



SIXTH COMMITTEE

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by

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Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

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Mr. Chair,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you and the members of the bureau on your election, and offer Israel's commitment to you in this 78th Session of the Sixth Committee.

Mr. Chair.

Israel reaffirms its unwavering commitment to eradicating international terrorism. As we take stock of the events that have unfolded this year, it's clear that terrorism continues to stretch across the globe. The resurgence of terrorist activities and the proliferation of extremist organizations threaten the very foundations of our international order. Regrettably, Israel, too, has found itself vulnerable to these challenges.

In the face of this pressing issue, it is essential that we come together as a global community, transcending borders and differences, to confront and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. This is not merely a choice, but a duty and a shared value that we all uphold. It's our responsibility to ensure that our collective efforts, guided by a broad common understanding and shared principles, put an end to the menace of terrorism that threatens the stability of our world.

It should be noted that while the importance of reaching a consensus on a comprehensive definition of terrorism cannot be overstated, as it lays the foundation

for effective international cooperation, it is evident that the current global landscape does not yet provide the necessary conditions for the successful formulation of a convention on this matter. We therefore urge our partners to put their efforts into reaching a definition that would promote the elimination of terrorism in *all* its forms and manifestations.

Mr. Chair,

The history of Israel and the Jewish people is one of resilience in the face of unrelenting acts of terrorism and violence. We've seen lives shattered, families torn apart, and communities scarred by the impact of terrorism.

Israel stands firm in its assertion that there can be no justification for terrorism. Terrorism is terrorism is terrorism. The flimsy justifications offered by terrorist organizations find no endorsement among the members of this esteemed assembly. We must remain steadfast and united in rejecting these excuses, as they only serve to perpetuate violence and chaos.

In recent times, we have witnessed a troubling increase not only in attacks against Israelis all over the world but also in acts of antisemitism targeting Jews globally. Hatred knows no boundaries, and terrorists are adapting to new ways of spreading their poisonous ideologies. Israeli civilians have found themselves vulnerable to acts of terror both within Israel and beyond its borders. Various terrorist organizations

have zealously undertaken the objective of inflicting harm upon both Israelis and Jews worldwide. Given this pressing concern, Israel would like to see a stronger focus on countering acts of terrorism that are driven by anti-Semitic motives. It is imperative to address these attacks not only as threats to Israeli security or Israeli Security Forces' concerns, but also as manifestations of hatred against the Jewish community and the global community as a whole, as well as the high risk to bystanders, and the collateral damage. It is also crucial that the International Community strongly condemn any terrorist attempt, successful or not, in the strongest manner.

Mr. Chair, Terrorism transcends borders and personal experiences, affecting every member state. It is evident that our strongest defense against universal threats lies in the sharing of knowledge, experiences, and best practices. Israel is fully committed to facilitating this exchange, particularly in the realm of counter-terrorism strategies. Our collaborations extend both multilaterally through engagements with various UN and international bodies dedicated to counterterrorism, and bilaterally through initiatives that enhance capacity, intelligence sharing, and professional dialogue. For example, for the second year in a row now, Israel will be sending its best experts to the UNOCT Training Center in Rabat to provide training to public security officials from different government branches with regard to Counter-Terrorism investigations and criminal prosecution. In addition, Israeli experts contribute their

expertise in several Counter-Terrorism programs at the UN, working towards a shared goal of combatting widespread dissemination of terrorist practices.

Mr. Chair,

The recent adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-terrorism Strategy represents a significant stride in equipping the international community with the tools to effectively combat terrorism. However, a critical aspect remains inadequately addressed – the issue of incitement through social media platforms, particularly when aimed at children.

The manipulation of young minds into acts of terror exposes them to immediate danger. Vulnerable youth are easily influenced and can become vessels for terrorist indoctrination. Regrettably, we have witnessed the consequences of such indoctrination in our region. The rise in attacks carried out by these children, incited by extremist groups through social media, some as young as thirteen, underscores the urgency of tackling this grave issue. Educating youth to hate goes against our shared goal of a safer future. To rectify this, we have proposed, throughout the recent negotiations on the Eighth GCTS, enhancing the Strategy to effectively address the growing phenomenon of incitement, ensuring a more secure tomorrow.

Last June, during Counter-Terrorism Week at the UN, Israel hosted a side-event in collaboration with the World Jewish Congress, which focused on the transition from

online extremism to offline terrorism. At this side event, our experts showed how recruitment, incitement, and indoctrination happens online – against all minorities in general and against Jews in particular – and is later translated into terror attacks in the “real world”. This concerning phenomenon demands our attention, and Israel is ready and enthusiastic to collaborate with our partners in devising strategies to eradicate this reprehensible practice, as well as to take part in similar initiatives such as Christchurch Call.

Another worrisome trend that requires our immediate attention is the need for constant vigilance regarding the evolving methods of terrorist financing. Terrorists and their financiers continuously innovate their tactics, compelling our agility in countering them. It is insufficient to search and try to fight against and prevent the obvious methods of funding – while there are many indirect ways in which terrorists receive financial inducements to carry out terror attacks, including cryptocurrency. The current practice of fighting terrorist financing, therefore, falls short of addressing the phenomenon as a whole. We must ensure that the Global Counter-terrorism Strategy remains adaptive and responsive to these evolving challenges.

Mr. Chair,

Let us remember that the fight against terrorism cannot be waged in isolation. It necessitates the unity, collaboration, and collective determination of the global

community. As we strive to combat terrorism, let's remain resolute in safeguarding the vulnerable, ensuring justice, and fostering a world devoid of its threat.

I thank you.