



SIXTH COMMITTEE

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by

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Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

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Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

As it is my Government's first time taking the floor this session, I want to extend our warmest congratulations on your election and thank you and the Secretariat for your leadership and for all of your efforts in making this session happen despite the global pandemic. Please be assured that our delegation remains fully committed to supporting your efforts.

Today, as we gather again to discuss the elimination of international terrorism, I wish to reiterate, yet again, my Government's full and unceasing commitment to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In this vein, I would like to reference for the record my Government's past statements made on this issue, and, in particular, to note the strides we have made on this front in recent years on the domestic plane, especially since the adoption of our comprehensive, catch-all, anti-terrorism law in 2016, which addresses both the primary and secondary circles involved in terrorism. Also noteworthy in this regard is my Government's establishment of a new, National Bureau for Counter Terror Financing (NBCTF) in 2018. The Bureau works to coordinate and design counterterrorism policy on the domestic level, with an eye to unearthing financial infrastructure and networks that support terrorism. Moreover, Israel is proud to have joined the FATF as a full member in 2018, and to have received in its FATF national evaluation report in December 2018, the highest possible ratings in the areas of combatting terror financing and the effective use of financial intelligence.

We view these and other legislative developments and practices as a positive model, and remain open to sharing these and other best practices with UN counterterrorism experts and other interested States facing similar challenges.

We would also like to commend in this context the meaningful contributions made by many Member States on the domestic front, including the recent adoption of important designations of terrorist organizations. Such decisive action to fight terrorism on the national level is critical to the success of the world community in combatting terrorism effectively, as we are all in this together.

Mr. Chairperson,

In the interest of time, our remarks this year will be shorter than usual. Nonetheless, we wish to highlight the ongoing positive cooperation with the U.N. bodies in this realm, and, in particular, with CTED and with the UNOCT. In this context, we would like to note in particular Israel's recent joining of the OCT Travel Programme and the excellent collaboration that has taken place with the U.N. on this front, including in the field of law, all despite the challenges posed by COVID-19. We wish to thank the UNOCT and the various professionals for their input, support and assistance and look forward to our ongoing collaboration in this framework.

Mr. Chairperson,

Finally, as we noted last year we welcome the upcoming review of the Global Counterterrorism Strategy, which was postponed until June 2021 in light of the COVID crisis. As members of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, we embrace the focus on victims of terrorism both in this year's virtual events and in events planned for this upcoming year. In this context, we would like to reiterate for the record our consistent position, recognizing the need for a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism that would adopt a "zero tolerance" approach to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. As we have stated in the past, no cause or grievance could or should ever justify or excuse terrorism.

I thank you Mr. Chairperson.