



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY MR. STEFAN BARRIGA, MINISTER, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Mr. Chairman

Liechtenstein strongly condemns all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We also reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the fullest extent to the international fight against terrorism in all its aspects, including through cooperation with the relevant UN bodies. Liechtenstein has ratified all UN counter-terrorism treaties and the amendments thereto, and we fully cooperate with and implement the decisions of relevant UN organs, such as the Security Council's Counter-terrorism Committee and the Al Qaida Sanctions Committee. As a member of the Group of Like-minded Countries, Liechtenstein will continue to promote the effectiveness and legitimacy of terrorism-related sanctions regimes. We would like to pay tribute to the former Ombudsperson, Ms. Kimberly Prost, whose pioneering work has greatly improved the Al Qaida sanctions list, and we welcome her successor, Ms. Catherine Marchi-Uhel. We call upon the Council to further enhance fair and clear procedures, and to apply them to other sanctions regimes, as appropriate.

Mr. Chairman

The United Nations stands at the center of our global efforts to combat terrorism. The respective roles of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the UN Secretariat are complementary and mutually reinforcing. The Sixth Committee has also made important

contributions in the past, in particular by drafting numerous international conventions in the field of counter-terrorism. Particular mention should be made of the 1997 Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, the 1999 Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Financing, and the 2005 Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Somewhat unfairly, though, this Committee is more famous for what it has not achieved: agreement on a general convention on counter-terrorism, which would fill the gaps between the various sectoral conventions.

In 2005, our Heads of State mandated us in the World Summit Outcome to conclude the negotiations, and to do so during the *sixtieth* session. Since then, we have failed ten times to complete this mandate. With the credibility of the Sixth Committee on the line, we should acknowledge that we are unable to fulfill this task and let the work continue in another forum – but not before giving it one last try during the coming weeks. This will require primarily flexibility and political will from those delegations who – for different reasons – have so far not expressed support for the Coordinator’s compromise proposal. Liechtenstein has supported this proposal since the beginning, as it strikes a reasonable balance between the entrenched positions of some delegations, and as it ensures that the Convention would not jeopardize applicable rules of international humanitarian law. The compromise proposal and extensive legal explanations have been on the table for a long time. Let us finally move forward.

I thank you.