

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Dang Hoang Giang Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations at the Sixth Committee of the 77th Session of the General Assembly Agenda item 112: "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" New York, 3 October 2022

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Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau of the Sixth Committee on your election. I am confident that under your leadership the Committee this year will achieve fruitful results.

Viet Nam associates itself with the statements delivered by the Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

We thank the Secretary-General for his report in document A/77/185 entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" which contains important information provided by Governments and International Organisations about the measures taken by them towards the prevention and suppression of international terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

I share the concerns of the delegates who have spoken before me that terrorism continues to represent a major threat to international peace and security. Viet Nam categorically condemns all acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, by whomever, wherever, and for whatever purposes. In this regard, we welcome the first Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism in September 2022 on Advancing the rights and needs of victims of terrorism. With this in mind, we would like to share the following points:

First, international terrorism remains a global challenge that requires global action. We must take a comprehensive approach to combat terrorism at national, regional and global levels under the central coordinating role of the United Nations. Efforts towards this end must be in accordance with international law and the UN Charter and implemented with increasing synergies within the UN system and adequate participation of all stakeholders, including regional organizations and local communities.

Second, the COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare social inequities and structural challenges. Those vulnerabilities might be exploited by terrorist groups, including to expand their influence and to drive their recruitment efforts. In this context, Member States must continue to effectively address such structural challenges, including political, economic and social inequality and injustice. We must enhance the resilience of local communities to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism through poverty eradication, economic development and national reconciliation. At the same time, closer cooperation and stronger assistance from the international communities for countries in need are critical during this post-COVID recovery period.

Third, all States should fulfil their obligations under international law and international humanitarian law in combating terrorism, including by prosecuting or, where appropriate, extraditing the perpetrators of terrorist acts, by preventing the organisation, instigation or financing of terrorist acts against other States from within or outside their territories or by organisations based in their territories; and refraining from encouraging such activities within their territories.

Fourth, emerging technologies are bringing not only new opportunities for communities but also loopholes for terrorist groups. In this context, understanding and regulating the use of new technologies to prevent abuse by terrorist and violent extremist groups should be a priority.

Mr. Chair.

Over the years, Viet Nam has been strongly committed to combating terrorism and to strengthening the international framework, including international law. We have applied a wide range of measures to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and our international obligations to combat terrorism. At the international level, we are party to 15 universal treaties pertaining to counter-terrorism and transnational crimes.

We have worked closely with the INTERPOL, the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism and other partners on counter-terrorism, including to promote the effective and responsible use of new technologies, to apply new technologies in border management, and to prevent abuse of the digital space for any terrorism-related purpose, including terrorism financing. We also attach special importance to fulfilling our obligations in line with relevant UN Security Council resolutions, particularly on countering terrorism financing.

At the regional level, Viet Nam is a party to the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism. We have concluded a number of bilateral treaties on mutual legal assistance on criminal matters and extradition. We appreciate and look forward to furthering international and regional cooperation with partners in this important area.

At the national level, in strengthening our national legal framework, combating terrorism is incorporated consistently in a number of related laws, including the Penal Code, the Counter Terrorism Law, the Combattant Police Law. Capacity building for law enforcement agencies is also one of our priorities, with a national

centre for counter-terrorism training established in February 2022. We have also been striving to improve social equity and development, with remarkable achievements in recent years, so that terrorism can not take root.

In conclusion, Viet Nam will spare no effort to contribute to peace, cooperation and development in the world. We will continue to join the international community in the fight against terrorism.

I thank you, Mr. Chair./.