

**Statement**

**By**

**the Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**

**at**

**the Sixth Committee**

**On**

**Agenda Item 110**

**Measures to eliminate International Terrorism**

**68<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNGA**

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**New York**

**Mr. Chairman,**

At the outset, let me start by extending my congratulation to you and other members of the Bureau on your election.

Ethiopia associates itself to the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Iran on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement.

Terrorism continues to be one of the central challenges of our times and is manifested in its destructive nature in different parts of the world thereby undermining the cardinal principles of maintaining international peace and security, which we all stand for and uphold.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In recent years, the horn of Africa region has witnessed an alarming threat from extremist groups which represent a new dimension in the strategy of terrorism by expanding the scope of their terrorist activities outside of national borders. The recent terrorist attack in Kenya, that claimed the lives of innocent civilians and left many more injured, is glaring evidence that our commitment to fight terrorism and extremism in the region and beyond must be renewed and further strengthened. My delegation wishes to seize this opportunity to express, once again, our heartfelt condolences to the people and government of Kenya as well as the families of the victims of this cowardly terrorist act.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Ethiopia has also been a victim of this scourge for many years now. In the early 1990s, Ethiopia became among the first target of international and domestic terrorist attacks. The anarchy, the belligerent nature, the changing political dynamics and the symbiosis between the domestic and regional negative forces have contributed to the expansion of terror networks in our region. The people of Ethiopia have paid dearly from these attacks which targeted hotels, public transport vehicles, markets and attacked civilians. These attacks caused severe casualties including the loss of lives, bodily injuries, and property damage that worth millions of dollars.

**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation strongly believes that international counter terrorism effort needs to be strengthened to prevail over the growing threat to international peace and security posed by acts of terrorism. Ethiopia, as a member state of the United Nations, the African Union and the Inter Governmental Authority on Development, reiterates its resolve to join hands to the fight against international terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations.

Ethiopia has ratified the OAU declaration on the Code of Conduct for Inter-African Relations as well as the Algiers OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, which provides the legislative framework for combating terrorism at the continental level. Ethiopia has also ratified and became a party to nine international agreements on combating terrorism.

My Government has taken a number of legal and administrative measures to implement these regional and international agreements and the counter-terrorism resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council. Ethiopia has been cooperating with UN organs in the follow up on the list of individuals and organs which are under

sanction by the Security Council as per the recommendations of the Counter Terrorism Committees and the Sanction Group.

**Mr. Chairman,**

My Government, taking into accounts its duty of protecting the right of the people to live in peace, freedom and security, at all times free from the threat of terrorism; puts in place legal mechanisms and procedures to prevent, control and foil terrorism. This includes setting up enhanced investigation and prosecution systems to gather and compile sufficient information and evidences in order to bring to justice suspected individuals and organizations for acts of terrorism, Ethiopia has put in place a normative framework to prevent and suppress the acts of terrorism. The Counter Terrorism Proclamation No. 652/2009 and the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism Proclamation 780/2013 have been instrumental in curbing the threats.

My Government has also established a National Anti-Terrorism Coordinating Committee comprising the appropriate government organs, including the Ministry of Justice, the National Intelligence and Security Services and the Federal Police, to address the threat of terrorism holistically.

Moreover, the Financial Intelligence Center, established pursuant to Council of Ministers Regulation No. 171/2009, has the mandate to coordinate the various institutions involved in the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our firm commitment to the efforts being made by the United Nations in the fight against international terrorism. As Ethiopia attaches greater importance to multilateral cooperation in this connection, we strongly believe that the struggle against terrorism could only be effective if we address it collectively.

**Thank You!**