



**PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**STATEMENT**

by H.E. Mr. Milorad Šćepanović

Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations

Before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly

on item 107: „Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism“

New York 8 October 2014

*Please check against delivery*

Mr Chairman,

On behalf on my delegation, I wish to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election and wish to assure you of our support and cooperation.

Montenegro fully aligns itself with the statement of the EU.

Mr Chairman,

With the current uprising of terrorism activities we are becoming more aware of the fact that this is one of the major threats of global security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Fight against this global challenge request integrated and well-coordinated response and commitment of all states to continue analyzing and monitoring all aspects of potential threats and act appropriately on their prevention. This is why strengthening cooperation on the national, regional and international level, as the most effective and irreplaceable tool, has to be a priority. Fully cognizant of the fact that national actions, no matter how effective, can never be sufficient for eradication of terrorism, Montenegro actively participates in the prevention and suppression of terrorism at all levels, multilateral and bilateral and contributes to the strengthening and development of anti-terrorism cooperation.

Montenegro uses this opportunity to once again reiterate its condemnation of terrorism, in all its forms, and express our full commitment to fight against this phenomenon. We share the views that the role of the United Nations in this fight is crucial, both on the global agenda as well as on the level of assisting member states in their abilities to prevent such acts. With that in mind Montenegro strongly supports the efforts of the United Nations in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which serves as a foundation for effective and comprehensive response to counter terrorism at all level. We also recognize the important role of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which is providing, promoting and coordinating international cooperation in this field and Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee, with whom Montenegro has active cooperation.

Mr Chairman,

The threat that foreign fighters cause to our security system is far greater today than it has ever been in previous conflicts. We recognize that there is no military solution to fight this problem, but recently adopted Security Council Resolution 2178 will certainly serve as a valuable tool in prevention and fighting international terrorism. With that in mind, I take this opportunity to remind that Montenegro was among the first cosponsors of the resolution and once again convey our commitment to actively implement it through amending our Criminal code, with respect to prescribing penalties for the participation of mercenaries in third countries.

We must not forget that fundamental freedoms of people, such as human rights and rule of law, are essential institutional pillars in the fight against terrorism. Therefore, we must take all necessary measures to ensure that our fight against this phenomenon complies with international law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law. Terrorism in all its means and its methods of prevention presents a litmus test for the sustainability of these instruments and for the rule of law as a whole, and we must not fail on it.

Mr Chairman,

Montenegro has never faced a terrorist act. But given that global terrorism and organized crime pose a serious threat to international peace and security, we are continuously improving the system for prevention of terrorist activities. Such measures require cooperation between relevant institutions both on national and international level.

Allow me to recall that Montenegro is a party to major international counter-terrorism conventions and dedicated to promoting cooperation in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions, international conventions and other instruments. In order to fight terrorism in all its forms, Montenegro is implementing a national strategy for the prevention and suppression of terrorism, money laundering and financing of terrorism and continues to improve cooperation between the institutions by implementing international standards in defining the principles and procedures.

Mr. Chairman,

International cooperation in the adoption of international legal instruments, applying conventions and protocols, exchanging information, experience and good practice in the implementation of counter-terrorist measures will stay as our priorities in order to strengthen cooperation in international legal assistance. Montenegro will also continue exploring possible new terrorist threats and developing appropriate mechanisms and countermeasures against, as well as strengthen our professional, technical, scientific and educational dimensions. As a society we will do our best to suppress this negative phenomenon in order to ensure security of our citizens, their well-being, as well as to improve our business environment – shortly, to create a prosperous society, a society that will use all its possibilities towards citizens in order to marginalize terrorist impact on everyday life.

I thank you Mr Chairman.