



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SIERRA LEONE TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT

DELIVERED BY

**MADAM MAMADI GOBEH KAMARA
DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION**

on

**“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”
Agenda Item 111**

at the

**SIXTH COMMITTEE
76TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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**Mme. Chair,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

1. The delegation of Sierra Leone congratulates you, **Madam Chair**, on your election as Chair of the Sixth Committee, and also our congratulations to your Bureau. We have no doubt that your extensive diplomatic experience will lead our work to a successful and profitable conclusion this session. I assure you of this delegation's fullest cooperation.
2. The delegation of Sierra Leone respectively associates this statement with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of **Ghana** on behalf of the African Group, the **Islamic Republic of Iran** on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and **Saudi Arabia** on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.
3. My delegation notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General A/76/201, and we commend Member States and international organizations that responded to the request by the Secretary-General in that regard.
4. Sierra Leone continues to stress our unequivocal condemnation of terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations wherever and by whomsoever committed.

Mme. Chair,

5. In our efforts to address critical aspects in the fight against terrorism, among others, the financing of terrorism, Sierra Leone continues to vigorously implement the 2005 anti-money laundering law as amended in 2012 to include prohibition and punishment for the financing of terrorism. We have further enhanced the work of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) established in 2013 to prevent and suppress terrorism financing. Further steps being taken to counter terrorism includes the conduct of biometric identification and verification processes at all points of entry into Sierra Leone to identify red listed individuals in the global terrorist list.

6. In this year's debate, Sierra Leone wishes to highlight three important issues:

7. **First**, Sierra Leone welcomes the adoption of the 7th Review of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) adopted by the General Assembly on 30 June 2021. The GCTS addresses important issues on counter terrorism, violent extremism, hate speech, new and emerging threats such as the misuse of technology and the internet for terrorist purposes and upholding Human Rights in the fight against terrorism. Sierra Leone calls for the full implementation of the GCTS, and urges the UN and the donor countries to provide the necessary assistance and

capacity building to Member States to implement the obligations contained in the GCTS in order for the strategy to play its role as a “unique global instrument to enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism”.

8. Sierra Leone in this regard calls for support as we continue our dialogue with relevant United Nations agencies in the implementation of the go-travel software to monitor and report on movements of known and suspected terrorists through Advance Passenger Information and the Passenger Name Record as part of the pilot project rolled out by the UN Counter Terrorism Travel Programme to counter terrorist movements. This is in addition to Interpol's arrangement, under the National Central Bureaus, that provides alerts/early warning on movement of criminals, in the bid to intensify and accelerate the exchange of operational information, especially regarding actions or movements of terrorist persons or networks.
9. Sierra Leone, therefore, expresses appreciation for the successful review of the UN counter-terrorism architecture and joins the African Group in reiterating support to the UN Office for Counter Terrorism (UNOCT). We also commend the UNOCT on the successful organization of the 2nd Counter-terrorism week in June this year, which also saw the convening of the Second UN High-level Conference of heads of counter-terrorism agencies.

Mme. Chair,

10. On the **Second** point, the delegation of Sierra Leone continues to re-echo our support for the urgent finalization of the process to conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism (CCIT). In appreciating the work done so far by the ad hoc committee on the draft CCIT, Sierra Leone calls for continued effort and cooperate in reaching consensus to resolve the outstanding issues.
11. Sierra Leone recalls that the negotiations on the draft CCIT started in 2000, and it is now 2021. Over the 21 years that has elapsed, substantial negotiations has taken place and the convention is almost complete. The outstanding issues, however, continue to test our collective will. Sierra Leone, acting in the capacity as Coordinator of the Informal Working Group on the Outstanding Issues, calls for renewed commitment to move forward and for the working group to deliver on our collective mandate to further develop the legal framework concerning international terrorism by concluding the CCIT.
12. Sierra Leone further expresses support for the convening of a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations on terrorism.
13. **Third**, Sierra Leone continues to express regret over the spate of terrorism in the West African sub-region. The

cowardly acts of terrorism represent a clear and present danger to the sub-region, its stability and socioeconomic development. The unfortunate and condemnable terrorist attacks across the sub-region pose grave danger to our resilience and limits action on tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) take steps, in view of the multilateral processes, to address the scourge of terrorism, we call for support for ECOWAS and its Commission, and further urge for equally strong support for a more robust mandate for MINUSMA.

14. In conclusion, **Madam Chair**, as we continue to closely examine legal, policy, and institutional frameworks at all levels to address the threat of terrorism, we call for the holistic tackling of extremist violence, transnational crime in an organised and comprehensive manner. Indeed, we need to keep up the momentum in the fight against terrorism, but counter-terrorism responses must always be gender sensitive and must comply with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law.

15. **I thank you.**