



**Statement on Item 112 – Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism
Sixth Committee, 77th Session of the UNGA
Delivered by Ms. Sophie Kupradze, Legal Advisor of the Permanent Mission of Georgia
to UN
United Nations, New York, 3 October 2022**

Mr. Chair,

I would like to extend sincere congratulations to you and the Bureau members on your appointment and assure you of our full support throughout the work of the Committee.

Georgia aligned itself with a statement delivered by the European Union and I would like to make the following remarks in my national capacity.

Distinguished Delegates,

Let me seize this opportunity to start by reiterating Georgia's strong condemnation of Russia's unjustified and unprovoked full-scale military aggression against Ukraine, resulting in disastrous consequences and human suffering. Russia's aggression demonstrates a flagrant violation of norms and principles of international law that all states are bound to uphold under UN Charter.

Similarly, Georgia most forcefully condemns Russia for staging illegal "referenda" in Ukraine's Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, being temporarily under the Russian control. Being a blatant violation of international law, holding of the so-called "referenda" has no validity and does not have any legal force.

Excellences,

Turning to countering international terrorism, we believe in importance of inclusive and heightened multilateral cooperation for addressing both traditional and non-traditional

security threats. Today, we see the urgent need of international community's redoubled collective efforts to address the root causes of terrorism and focus on prevention.

Georgia remains fully committed to fighting against terrorism and violent extremism, which in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the biggest threats to the international peace and security. Over the years, Georgia has made significant contribution to eradicate international terrorism, including participation in peace-keeping missions overseas. The Government of Georgia has been actively working to detect continuously transforming landscape of terrorism and to develop efficient, coherent and coordinated ways of responding to them.

In this regard, let me recall some recent developments. At the national level, Georgia has taken significant steps to establish Counterterrorism Strategic Document. On 25 January 2022, the Government of Georgia approved the National Counterterrorism Strategy of Georgia (the second policy document of Georgia)¹ and its Action Plan for 2022-2026, which were elaborated with the initiative and leadership of the State Security Service of Georgia (SSSG), as well as with the engagement of all other relevant state authorities.

The National Counterterrorism Strategy of Georgia defines the full range of terrorist threats that Georgia has to respond to and aims at establishing the vision of the state in terms of prevention and the fight against terrorism and extremism. The document is based upon the whole-of-society approach and various stakeholders including central and local authorities, public-private organizations, as well as civil society are engaged in the implementation process.

Distinguished Delegates,

Prevention of radicalization and violent extremism conducive to terrorism remains one of the main priorities for Georgia.

In order to effectively implement national strategy on terrorism in the context of Countering Violent Extremism (CVE), upon the initiative of the Permanent Interagency Commission and in cooperation with civil sector and with the assistance of Georgian Center for Strategy and Development (GCSD), the permanent public-private dialogue platform was established. The platform comprises law enforcement agencies, state agencies responsible for education, culture, health care, economy, as well as the representatives of NGOs and CSOs operating in the field of security and human rights protection. The dialogue platform holds regular meetings on issues related to the

¹ First policy document was the National Strategy of Georgia on Fight against Terrorism of 2019-2021, adopted by the Government in January 2019.

prevention of terrorism, extremism and radicalization, thus facilitating the conduct of coordinated activities in the context of Countering Violent Extremism.

Mr. Chair,

Georgia is actively involved in international efforts and will continue to pursue the fight against terrorism in all its manifestations, alongside the international community.

Furthermore, Georgia remains committed to enhancing cooperation with the UN, NATO, EU, OSCE, Council of Europe and other regional international organizations, including being actively engaged in cooperation dialogue with them, sharing experience and best practices, as well as carrying out joint projects, trainings and measures in the fight against terrorism.

Excellences,

Herewith, let me draw your attention to Georgia's Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions occupied by the Russian Federation. Due to the occupation these regions remain beyond Georgia's effective control, and remain inaccessible for international monitoring. Subsequently, these dire circumstances, including grave security, human rights and humanitarian situation therein create a fertile ground for all sorts of illicit activities and pose serious threat to regional and international peace and security.

As a final note, let me reiterate that the Government of Georgia will remain steadfast in its resolve to use all existing regional and international instruments to effectively fight the common threat of terrorism.

I thank you Mr. Chair!