



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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STATEMENT

BY

**H.E. AMBASSADOR LAZAROUS KAPAMBWE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON**

**AGENDA ITEM 111:
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

DURING THE

**SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

New York
October 4, 2018

Mr. Chairman,

The Zambian delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Non-Aligned Movement and of the African Group; and joins the community of nations in condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Mr. Chairman,

The need for better international cooperation and for an improved application of our national and regional laws, in the fight against international terrorism is self-evident. Measures must be taken by all Member States to prevent and combat terrorism, as well as prevent violent extremism.

According to the 2017 Global Terrorism Index, the impact of terrorism fell by seven percent (7%) in 2016 for the second consecutive year. However, there are still other trends that remain quite disturbing. For instance, besides the cumulative cost on the global economy, estimated at \$84 billion in 2016 alone, there are also serious cultural and societal impacts that acts of terror have. An act of terrorism against any country creates a deep sense of vulnerability, as well as anxiety, fear and haplessness, which in turn, are damaging to trade and foreign direct investment (FDI). Developing countries tend to suffer greater detriment, as foreign investors opt to conduct business in less-terror-prone nations and/or regions. However, because of the economic and political interdependence of developing states, a withdrawal or reduction of FDIs in one country may negatively impact an entire region.

Zambia, in this regard remains committed to fulfilling the principles of the United Nations Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of friendly relations and cooperation among States. We resolve to meet all our obligations under international law to support all counter-terrorism measures, including those adopted at regional and international levels, as long as such measures are in harmony with the UN Charter, and in future, as would be guided by a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, when such is adopted.

Mr. Chairman,

In March this year, the Zambian National Assembly passed the Anti-Terrorism Proliferation bill of 2018, which repealed the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2007, which came into force on 4th September 2018. The objectives of the new law are, among others, the prevention and prohibition of financing of terrorism and proliferation activities, as well as provision of measures for the detection of terrorism and proliferation activities. The Government will also domesticate all international conventions and treaties on anti-terrorism and proliferation.

Meanwhile, Government has already been actively pursuing a five-year transformative process in its national development programme, that aims at ensuring that its strategy on the fight against international terrorism is well-coordinated, harmonised and integrated in all sectors of the Zambian economy.

Whilst the awareness of money laundering and terrorist financing activities occurring in the country is improving, Zambia is yet to record significant progress in terms of convictions and forfeiture of assets that are deemed blemished. The Government is, therefore, seeking to ensure the collective involvement of all public agencies and communities to address the scourge and protect the country from financial crimes. Zambia is grateful for the technical support it has thus far received from cooperating partners. Further assistance is, nevertheless, required to ensure that Zambia and other developing countries enhance and strengthen the capacity of relevant institutions to deal with terrorism, including coordination efforts and knowledge-building undertakings

Mr. Chairman,

International terrorism affects us all, and there is no doubt that UN Member States are putting in place critical counter-terrorism measures that seek to ensure the safety of our people. In many cases, this has led to the introduction of new legislation that redefines the crime and, in some cases, restricts or denies certain existing rights.

It is important that even as we tighten laws on terrorism we are mindful to ensure an appropriate balance between these laws and the basic freedoms of our citizens as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, let me state that when fear is a weapon, and when terrorism is the conduit through which fear is propelled, it is the armour of strength and resilience, rational and constructive thinking that will act as an impenetrable shield. There is need, therefore, for the international community to combine efforts to deal decisively with this scourge in a manner consistent with the UN Charter, and we hope soon, under a well-crafted Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

I thank you.