79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Sixth Committee, 02 October 2024 Trusteeship Council, UNHQs

Statement of Bangladesh at the General Debate on "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" (Item - 110)

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your well-deserved election. You can rest assured of our full cooperation in discharging the important work of the 6th Committee this year.

Bangladesh aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. In my national capacity. I wish to add a few reflections.

Mr. Chair,

Bangladesh has made substantial progress in its efforts to prevent and eliminate terrorism, evident in the fact that, our Global Terrorism Index (GTI) score has dropped from 5.75 in 2016 to 3.31 in 2024, reflecting a "low" impact of terrorism.

This success is attributable to our consistent policy of 'zero tolerance' towards all forms of terrorism and violent extremism as well as effective preventive measures involving all stakeholders including women, youth and community leaders.

To further improve our national counter-terrorism framework, our new Government led by Professor Muhammad Yunus has taken multiple initiatives including an initiative to reform the enforcement of counter terrorism measures. This has been done to address allegations of institutional failure in adhering to human rights standards in countering terrorism in the past.

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to highlight a few points on measures to eliminate international terrorism:

First: While national efforts to eliminate terrorism are important, we must acknowledge that those efforts can only take us halfway, if, those are not supported by a robust, integrated and coordinated international cooperation framework. In this regard, we appreciate the important role played by the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism and other UN-led entities. We call upon UNOCT to enhance its capacity-building suport and technical assistance to Member States, particularly those in the developing world in order to implement of the recommendations of Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the national level.

Second: The political and socioeconomic drivers of terrorism need to be addressed, taking into account their diverse contexts. For example, by achieving sustainable development goals in full, States can address inequalities and discontents in societies which often foment extremism and terrorism. We also stress the importance of swift and sustainable resolution of protracted conflicts, such as, in the Middle East or in Myanmar. In this connection, we wish to reiterate our strong support to the Palestinian people in their quest for freedom and justice.

Third: For elimination of international terrorism, it is imperative to weaken all those factors that enable terrorists in their carrying out their evil plots. For that, the member States must deepen cooperation in preventing money laundering and terrorist financing. Equally important is to stop flow of arms that are used for conducting acts of terrorism. We also call upon Sates to provide mutual support and cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of terrorists including through extradition of individuals accused or convicted of terrorism charges. This is critically important to ensure justice for the victims and prevent recurrence of such heinous crimes.

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Finally, there is growing evidence that rapid advancements in technology and their easy

availability is empowering non-state actors engaged in terrorist activities. Although

artificial intelligence and autonomous systems promise enhanced threat detection,

terrorist groups are exploiting these tools for recruitment, fund-raising and for planning

of attacks. These new threats must be addressed with utmost urgency, including through

application of available international norms and principles, especially those related to

international humanitarian law.

In conclusion, we reaffirm my country's unwavering commitment to combating

terrorism and violent extremism in its all forms and manifestations.

I thank you Mr. Chair.