



NEPAL

Statement by H. E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations at the 78th Session of the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly during the general debate held on Agenda item 109:

'Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism'

(New York, 02 October 2023)

Mr. Chair,

Congratulations on your election as the Chair of the Sixth Committee of the 78th Session of the General Assembly.

Please count on my delegation's full support throughout the Session.

Our sincere appreciation to the outgoing Chair and Bureau members for the successful conclusion of the work of the 77th Session.

I thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on this agenda item.

I align myself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chair,

Terrorism has remained a persistent global menace undermining international peace and security.

It is a heinous crime against humanity.

It not only causes enormous loss of lives and properties, but it also takes away the trust and understanding that binds humanity.

It jeopardizes fundamental human rights and freedom and hinders the very essence of development.

The act of terrorism cannot be justified under any pretext.

Those responsible for terrorism must be held accountable.

It is unacceptable to condone double standards while dealing with terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

In today's world, increased inequality, isolation, and lack of human rights continue to provide favorable ground for terrorism and organized crimes to proliferate their malicious activities.

Internet and social media platforms are being misused to proliferate hate agenda, misinformation and disinformation disrupting social harmony.

The growing exploitation of cutting-edge technologies, such as information and communication technologies, social media, and digital currencies by terrorist organizations, has made the counterterrorism efforts more complicated.

Mr. Chair,

The scourge of terrorism can be defeated only through united global action.

We emphasize timely achievement of the 2030 SDG agenda to address underlying causes of terrorism such as poverty, inequalities, and discrimination.

Democracy, dialogue, and good governance are potent tools in promoting tolerance, and mutual understanding in societies.

We must ensure mutual respect and peaceful coexistence among all civilizations, cultures, and religious groups in our society.

Nepal stresses on having a universal definition of terrorism that is comprehensive to adapt to the evolving landscape of emerging threats.

We call for an early conclusion of a comprehensive convention against international terrorism.

Nepal stands ready to contribute, believing that the prompt conclusion of this historic endeavor would be a testament to the international community's solidarity against international terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

Nepal unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever committed by whoever for whatever purposes.

Nepal strongly believes in peace, tolerance, compassion, non-violence, and peaceful coexistence.

These teachings of Lord Buddha, who was born in Lumbini, Nepal 2585 years ago, are not only deeply ingrained in our culture but also enshrined in our Constitution.

Nepal, as such, does not have any identified terrorist group in its territory.

We are resolute in ensuring that our soil is never used by any terrorist group, under any pretext, against any other nation.

Nepal is a State party to seven international counter-terrorism instruments.

We have strong domestic legal instruments to implement their obligations.

Nepal is fully committed to deterring terrorism and transnational organized crimes through the strict enforcement of laws such as Money Laundering Prevention Act, Mutual Legal Assistance Act, and Extradition Act.

Our close and coordinated work with INTERPOL ensure timely prosecution of terrorists.

We collaborate closely with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to prevent financing for terrorism.

To ensure the strict observance of UN sanctions lists related to terrorism and terrorism financing, Nepal consistently updates and circulates this information on its website.

We have aligned our counter-terrorism policies and frameworks with the UN Global-Counter Terrorism Strategies.

Mr. Chair.

Nepal stresses on balanced implementation of all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, mandates, and strategic measures aimed at countering and combating international terrorism.

Nepal extends its support to UN-led initiatives focused on preventing the radicalization of youth, thwarting their recruitment into the clutches of terrorists.

We recognize that robust cooperation and coordination, with the UN at the forefront, are pivotal in effectively combating transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, illicit arms trade, money laundering, and the smuggling of harmful substances.

Enhanced real-time intelligence sharing, innovative solutions, best practices, and lessons learned among counter-terrorism agencies of Member States, both regionally and internationally, must be promoted to combat terrorism and transnational organized crime effectively.

Nepal also stresses the importance of continued financial and technological assistance to developing countries to bolster their capacities and institutional resilience in the fight against terrorism.

The contributions of academia, civil society, and the private sector should not be underestimated in our collective response to terrorism.

UN Counter-Terrorism Compact has brought together 46 entities, including INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, FATF.

Under this reformed UN Counter-Terrorism Architecture the coordination and coherence in the work of the United Nations system on preventing and countering terrorism and the underlying spread of violent extremism has been commendably enhanced.

In conclusion, **Mr. Chair**, robust collaboration among global stakeholders, with the UN at its heart, is pivotal in our quest to combat international terrorism and create a terrorism-free world. Let's intensify our efforts to reach an early conclusion of a universal comprehensive convention on countering international terrorism.

Let's work together to terrorize the terrorism.

Thank you.