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GEORGIA

75th Session of the General Assembly, Sixth Committee
Statement by Mr. Giorgi Mikeladze, Legal Adviser of the Permanent Mission of Georgia
to the United Nations
Agenda item 114 "Measures to eliminate international terrorism"
New York, October 7, 2020

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you and Bureau members on election and assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation in guiding the committee's work during its 75^{th} session.

Georgia aligned itself with a statement delivered by European Union and following are remarks in my national capacity.

Today, while world struggles with unprecedented challenges caused by pandemic COVID-19, increasingly diverse and unpredictable security environment, derived from the global threat of terrorism continues to menace us all. Addressing this threat requires well-synchronized international cooperation and firm collective stance.

Distinguished Delegates,

According to the Global Terrorism Index Georgia is placed in the list of countries with "very low" impact of terrorism. However, assessment of challenges and development of policy to counter any form of threat remains high on the agenda of the Government.

At the national level the Government of Georgia continues to advance effective counterterrorism measures, including law-enforcement, legislative, internal coordination and international cooperation, as well as social campaign in society with the countering terrorist narrative and prevent the terrorist activities.

Georgia has substantially enhanced its counterterrorist legislation, including by adopting National Strategy on Fight against Terrorism and its Action Plan for 2019-2021, which was elaborated based on recommendations of civil society, experts and international partners.

Last year Georgia also adopted a new Law on Facilitating the Suppression of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, which creates a legal mechanism for further prevention, detection and suppression of illegal activities, including financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Moreover, the national counterterrorism strategy and its action plan cover the issues related to the prevention of extremism and radicalization. According to the Strategy, in the course of fight against terrorism and extremism, preventive measures are given a priority, along with identifying the special role of children and youth, in terms of prevention of radicalization, De-radicalization and resocialization. Measures entail engagement of different stakeholders, including central and local authorities, public-private organizations as well as civil society in process.

In order to prevent the transit movements of FTFs, particular attention is given to strengthening state border security, while all state customs and border-crossing points are strictly controlled.

Unfortunately, we live in a world where we still have so-called "gray zones" – territories beyond central governments' control that create fertile ground for illicit activities, including activities related to terrorism. The vivid examples are Russia-occupied regions of Georgia – Abkhazia and Tskhinvali, which pose

serious threat as they remain outside the national and international control and monitoring.

To conclude, let me reiterate that Georgia continues to attribute high importance to fight against the terrorism, including through intensifying international and regional cooperation. We will continue to establish secure channels within the frames of regional organizations and also strengthen the existing network of liaison officers and security/police attaches of Georgia with our partner countries.

Thank you.