

# Islamic Republic of

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Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Statement by:

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Before the Sixth Committee  
On Agenda item 107:  
**“Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”**

New York, 8 October 2014

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

**Mr. Chairman,**

I would like to join other delegations in congratulating you on your well deserved election as the Chairman of this Committee. My congratulation also goes to other members of the Bureau. I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation. I would also like to begin with aligning myself with the statements delivered yesterday by the distinguished speakers on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Islamic Republic of Iran has long been a victim of terrorism, and is still suffering from terrorist attacks under different forms and manifestations, including State terrorism. To cite examples since last year, I should refer to the terrorist attacks in Iran's southeastern border area, including the killing and abduction of a number of the border guards. Terrorists also targeted several Iranian diplomats and diplomatic premises in Beirut, Sana'a and Peshawar resulting in loss of life and injury of diplomats, staff of the missions and pacifist nearby civilians. So like many others victims, we think there is no need for further proof to necessitate a genuine unified comprehensive approach to counter terrorism, including state terrorism.

So sadly, state terrorism continues to endanger peace, security and basic human rights of people. State terrorism has targeted scientific and technological development by assassinating the elite human resources in the developing countries. State terrorism abhorrently targets civilian populations and deliberately attacks women and children sheltered in recognized protected places to break their determination in order to advance its repressive policies. And we still face a big challenge in countering

terrorism: double standards and selective approaches in dealing with terrorism. Such ill approaches, we warn, would undermine international trust and cooperation in countering terrorism worldwide. We need a united international community in fighting this scourge in an indiscriminate manner.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The threat of terrorism continues to affect our societies and we still seem to be far from uprooting this menace. We are grateful to Member States for the adoption of resolution A/68/127 titled “A World against Violence and Violent Extremism” known as “WAVE” last December. If we look at the current situation and escalation of violent extremism and terrorism in Syria and Iraq, which we condemn in the strongest terms, we see how pertinent was this resolution and the core idea it proposes. It strives to promote a comprehensive collective plan to counter extremism and terrorism, and to advance respectful mutual dialogue with a view to make a secure and peaceful world for all, free from violence and extremism.

President Rouhani rightly described it during this year of the General Assembly’s general debate: “perhaps in the past year, few people could forecast the fire that would rage today. Now uninhibited violence and extremism present an imminent threat to the world. It is self-evident that without an accurate understanding of how the current condition came about we will not be able to find the right solutions. Today, again, we shall warn against the spread of extremism and the danger posed by the inadequate understanding, [wrong policies] and incorrect [non-inclusive] approach to this phenomenon”.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We are of the view that countering terrorism should be done in full conformity with the United Nations Charter, international law, international human rights and humanitarian law. One bold departure of this conformity is labeling other states for political purposes. We strongly reject the unilateral preparation of lists accusing other States of so-called “sponsoring terrorism” and any consequences thereof, which is inconsistent with international law and is merely exploited as a political tool to advance other agendas and political goals of enlisting governments. Such unilateral acts would only undermine urgently required joint efforts by all States to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

There should also be genuine and factual criteria for states when dealing with listing and de-listing of terrorist organizations. A notorious terrorist organization responsible for countless terrorist attacks targeting Iranian civilians was de-listed from the terrorist blacklist of some States in recent years. Although the listing of the well-known terrorists itself did not bother their relevant authorities to end impunity for its leaders and perpetrators of terrorist acts against Iranian people, but de-listing them came as a good news to terrorists and a bad news to thousands of victims and their families in Iran. It unfortunately proved how terrorism can be subject to politics for some parties.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation. Iran opposes any attempt to equate the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation with terrorism. Such equation is aimed at prolonging occupation of the territories and oppression of their people. The use of State power for suppression and violence against peoples struggling in opposition to foreign occupation and in exercising their inalienable right to self-determination should continue to be condemned. This is extremely important when it comes for any definition of terrorism including in any legal instrument.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Iran has serious concern on the fairness and impartiality of multinational financial action entity known as FATF, created initially by a small group of countries that unfoundedly rank UN Member-States in terms of financing terrorism and money laundering. While we commend efforts aimed at capacity building for better cooperation in cutting any support to terrorist groups, we warn against any attempt to categorize States in this regard. The issue of financing of terrorism should be addressed in an impartial, objective, technical and non-political manner. No entity is authorized nor entitled to create rankings among States, which is unconstructive and which only impedes mutual cooperation.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Iran uses all opportunities at hand to boost further understanding and cooperation among nations in countering violent extremism and terrorism. During the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of "Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization" in Tehran last month, a special event on legal aspects of countering violent extremism and terrorism was held in which high level participants expressed their views on this issue. The outcome of the meeting reflected in a consensus resolution, which among other things "reaffirms that violent extremism constitutes a serious common concern for all Member States threatening the security and well being of their societies, and convinced that there is no justification for violent extremism, whatever the motivation". It also "urges for action on international, regional and bilateral levels to fight impunity against acts of violent extremism and its manifestations, *inter alia*, by adopting, implementing relevant national legislation, bilateral and multilateral instruments". Iran is fully committed to counter violent extremism and terrorism and stands ready to cooperate with other partners in this regard.

**I thank you**