



# THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Korea  
Sixth Committee of the 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the General Assembly  
Measures to eliminate international terrorism (agenda item 108)**

**4 October 2016  
New York**

**<Check against Delivery>**

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Mr. Chairman,

1. Since this is the first time the Republic of Korea takes the floor, please allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your elections and to assure you of our full support and cooperation during the deliberations of this Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Terrorist groups such as ISIL are endangering the Middle East and beyond. This is not simply a threat to one country or one region. Rather, it affects us all. Nowadays, in particular, terrorist threats are evolving into various transnational forms, as seen from the increase in the number of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) entering Syria, the expansion of extremist propaganda disseminated through the internet, and homegrown terrorist attacks by 'lone wolves.' There can never be any excuse for trampling the norms of humanity or the random killing of civilians, including women and children. The Republic of Korea firmly upholds its stance that all terrorist acts, in any form, cannot be tolerated or justified under any circumstances. My delegation remains committed to jointly fighting to end terrorism.

3. In this regard, we commend the efforts of the Secretary-General and relevant UN organs in leading the fight against international terrorism. The adoption of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by consensus in 2006 has given the UN a robust foundation for serving as a strategic leader on counter-terrorism initiatives. The UN is well positioned to play a crucial role in countering global terrorism by providing analyses and strategic guidance in addressing new counterterrorism challenges. In this context, Korea welcomes the recent unanimous adoption of Security Council resolution 2309 concerning countering the ongoing danger posed by terrorism to civil aviation.

4. Given the lack of adequate enforcement mechanisms in the international community, it is essential that each country faithfully and fully implement relevant Security Council resolutions and other obligations under international law at the national level, while simultaneously bolstering mutual cooperation with a view towards bridging capacity gaps and limitations.

5. The Republic of Korea, as a party to most of the major conventions against terrorism in effect, has already put in place necessary implementation measures, and is also accelerating its efforts to implement resolutions 2170, 2178, 2253, and 2309. First, Korea launched an interagency review process, including joint meetings of all relevant domestic authorities in order to strengthen information sharing, border control, and law enforcement. Second, we enhanced measures to monitor the travel of foreign terrorist fighters. In addition to restricting the entry of individuals designated by the Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee, we are tightly monitoring those who are travelling to, or through, Korea by making use of Interpol databases and Advance Passenger Information System (APIS). We are also collecting other countries' best practices through bilateral consultations. Furthermore, as part of our ongoing efforts to implement UNSC resolutions, the National Assembly of Korea enacted the Act on the Prevention of Terrorism for Protection of the People and Public Safety in March of this year. Through these efforts, we look forward to sharing our own lessons learned with other countries and strengthening relevant bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Violent extremism and terrorism breed on various plagues of society, such as discrimination, poverty, unemployment, marginalization, and inequality. These are multi-faceted challenges, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution. A sustained, inclusive, and holistic approach is therefore crucial to deal with the evolving scope and nature of terrorist threats, to eradicate the root causes of extremist attitudes, and to further reintegrate extremists into society. In this regard, we would like to emphasize the importance of global cooperation on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE), which aims to address economic and social factors triggering radicalization and prevent vulnerable people from being exposed to extremism. Last July, Korea hosted one of the regional workshops to follow up on the Washington Summit on CVE by teaming up with the Hedayah Center. The workshop functioned as a meaningful forum for participants to share various CVE policies and experiences and explore ways for East Asia to cooperate in CVE. This year, we will organize a Korea-ASEAN workshop in Indonesia with the aim to further enhance CVE/PVE capability in the region.

Mr. Chairman,

7. For the past several years, the negotiations for the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism have remained at an impasse and substantial challenges are yet to be overcome. The scale and dimension of terrorist threats and sufferings we face today, however, call for flexibility in order to bring the negotiations to a close. We believe it is imperative to collectively go forward, rising above our differences. In this vein, the Government of the Republic of Korea reiterates its firm commitment to be a constructive part of our concerted efforts to materialize our dream which is way overdue, that is, an agreement on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. /End/