



PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

ON

"MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM"

AT THE 73<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**Mr. Chairman**

This being the first time my delegation will be taking the floor at this meeting, I wish to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as the Chair of the Sixth Committee for the 73rd Session. I assure you of Nigeria's cooperation and support for your leadership of the Committee during the Session.

2. Nigeria commends the Secretary-General for his report on measures to eliminate international terrorism. My delegation aligns itself with the statements made earlier on this agenda item, by the Distinguished Representatives of the Gambia, Islamic Republic of Iran and Saudi Arabia on behalf of the African Group, NAM and OIC respectively.

**Mr. Chairman**

3. Terrorism has continued to be a serious menace to international peace and security. As we are all aware, terrorist acts are insidious in character and usually destabilize the structures of governance with adverse effects on development in the affected countries. Given this sad reality, we need to develop an-inclusive and collaborative approach to jointly deter and annihilate terrorism.

4. Nigeria is no stranger to the activities of terrorists, and in particular, Boko-Haram. But, the Nigerian Government has since confronted and decimated their activities and has put in place bold and robust strategies to continue to address the heinous atrocities of the Boko Haram

insurgency. The collaboration of neighbours and many partners aided us in large measure to achieve the current outcome. We continue to enjoy closer cooperation with our neighbours, especially Cameroun, Chad, Niger and Benin Republic who have come together within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Commission to form a Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), headquartered in N'Djamena, Chad.

5. Nigeria reaffirms her continued support and readiness to cooperate with UN on efforts to end terrorism in all its manifestations. I am glad to also emphasize that Nigeria's counter-terrorism strategy is fully anchored on the respect for human rights and international humanitarian laws. It is against this background that the residents in the North-Eastern states of Nigeria now move about their daily businesses in relative safety.

**Mr. Chairman**

6. Since the commencement of the revised National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) by the current administration in 2016, Nigerians have equipped themselves psychologically to win the war against terrorism. The strategy succeeded in uniting Nigerians from all works of life towards defeating Boko-Haram. It also encourages religious leaders to use their various places of worship to enlighten their followers against any extremism or intolerance.

7. The programme for de-radicalization, rehabilitation, reorientation and re-integration for repentant Boko-Haram

members, Victims Support Fund and the Presidential Initiative for the North East as well as the Safe School Initiative are still ongoing. These initiatives have facilitated the provision of humanitarian relief, socio-economic stabilization and resettlement of persons displaced by Boko-Haram.

8. Certainly, the war against terrorism on all frontiers can only be achieved through the determined resolve of all Member States of the United Nations to work together. States Parties must ensure full compliance with all United Nations Resolutions and Conventions against terrorism and its financing as well as other instruments adopted at regional levels. This will constitute not only a valid point of departure, but also a contextual framework for cooperation among member states.

**Mr. Chairman**

9. In conclusion, Nigeria's adoption of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy and Plan of Action to prevent violent extremism is a clear indication of our readiness to root out terrorism and end the destructive activities of Boko Haram. Consistent with our faith in the need for a collective fight against terrorism, I like to re-affirm Nigeria's commitment to work closely with all UN Counter Terrorism entities, including the United Nations Centre for Counter Terrorism (UNCCT) as well as the United Nations Office on Counter Terrorism (UNOCT).

10. I thank you for your attention.