (UNCCT) within the CTITF Office offers unique opportunities to seek synergies and leverage resources for the UN's counter-terrorism work around the world and make a significant contribution to national and regional efforts. It is my hope that it will further enable the UN to strengthen its counter-terrorism assistance to Member States on the ground.

For his efforts to ensure that the United Nations responds dynamically and in a more coherent manner to the evolving threat of terrorism, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Secretary-General. In particular, I note his efforts to mainstream counter-terrorism in the overall work of the United Nations system.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Fourth Review is given new impetus and urgency by the growth of terrorism in several parts of the world, the evidence of which is fresh in all of our minds. The clear lesson to be drawn is that in such a changed and compelling international context, one

where terrorism is showing that it respects no national borders, we need to be united, vigorous and purposeful in our responses.

The Review will set the direction of the UN system for the next two years, leading up to the 10th Anniversary of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2016. It is therefore an opportunity to make the UN more relevant in the international effort to fight this destructive and deplorable malady confronting our world.

Thank you.
