

STATEMENT BY MR. SUHAIMI TAJUDDIN, MINISTER, PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 109: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 72nd SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEW YORK, 2 OCTOBER 2017

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the Sixth Committee. I would like to assure you that my delegation will support, cooperate and make constructive contributions throughout the work of the Sixth Committee.

- 2. Malaysia aligns itself with the statements made by Cambodia on behalf of ASEAN and the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of NAM.
- 3. Malaysia condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, including by Daesh, which have caused the loss of many innocent lives, injury to countless innocent civilians and damage to public property and infrastructure. Such acts are unacceptable, has tarnished the true image of Islam and are against the teachings of Islam.



4. Malaysia reiterates its view that it is vital for the root causes of terrorism to be addressed effectively in order for us to counter terrorism comprehensively. Success in defeating violent extremism and terrorism can only be achieved if the conditions conducive to violent extremism and terrorism, including unresolved conflicts, are effectively addressed.

Mr. Chairman,

- 5. Malaysia is fully committed and shares the concern of the international community that there is an urgent need to accelerate global efforts to combat terrorism. It is imperative that States engage in international cooperation to ensure that all of us are able to render help to one another in times of need and kept abreast with the ever-evolving facets of terrorism through information exchanges.
- 6. Malaysia therefore welcomes the General Assembly's Resolution A/Res/71/151 recommending the Sixth Committee to establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism (CCIT) and continuing the discussion on the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations during this seventy-second session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Malaysia remains committed to tackling the threat of terrorism, including by strengthening its legal framework. Malaysia believes that preventive measures are the most effective ways to address the threat of terrorism. Malaysia has, in recent years, enacted new laws, namely the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) 2015, Special Measures against Terrorism in Foreign Countries Act (SMATA) 2015, and the National Security Council Act 2016. At the regional level, Malaysia is a Party to the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism (ACCT) since 11 January 2013. At the international level, Malaysia is a State Party to 9 out of 14 legal instruments concerning counter-terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

8. H.E. Anifah Aman, Foreign Minister of Malaysia in his address before the General Assembly on 22 September 2017, emphasized the importance for continued urgency to harness the approach of moderation to negate the propagation of extremism and radicalisation. Malaysia believes that the concept of moderation should be embraced globally and calls for countries to censure and reject extremism and support moderation. A concerted effort by moderates in all areas and dimensions would provide an effective way to counter extremism. On this note, Malaysia is ready to share its experience and deradicalization module with other nations.

- 9. Malaysia therefore welcomes the adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 2354 on 24 May 2017 which supports the efforts to strengthen and galvanise international action to combat terrorism by countering the narratives put up by terrorists. The UN Member States should follow the specified guidelines while implementing the Comprehensive International Framework, including ensuring that the counter narrative measures are consistent with international law.
- 10. At national level, Malaysia's Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) has established the Digital Strategic Communications Division (DSCD) in April 2016, which focuses on the soft approach in countering online narratives by Da'esh. We stand ready to cooperate with any interested Member States in capacity building programmes and joint research projects on the issue of terrorism, violent extremism and radicalisation.

Mr. Chairman,

11. To conclude, my delegation would like to reaffirm Malaysia's unequivocal support and commitment to the works of the United Nations, including the works of the recently established Office of Counter Terrorism led by Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov, in preventing and eliminating international terrorism in whatever form and manifestation.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.