



PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS**

ON

**“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM”**

2ND- 4TH OCTOBER 2024

Mr. Chair

My delegation joins other speakers to congratulate you and Members of the Bureau on your election to Chair the 79th Session of the Sixth Committee. We assure you of our continues support and cooperation during the session.

2. Nigeria commends the Secretary-General for the report on the measures to eliminate international terrorism, as contained in document (A/79/99) Add I. My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Non-aligned Movement (NAM). I shall now deliver my national statement.

Mr. Chair

3. Terrorism continues to pose a serious global threat to international peace and security, impacting several regions worldwide. Nigeria strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The rise of terrorism in Africa, especially in the Sahel, is very concerning. Nigeria is no stranger to the activities of terrorists. The Boko Haram operating in the Sahel has become the deadliest in the region in collaboration with the Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP).

4. Terrorist access to funding, recruits and weapons remains a major obstacle to the progress in the fight against terrorism in the region. The increasing incidents of mass kidnapping is fast becoming a phenomenon that poses significant threat to the security of lives and properties. This requires collective and decisive measures, as flow of funds from such a source is a major means to enhance their capabilities to carry out their activities and attacks. The alliance

between bandits and terrorists, which has the potential to increase the threat to vulnerable targets, institutions and infrastructures is an equally important issue that needs collective effort to confront.

Mr. Chair

5. The persistent threat to security by terrorism in the region necessitates collective action and approach by the region as well as the international community and partners to strengthen national, regional, and global responses. The most effective regional response to curtail the threat of ISWAP and the activities of Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region has been the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). Within the framework of Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), the MNJTF continues to be more effective in the fight against the terrorist groups. The non-kinetic stabilization responses by the LCBC, including the Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience (RSS) and the Territorial Action Plans (TAPs), seek to stabilize, recover, and build resilience of Boko Haram affected communities. Nigeria continues to spear-head the funding for MNJTF, the first regional formation for countering terrorism in the region. To counter terrorism in Africa, regional organizations have an important role to play, and these arrangements require support and long-term commitment from the international community.

6. On the national level, the Nigerian Government has, through its national Counter-Terrorism strategy and action, curtailed the heinous atrocities of the Boko Haram insurgency through the adoption of an amendment to its terrorism (Prevention) Act, thus ensuring the implementation of more robust counter-terrorism

measures. Nigeria enacted the National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) and the Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and is actively pursuing the implementation of the policy framework to address the root causes of violent extremism.

7. The government in 2022 passed into law the Terrorism Prevention and Prohibition Act, which provides a comprehensive legal framework prohibiting and criminalizing the acts of terrorism. The Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act (TPPA) formally established the National Counter Terrorism Centre to better coordinate the establishment and implementation of Counter Terrorism polices and strategies. The Act provides the legal framework for the creation of National Sanctions Committee for the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions on countering the financing of terrorism. In addition, is the implementation of the African Union Organization Unity Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and the 1999 Protocol to the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, 2004. These instruments have improved Nigeria's capacity to respond to and counter the threat of terrorism.

8. The Act also establishes a Special Victims Trust Fund to pay compensation, restitution, and damages to victims of terrorist attacks. The creation of the National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (NCCSALW), the National Commission for the Coordination of Cyber security and the National Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) are all efforts at confronting the challenges of terrorism and insecurity. MNJTF's response has greatly benefited

from the support and flow of information from the Regional Intelligence Fusion Unit (RIFU).

9. To safeguard Nigeria's maritime borders from the activities of maritime terrorists, the Naval Unit of the Nigerian Armed Forces is preoccupied with policing activities to secure Nigerian waters in the face of multi-dimensional maritime threats including maritime terrorism through a strategic approach centered on the tripod of surveillance of the maritime environment, timely response to incidences of maritime crime, and the prosecution of offenders.

Mr. Chair

10. Nigeria continues to implement a coherent strategy to curb terrorism and comprehensively address the conditions conducive to terrorism. With prevention at the bedrock of this strategy, we continually enhance efforts, strengthen legislative and institutional frameworks, and make improvements in the areas of screening, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Nigeria remains fully committed to ensuring that all perpetrators of terrorism are prosecuted. The government has also recorded progress in its criminal justice response to the scourge of terrorism. The commitment to prosecute perpetrators of terrorism remains unrelenting. Nigeria has also established several national legislations to bring perpetrators of terrorism and other related offenses to account and foster engagement among the National Assembly, the Judiciary, security agencies, other stakeholders, and international partners to strengthen criminal justice measures for preventing and

countering terrorism and violent extremism. Nigeria's response to terrorism is not only effective but also based on rule of law.

Mr. Chair

11. Nigeria appreciates all our donors for their support, while encouraging the wider international community to lend more support to help rebuild local communities. There is the need for wider financial support, however as mentioned in addendum of the Secretary General's report, on my country, the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin, external support including the activities of NGO's should be streamlined, clearly defined, and guided by national regulations to avoid complexity and double standard. This is in addition, to ceasing all supports to terrorist groups. We welcome the UN Secretary-General's policy on "A New Agenda for Peace" which guarantees funding, through assessed contributions for peace enforcement missions and counter-terrorism operations, led by African partners with a UN Security Council mandate under Chapters VII and VIII of the UN Charter. Nigeria places high priority on countering the financing of terrorism, and we will strive to combat the misuse of the cyberspace and new technologies by terrorists. We will continue to work with regional and international partners to address the threat of Da'esh and Al Qaeda in Africa.

12. Nigeria is fully committed to the pursuit of global peace and will continue to support regional security mechanisms. As part of the commitment to fight terrorism in the region, Nigeria hosted the UN High-Level International Summit on Counter-terrorism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism in Africa in April 2024 with the

theme on “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa”. The hosting of the strategic event by Nigeria provided an opportunity to share lessons learnt and wealth of Counter-Terrorism experience with other Member States dealing with the menace of terrorism. As part of to the declaration, the African leaders unequivocally condemned all manifestation of terrorist and violence extremism on the continent and the increase threats against vulnerable target and resolved to strengthen both individual and collective fight against local and external financiers and funding sources for terrorism and terrorist activities in the region.

13. We support the work of the UN Office for Counter Terrorism and call for the full implementation of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. We also welcome the establishment of the UNOCT regional programme Offices on Counter Terrorism and training in Nairobi, Kenya and Rabat, Morocco. These Offices will provide training and capacity building facilities in the fight against terrorism in Africa.

Mr. Chair

14. Nigeria is willing to support any proposal for the elaboration of a new convention on terrorism and other related offences. The war against terrorism can only be achieved through the determined resolve of all Member States of the United Nations working together. Parties must ensure full compliance with all United Nations relevant resolutions and Conventions against terrorism and its financing, as well as other instruments adopted at regional levels. This will

constitute a contextual framework for cooperation and building partnerships among Member States and other stakeholders.

15. In conclusion, let me reiterate Nigeria's commitment to working against terrorism and condemning terrorism in all forms and manifestation and partnering with our neighbours and with the international community at large in this urgent task.

I thank you.