



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

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STATEMENT

BY

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OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TO THE

SIXTH COMMITTEE

ON

AGENDA ITEM 109:
"MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM"

DURING

THE 72ND SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your deserving election. Allow me to assure you of my delegation's cooperation and support throughout the work of the Committee.

Kenya associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the distinguished representative of Algeria on behalf of the African Group.

Kenya has suffered and is still suffering from the scourge of terrorism. We express solidarity with Member states that have suffered from terrorism in the recent past including Mali, Libya, United Kingdom, France, Afghanistan, Iraq, amongst others. Kenya condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Kenya takes note of the Secretary-General's report on measures to eliminate international terrorism and values the sincere engagement of the Secretary-General for a successful review of the UN counter terrorism architecture. We welcome the establishment of the UN Office for Counterterrorism and seize this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Vladimir Voronkov on his appointment as head of this Office. We believe the much-needed coherence and improved coordination will be realized following the elevation of UN Counterterrorism efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

Kenya believes that no single nation can win the war against terrorism alone. That is why Kenya has ratified and domesticated all International conventions against transnational organized crime including the relevant protocols on terrorism and associated crimes such as money laundering, drug trafficking, human trafficking and corruption.

However, the emergence and expansion of transnational crime, including terrorism, confronts all justice systems with new challenges. Criminal offenders, including terrorists are mobile and often seek to evade detection, arrest, and punishment by operating across international borders. They avoid being caught by taking advantage of those borders and playing on the frequent reluctance of law enforcement authorities to engage in complicated and expensive transnational investigations and prosecutions.

Kenya supports international judicial and law enforcement cooperation including mutual legal assistance, extradition, transfer of prisoners, transfer of proceedings in terrorism and other criminal matters. It has forged important bilateral partnerships against terrorism with key member states, particularly on building its counterterrorism capacities. Regionally, Kenya has forged strong law enforcement and judicial cooperation partnerships within the East African Community and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Kenya's primary contribution to International counterterrorism efforts is its significant troop contribution to AMISOM in Somalia since 2012. We have remained a frontline state against terrorism in Africa. We call on the international community to continue supporting AMISOM's efforts through adequate and predictable financing because even though Somalia is relatively stable, the war against Al Shabaab terrorism is yet to be concluded.

Kenya is in the process of implementing the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy and UN Secretary General's plan of Action on preventing violent extremism. On 7 September 2016, Kenya formally launched its National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism (NSCVE). The NSCVE domesticates the UN Global Strategy and the Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism. A revamped National Counterterrorism Centre that coordinates efforts against radicalization and extremism has already recorded much success.

Mr. Chairman,

We know that to sustainably respond to the problem of violent extremism and terrorism, we need to effectively address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism and the importance of comprehensive counter-terrorism strategies that empowering civil society organizations, including religious leaders and women, as well as vulnerable groups, and covering not only security and law enforcement, but also poverty eradication, job creation and development.

Kenya remains seized of the evolving nature of terrorisms. We know that terrorists are increasing appropriately cyber space to advance their evil schemes. We must stop the use of the Internet by terrorist.

In an effort to remove the conditions conducive for radicalization and extremism that leads to terrorism, Kenya has devolved resources to newly created counties in effort to address historic claims of marginalization and to help create opportunities for local youth. We have also established Prison based programs to rehabilitate and reintegrate radicalized youth back into society are currently underway.

In conclusion, Kenya remains committed to ending radicalization and extremism that leads to terrorism, not only within its borders but internationally. We shall remain committed to the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counterterrorism Strategy and other international protocols against terrorism.

Thank you for your kind attention.