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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

H.E. AMBASSADOR MAHLET H. GUADEY

DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

AT

THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

ON

AGENDA ITEM 109

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

72nd SESSION OF THE UNGA

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NEW YORK

Mr. Chairperson

Allow me at the outset, to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election to steer the work of this Committee. My delegation assures you and the Bureau members of its full cooperation and support.

We express our appreciation to the Secretary General for his report on measures to eliminate international terrorism as contained in document A/72/111.

Ethiopia associates itself with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the Group of African States and the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairperson,

The scourge of terrorism remains to be one of the biggest peace and security threats of our time, and as such requires a globally coordinated response. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in this regard, provides a global framework for enhancing national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. While the primary responsibility of implementing the Strategy rests with each member state, international, regional and sub-regional organizations should continue to play a key role in promoting counter-terrorism cooperation. It is worth mentioning here the very important role that the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) has been playing in implementing the Global Strategy. We welcome the recent creation of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General; and it is our hope that the Office will enhance greater coherence and synergy among UN entities working on counterterrorism.

The Security Council Counter-terrorism architecture, established by resolution 1373 (2001), which includes the CTC and CTED, is another important global framework to combat terrorism and violent extremism. The CTC and CTED have greatly contributed in enhancing the capacity of Member States to prevent terrorist activities.

Mr. Chairperson,

Despite the significant progress made in these and other international frameworks, the international cooperation to address the threat of terrorism remains to be ineffective and terrorists continue to pose serious threat to international peace and security. Double standard still abounds.

As terrorism is a complex and ever changing phenomenon in terms of its motivation, financing and support mechanisms, methods of attack and choice of targets; it calls for all of us more than ever to rise to the challenge and successfully combat terrorism by exerting a concerted and equally sophisticated mechanisms geared towards effectively addressing new and emerging challenges. It is our hope that all of us are up to the challenge.

On its part, **Mr. Chairperson**, Ethiopia strives to implement its obligation in the aforementioned UN mechanisms as well as other international and regional counter-terrorism frameworks. But we see this not only as a matter of carrying out our obligation. We find ourselves in a volatile neighborhood, which is facing threats of terrorism and violent extremism and we consider effective international and regional cooperation on countering terrorism and violent extremism as a matter of absolute necessity. I would like to seize this opportunity to applaud the important role the IGAD Center of Excellence in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism has started to play in promoting regional sharing of good practices and lessons learnt in preventing and countering violent extremism initiative and in bringing together stakeholders in

the region to ensure an inclusive and holistic approach. Ensuring continued support to this sub-regional Center is critically important.

Ethiopia has ratified nine of the international counter-terrorism instruments, and the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, while enacting appropriate policy and legal measures and establishing appropriate institutional frameworks to implement these regional and international instruments. While we have registered quiet a number of strides in this regard, we are the first to admit that a lot remains to be done. Ethiopia always remains ready to continue to work with Member states, UN and other stakeholders in countering the menace of terrorism.

In conclusion, let me reiterate Ethiopia's support to the call for an International Summit on Terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations including identifying its root causes; as well as the conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention for Combating International Terrorism. We call upon member states to show flexibility in resolving the outstanding issues.

I thank you!