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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT
BY
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COUNSELLOR, PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS
AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 69TH SESSION OF
UNGA
ON
AGENDA ITEM 108
“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM”

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NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset, to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your elections to guide the work of this Committee. My delegation assures you and the Bureau members of its full cooperation and support.

I would like also to express my appreciation to the Secretary General for his informative and comprehensive report on measures to eliminate international terrorism.

Ethiopia associates itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

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 the United Nations stands for and upholds as an organization. It is beyond doubt that there is an urgent need to intensify our efforts to effectively address this challenge through concerted counter terrorism measures.

As we all know, terrorism is a complex and ever-changing phenomenon in terms of its motivation, financing and support mechanisms, methods of attack and choice of targets. The international community should be concerned about the increasing use, in a globalized society, by terrorists of new information and communication technologies. The use of the internet by terrorist groups for a variety of purposes is not new. It has become a common phenomenon that terrorists turn increasingly to the internet and its supported mediums to raise money, recruit supporters, communicate information and spread propaganda. The international community's response to this challenge, however, has been inadequate.

Ethiopia like countries of our sub-region, has been faced with this problem for some time. In our case, it goes back to early 1990s. But the threat has grown by leaps and bounds now, as can be attested by the terrorist activities perpetrated by Al-Shabaab and other Al-Qaeda affiliated groups.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy should serve as a basis to enhance the national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. While the primary responsibility of implementing the strategy rests with member states, international, regional and sub-regional organizations should continue to play a key role in promoting counter-terrorism cooperation. The joint response of the international community also has to be long-term and multi-pronged, addressing various conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including dialogue, understanding, countering the appeal of terrorism.

Ethiopia has taken a number of measures with regards to the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. Legislative measures are some of the preventive measures taken. In this connection, my government has enacted counter terrorism proclamation in 2009 that would impose severe penalty ranging from imprisonment to capital punishment against convicted terrorists. Additional legislations on money laundering and financing of terrorism has been passed. My government has also established a Financial Intelligence Center which is responsible for coordinating various governmental institutions that are involved in the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

My country is also engaged in multilateral as well as regional activities in the fight against terrorism. We have put in place a legal framework for joint investigation at

inter-agency level and international cooperation for joint investigation in collaboration with our neighboring countries and Interpol.

Ethiopia has ratified and became a party to many regional and international agreements on combating terrorism. We have also taken a number of legal and administrative measures to implement those agreements and undertook additional actions to implement the counter-terrorism resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council. In this regard, it is important to highlight that 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 Counter terrorism Committees.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation also would like to express once again Ethiopia's commitment to cooperate fully with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), and regional bodies such as the African Union and Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD), of which Ethiopia is a member.

As I conclude, Mr. Chairman, let me express my country's concern over the fact that there is still no effective international cooperation to address the threat of terrorism. Double standard still abounds. As long as terrorism is not bitterly fought ,whoever the targets might be, the fight will not succeed. Moreover, those who support terrorist groups even indirectly should be held accountable. In this connection, we strongly believe that the struggle against terrorism could only be effective if we address it collectively.

I Thank You!