



Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations New York

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STATEMENT BY MS. STEPHANIE GEBREMEDHIN AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF
THE 70TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON AGENDA
ITEM 108: "MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM"

12 October 2015

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me join others in congratulating you and other members of the Bureau on your elections. We are confident that under your Chairmanship you will lead us towards a successful session of the Sixth Committee. I want to assure you of my delegation's full support in your endeavor.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished Representative of South Africa and Iran on behalf of the African Group and the Non-Aligned Movement respectively under this agenda item.

Eritrea reaffirms its unequivocal condemnation of extremism and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Acts of terrorism should not be associated with any single religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. In combating extremism and terrorism, Eritrea believes any action taken must be consistent with international law.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism and extremism continue to pose a major challenge to international peace and security as well as development. It is increasingly becoming global in its appeal, complex in its means and more horrendous in its destruction.

In many parts of the Sub-Saharan Africa and Middle East it has been a specter and it is real and mounting. The crisis in Yemen, as well as the spread of terrorism and extremism threatens the Horn of Africa and Red Sea region, including Eritrea. Effectively combating and eliminating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations requires collective action as well as international cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

Eritrea continues to strengthen its cultural and legal instruments to prevent, suppress and fight all types of extremism and terrorism. The recently published Eritrean penal code is one of its achievements. In September 2014, it has enacted the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Proclamation.

Eritrea's role and contribution to the regional fight against terrorism is a matter of public record. Eritrea is party to the AU/OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and other relevant regional conventions, including the CEN-SAD Convention on Mutual Assistance in Security Matters. In June 2015, Eritrea participated at the Regional Conference on Countering Violent Extremism which was held in Nairobi.

Eritrea supports United Nations efforts to address the danger of terrorism and believes that the balanced implementation of all pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is crucial. It also co-sponsored and welcomes UN Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014) as an effort to strengthen international cooperation to combat all types of extremism and terrorism. Eritrea participated at the Special Session of the Counter Terrorism Committee that took place in Madrid, Spain from 27-28 July 2015, aimed at discussing ways to stem the flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, Eritrea with 1,200 kilometers of coastline and more than 350 islands, located in the volatile Horn of Africa and the Red Sea Region, with 50% Christian and 50% Moslem population is a peaceful and harmonious country. Any development or activity concerning the issue of peace and security in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea Region directly affects Eritrea's security and economic development. As a member of the United Nations, Eritrea is fully committed to the UN Security Council resolutions to fight global terrorism and extremism. Therefore, for Eritrea to effectively contribute to the fight against global terrorism and extremism and to protect its sovereignty and territorial waters, it is paramount for the UN Security Council to unconditionally and immediately lift the unjust sanctions. Lifting the unjust sanctions will enhance peace and security in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea Region while maintaining the sanctions is a recipe for disaster and chaos.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman