

**Statement**  
**By**  
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**Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations**

**At the Sixth Committee for the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly**  
**On**  
**Measures to eliminate international terrorism**  
**New York, 8 October 2012**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me join other representatives in congratulating you on your election to the Chairmanship of the Sixth Committee. My congratulations also go to the other members of the Bureau. I would also like to thank you and the Secretariat for the diligent efforts to prepare the program of work and relevant background documents.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism continues to be one of the most serious threats to peace, stability and security of States and thus activities and measures to prevent and combat terrorism are high on our agenda.

Numerous social, economic, political and other factors exist which engender conditions that terrorist organizations exploit for recruitment and support. Arguably as terrorism is a complex multifaceted phenomenon, prevention of terrorism can be effective only if efforts and measures address a wide spectrum of activities, from international co-operation through national to local action.

United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1373, 1540 and 1963 have been instrumental for fight against terrorism. But there are still gaps in the implementation of the said Resolutions deriving from the lack of either political will or capacity. To avoid contradictions in dealing terrorism, the international community needs to adopt a uniform approach for identifying, defining, condemning, isolating and bringing before justice those who are responsible.

Full compliance with the provisions of the international conventions, especially the 13 major conventions on terrorism, is crucial for success in undertaking.

These conventions on terrorism should be ratified and put into effect by all countries. With this understanding we also expect all Member States to make every effort to conclude the negotiations of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

Taking into account the close connection between terrorist and other criminal organizations and revenue generated from organized crime is a primary source of terrorist financing, we need to focus on, as a priority, the corruption, money-laundering and terrorism financing that enable terrorist and criminal organizations to function.

In this context, international judicial cooperation as regards terrorist organizations and organized crime groups must be regarded as important as security cooperation. Full implementation of principle of “extradite or prosecute” is the prerequisite for success in finding, denying safe haven and bringing to justice those who support, facilitate or participate in terrorist activities. We believe that in the absence of a global judicial cooperation convention, the UN could and should assume a more proactive role in this area.

We need to be firm and coherent in our stance and particularly in our actions against terrorism. Of critical importance is that we all give the same, clear message to terrorists: namely that there is no safe haven or immunity from criminal justice.

Likewise, prevention of movement of terrorists and terrorist groups to and from their territories and supply of weapons for terrorists would be possible by effective border controls and improved cooperation amongst competent authorities. In this context expeditious exchange of information is highly important.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Nations has been the linchpin in counter terrorism efforts. Through the adoption of Global Counter-terrorism Strategy, the General Assembly has created a sound framework in which to fight this challenge. Turkey strongly supports the promotion and implementation of the Strategy on a global level.

We are of the opinion that continuing international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, in an effort to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures, can help counter the

forces that fuel polarization and extremism, and will contribute to strengthening the international fight against terrorism. In this respect Alliance of Civilizations which was launched by Turkey and Spain under the auspices of the Secretary General of the United Nations aims to facilitate harmony and dialogue by emphasizing the common values of different cultures and religions.

Mr. Chairman,

Before concluding, let me emphasize once again that countering terrorism in an effective way can only be achieved through a seamless cooperation among all Member States in an integrated approach.

There is still room for improvement. Our declarations and decisions have to be implemented in full. Closer and more effective cooperation between the General Assembly and the Security Council would be instrumental in this regard. The interface between the UN and member states is also of critical importance. In this vein, we welcome the growing interaction between the Counter Terrorism Committee and member states.

As a staunch advocate of counter-terrorism initiatives, Turkey will continue and redouble its efforts at all levels in time ahead. Our overriding objective will be to mitigate the effects of terrorist acts and to help eradicate this scourge

Thank you.