

ALGERIA



الجزائر

Permanent Mission of Algeria
to the United Nations
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Statement by:

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to the United Nations*

Before the 6th Committee

On agenda item 110

« Measures to eliminate international terrorism »

New York – October 7 2013

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you on your election to the chairmanship of the 6th Committee and assure you of my delegation's full support. My congratulations go also to the other Members of the Bureau.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Iran on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Algeria would like to reiterate its strong and unequivocal condemnation of all forms of terrorism, regardless of its motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. Algeria reiterates also its determination to continue its combat against terrorism, in cooperation with its regional and international partners.

However, we firmly believe that terrorism does neither belong to a specific religion and civilization, nor to a particular culture or nationality. It is important also to avoid confusion with the legitimate struggle of people under colonial and foreign occupation to achieve their inalienable right to self-determination.

Mr. Chairman,

Algeria's efforts to combat terrorism and improve regional and international awareness and cooperation in that regard, predate the manifestation of major acts of international terrorism. Algeria has sought from the beginning to strengthen efforts against terrorism at the African level and as a result, many instruments and initiatives have emerged and are playing today a very important role in enhancing the effectiveness of the African efforts.

In this respect, and through the decision condemning the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups, the appointment of a Special Representative for Counterterrorism Cooperation and also the establishment of a subcommittee on terrorism within the AU Council for Peace and security, the African Union is fully committed to the fight against terrorism in all its forms.

Mr. Chairman,

Nowhere else than in the Sahel region, the concept of coordination and cooperation can find its full potential. In view of the prevailing situation which

requires both coordination and strengthening the capacities of the countries of the region on the basis of the ownership principle, Algeria has engaged in a concerted approach through many mechanisms of cooperation, such as the countries of the Field, the working Group on the Sahel co-chaired by Algeria and Canada under the Global Counterterrorism Forum, the Joint Operational General Staff Committee (CEMOC), the Fusion and Liaison Unit (UFL), and many other Forums which remain of a great contribution to facilitate the deepening of security cooperation between the concerned countries, through coordination and strengthening of border control measures, as well as through intelligence sharing.

While expressing our satisfaction for the liberation of the northern parts of Mali from the control of the terrorist groups and the restoration of the constitutional order and the success of the presidential election in this country, the root causes behind instability still need to be addressed according to the findings of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, including through a long-term development agenda for the region.

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, Algeria expresses once again the urgency to conclude this instrument and calls upon Member States involved in the negotiations to work in a constructive and genuine manner in order to overcome the difficulties and contribute to strengthening the existing legal counter-terrorism framework.

We are fully aware of the difficulties that the process has been experiencing during the last years, in particular with respect to the definition of terrorism. Algeria reiterates that this definition should be in line with the United Nations Charter and the International Law, and should avoid any confusion between acts of terrorism and the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or foreign occupation to achieve their inalienable right to self determination, as endorsed by the General Assembly resolution 46/51 and other related United Nations documents.

Algeria reiterates in this regards, its support for the convening of a high-level Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a common stand to eradicate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Such a Conference would highly contribute to overcoming the remaining outstanding issues and reaching the required consensus on the text.

Mr. Chairman,

Algeria welcomes the measures that have been adopted during the third biennial review of the Strategy, held on 28-29 June 2012, aiming at strengthening cooperation between all stakeholders in fighting terrorism by enhancing, inter-alia, the mobilization of resources and the exchange of expertise and best practices. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) plays, in this regard, a very important role by ensuring overall coordination and coherence and assisting Member States in terms of technical support, policy making and capacity building.

For its part, and through the important work done during the first year, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) has proved to be a useful institution which adds value to the United Nations counter-terrorism efforts and which is steadily becoming one of the key counterterrorism actors. As one of the Advisory Board Members, Algeria reiterates its appreciation and sincere gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the recent generous donation of 100 million USD made to the Centre by the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques King Abdullah, as a demonstration of his commitment to the work of the Centre.

Algeria expresses its satisfaction with the level of cooperation with UN bodies involved in the counter-terrorism endeavor, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) which has organized recently on 16-18 June 2013 in Algiers, a workshop for North African countries on the implementation of the Security Council resolution 1624.

Mr. Chairman,

Before concluding, I wish once again to draw the attention of this Assembly to the issue of financing of terrorism.

Building on the provisions of the general Assembly resolution 67/99, in particular its paragraph 8 expressing “concern at the increase in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concession by terrorist groups”, Algeria calls upon the international community to take concrete measures for countering the financing of terrorism, including by refusing and rejecting unequivocally the payment of ransom to terrorist groups.

I thank you.
