



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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317 East 51<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022. Tel: (212) 750 0039, [www.un.int/lao](http://www.un.int/lao)

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**Statement  
by  
H.E.Dr. Khiane PHANSOURIVONG,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Lao PDR to the United  
Nations  
on behalf of  
the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)  
at  
the Sixth Committee of the 69th Session of the United Nations  
General Assembly on  
"Measures to eliminate international terrorism"  
(Agenda item: 107)**

**New York, 7 October 2014**

*(Please check against delivery)*

**Mr. Chairman,**

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that comprises of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

2. Let me first sincerely congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your elections. ASEAN is certain that with the vast experience of all members of the Bureau the deliberations of this Committee will be conducted wisely and ably.

**Mr. Chairman,**

3. ASEAN welcomes the report made by the Secretary General of the United Nations entitled "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" as contained in the document A/69/209.

4. International terrorism is a global concern; the acts of terrorism not only undermine the international peace and security but, it also hinders the nations' development efforts, it creates a climate of fear and, it leads to injustice in societies. Therefore, ASEAN strongly supports the efforts of the international community in the fight against terrorism. Terrorism, in any forms and manifestations as well as any motives, is unjustifiable and thus the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

5. International terrorism has a complex nature and thus it requires comprehensive approach and concerted efforts from international community. With that, ASEAN supports the United Nations' Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. However, although the UN's Strategy have undertaken positive steps to improve the implementation, there still remain more work to be done especially in strengthening its implementation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

6. The fourth review of the United Nations' Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy that was held in June this year is a testament to the fact that the international community continues to denounce the acts of terrorism and to affirm their resolve to combat terrorism. ASEAN appreciates the work done by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and other relevant UN bodies for their support and assistance to the Member States in the fight against terrorism in the past years and hope that such good work will continue in the coming years.

7. ASEAN has incessantly undertake collective efforts at regional and international levels to fight against international terrorism that is in line with the United Nations' Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and all relevant United Nations conventions and resolutions. On 26 September 2014, ASEAN Foreign Ministers issued Statement on the Rise of Violence and Brutality Committed by Terrorist/Extremist Organizations in Iraq and Syria. In the Statement, ASEAN supported UNSC Resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014) on foreign terrorist fighters as well as renew its commitment to work with the international community to fight against terrorism.

**Mr. Chairman,**

8. The primary framework for ASEAN cooperation in combating terrorism is the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT). The ACCT not only enhances the ASEAN's regional strategic role but it also complements the UN's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the international conventions on counter-terrorism and the relevant UN resolutions.

9. The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) is the main ASEAN body dealing with the issue of terrorism which also oversees the monitoring and implementation of the ACCT.

10. At the 24th ASEAN Summit in Myanmar in May 2014, ASEAN leaders reaffirmed their commitment to intensifying and strengthening regional cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States in tackling terrorism and transnational crimes. The leaders also encouraged relevant sectoral bodies to enhance their cooperation and coordination in addressing the root of the causes of terrorism; countering, preventing and suppressing terrorists' networks; protecting the people of ASEAN and; reducing the vulnerability of critical infrastructures against terrorist attacks.

11. At the 12th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting (ISM) on counter-terrorism and transnational crime in Bali on 14-16 April 2014, the objective is to continually intensify its efforts on strengthening cooperation in counter-terrorism and transnational crimes by reviewing the ARF work plan. The updated work plan for 2014-2015 includes, amongst other things, cyber security, cyber terrorism and, counter-radicalisation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

12. ASEAN reiterates that terrorism cannot and must not be associated with any religion, race, nationality or ethnicity. Whilst fighting against terrorism, respect human rights and providing fundamental freedoms as stipulated in the UN Charter,

the main principles of international law, especially the international humanitarian and human rights law shall be respected.

13. ASEAN hopes to see a world that is free from the ugly scourge of terrorism. Thus ASEAN calls on UN Member States to join efforts to combat terrorism by implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy including the relevant UN Conventions and resolutions. For ASEAN part, we will actively cooperate within the UN legal framework on combating terrorism.

14. ASEAN reaffirms the importance of the further deliberations on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the Sixth Committee and hopes to see the finalization of the Convention. We therefore call on UN Member States to work together to address the outstanding issues in a constructive manner.

**I thank you, Mr. Chairman.**