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Statement by Mr. Hyunsoo Kim (Counsellor)

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (Agenda: 112)

The Sixth Committee, 77th session of UNGA

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Mr. Chair,

First of all, my delegation would like to join other delegations in congratulating you and the other members of the Bureau on your elections. I am confident that under your able stewardship, the 6th committee meetings will produce constructive outcomes and meaningful progress. I also would like to thank the Secretariat for its tireless efforts in preparing this meeting as well as the report on this agenda.

Mr. Chair,

The Republic of Korea has a firm position that terrorism acts committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purpose, should not be tolerated or justified under any circumstances. My delegation unequivocally and strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Mr. Chair,

In today's globalized world, no country is immune to terrorism and no country can effectively confront terrorism on its own. Only through enhanced cooperation and unwavering solidarity among Member States, can we successfully prevent and combat terrorism. It is our common and shared responsibility in this watershed moment.

By virtue of UN counterterrorism efforts and cooperation from Member States, we have seen notable progress and a decrease in the annual number of lives claimed by terrorist attacks at a global level. However, the threats from terrorist groups still pose serious threats to the peace

and security of the global community. ISIL and Al Qaida's threat remains high in conflict zones while their affiliates are seeking to project threats into other non-conflict zones.

We are also witnessing that Covid-19 has affected global counter-terrorism over the last few years. The pandemic also disrupted counter-terrorism operations and humanitarian assistance due to related restrictions and diversion of resources. Taking advantage of this, terrorist groups have increased recruitment and cross-border attacks exploiting new and emerging technologies such as social media, drone or 3D technologies. Furthermore, violent extremism fueled by xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance or in the name of religion or belief has been on the rise and recognized as a growing and increasingly transnational threat.

In response to evolving terrorist threats, we must adapt to these changes and modify our approach. My delegation would like to make four points with this respect.

First, we need to focus our efforts on coming up with practical and substantive ways for the UN to better assist Member States effectively counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism.

Second, we need to prioritize on further reinforcing the UN counter-terrorism architecture, with the Office of Counter-Terrorism (OCT) playing the key coordinating role.

Third, given the complex, multifaceted nature of today's challenges, and yet the inadequate funding and capacity of the UN, the OCT should build strong coalitions and partnerships with regional and international organizations, international financial institutions, private sector and civil society.

Lastly, my delegation believes there should be greater focus on implementing the Strategy in an effective manner. We look forward to developments regarding a results framework that will contribute to ensuring comprehensive, balanced and integrated implementation of the Strategy.

Mr. Chair

The Korean government is committed to the full implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) and relevant UN resolutions, through a range of actions under the

four pillars of the GCTS at the national, regional, and global levels.

As a strong supporter of global counter-terrorism efforts, the Republic of Korea has provided voluntary contributions to the diverse counterterrorism programs of the UN. One recent example is its contribution to the UNOCT's Border Security and Management Program. In this vein, UNOCT will hold a regional workshop for the Southeast Asia region to promote good practices in adapting border security management in a time of global crisis on Oct.24-28 in Seoul.

Mr. Chair,

Before concluding, my delegation would like to reiterate staunch support for counter-terrorism activities and the pivotal role played by the UN and its organs. We will continue to be fully engaged and act in this regard.

Thank you. /End/