



MYANMAR

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Statement

by

U Han Thein Kyaw

Alternate Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

On Agenda Item 105

“Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”

Before the Sixth Committee of the

67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

(New York, 9 October 2012)

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Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor, allow me to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your well-deserved election. My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement made by Vietnam on behalf of the ASEAN and the statement made by Iran on behalf of the NAM under this agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to thank the Secretary General for his report on “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”. We are of the view that the United Nations should continue to play a central role in the international community’s effort to combat terrorism. We therefore lend our support to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as it provides a framework for international cooperation to fight international terrorism with concerted efforts. In this regard, Myanmar stands ready to cooperate with the relevant UN bodies and extend its support for the international fight against terrorism. Myanmar is cooperating with the office of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UNCTED) in pursuant to the relevant UNSC resolutions on counter-terrorism including drafting of counter-terrorism and money-laundering laws. It was reflected in the UNSG report in this regard. A draft law on counter-terrorism is being developed with technical assistance from the UNCTED.

Mr. Chairman,

My own country had also been a victim of terrorism. As such, Myanmar has consistently joined the international community in condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We subscribe to the view that counter-terrorism measures should not be allowed to be used as a pretext for any country to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and the measures to combat terrorism should be in line with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. There should not be any link between terrorism and a particular religion, race, culture or identity. Any terrorist acts deserves international community’s condemnation, especially those terrorist acts that has targeted the innocent lives of the people, including vulnerable groups of women and children and diplomats in violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Mr. Chairman,

Myanmar has demonstrated its commitment to the fight against terrorism through its growing participation in the regional and international instruments. Myanmar has so far become a party to 11 international counterterrorism instruments, and a signatory to one. The Government is also looking at the possibility of signing or acceding to the relevant international or regional instruments. At the regional level, Myanmar signed the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT) in 2007 which creates greater regional cooperation in combating international terrorism. These are one of the significant achievements Myanmar has made in this particular area together with other ASEAN and BIMSTEC Member States.

Mr. Chairman,

At the national level, I would like to draw your kind attention to the domestic legislation of Myanmar relating to counter-terrorism. Myanmar's Penal Code of 1861 and Special Laws already contain provisions to deal with terrorist acts. The Control of Money laundering Law and Rules is already in place since 2002. The Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Law was enacted in 2004. Furthermore, Myanmar has established the Central Control Bodies and the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU). We are also a member of the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering. These measures will contribute to the prevention of financing of terrorist activities and transnational crimes.

Mr. Chairman,

In our fight against terrorism, we should pay special attention to the preventive and capacity-building measures, especially for the developing countries. In light of the importance of the counter-terrorism issue, we feel that further deliberations will be needed on the appointment of a UN Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, the important position which is proposed by the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

We cannot overemphasize the need to enhance international cooperation under the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to collectively make an organized response to the scourge of terrorism and international crimes. To that end, provision of assistance for capacity building of developing countries is essential for its greater success. In this regard, Myanmar on its part looks forward to working more closely with other Member States both at the regional and international level in fighting against international terrorism.

I thank you. Mr. Chairman.