



PHILIPPINES

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STATEMENT

Item 110: Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Sixth Committee

79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

02/03 October 2024, Trusteeship Council

UN Headquarters New York

Mr. Chair,

Excellencies, Colleagues,

Good morning.

The Philippines congratulates you, Mr. Chair, on your appointment, and expresses full support for you and the members of your Bureau, as you undertake this task of leading the Sixth Committee this 79th session.

We thank the Secretary General for his report relating to the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism. The threat posed by international and local terrorist groups is a real and present danger to our security today. No single country can face these challenges on their own. Terrorism is a global scourge, and the information that we exchange, including on measures to eliminate terrorism, are highly relevant.

The Philippines has adopted measures not only to counter and prevent terrorism, radicalization, and violent extremism, but also to ensure that victims, as well as the families of the victims, are able to find justice through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. Through national legislation, guided by the Philippine Development Plan to pursue an inclusive, transparent, people-centered, and human rights-based peace and security policy, we continue to strengthen national capacities to prevent and combat terrorism.

Partnerships and collaboration are crucial in these times of rampant misuse of information and communications technologies by terrorists, in particular the Internet and new digital technologies, to commit, incite, recruit, fund or plan terrorist acts. Terrorism, which knows no borders, has exploited the digital space to expand its outreach.

We welcome support for innovative measures and approaches to build national capacities to address the challenges and opportunities that new technologies provide, including the human

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556 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10036 • TEL. (212) 764-1300 • FAX (212) 840-8602

rights aspects, in preventing and countering terrorism. Under the CT TECH initiative of UNOCT, we completed two workshops, to enhance our national law enforcement's capabilities to counter the use of new technologies for terrorism purposes. We thank the UNOCT, and other partners, for the valuable support to countries in this priority area of countering terrorism.

This year, the Philippines completed the Model Legislative Provisions (MLP) to Support the Rights and Needs of Victims of Terrorism project. At the commemoration of the Victims of Terrorism International Day of Remembrance last August, as the first Member State to implement the Model Legislative Provisions project, we highlighted the valuable role of victims and survivors, as credible voices, in peace advocacy and in the education of communities, in countering terrorism and violent extremism. We commend the work of the Group of Friends, in this regard.

Mr. Chair,

The Philippines joins the international community in combatting terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, ensuring that terrorists will find no safe haven anywhere.

We stand in solidarity with the countries of Africa, which has been acting decisively to address terrorism. We are honored to have supported the High-Level Meeting on Counter-Terrorism in Africa hosted by Nigeria this year, where we endorsed country-led and country-owned solutions and multi-partner joint initiatives, such as the UN Joint Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in Africa. We highlighted our experience in comprehensive approaches, such as the Philippines-United Nations Cooperation Framework, in providing strategic direction for joint PH-UN activities and partnerships, including those within UNOCT's mandate.

The Philippines will continue to actively engage with partners, and with the UN, in its efforts to contribute to this process. Through constructive engagement, respect for sovereignty and for people's agency, we commit to collectively work towards a long-overdue comprehensive convention, anchored on the rule of law.

In this regard, we welcome the establishment of a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations and we look forward to robust discussions.

Thank you, Mr. Chair. **END**