

Please check against delivery

# STATEMENT BY

# SOLOMON KORBIEH MINISTER/LEGAL ADVISER

# STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 110: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 United Nations HQ <u>New York</u>

#### Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me join others who have spoken before me in congratulating you and the members of the bureau on your election and to assure you of my delegation's cooperation throughout this session. Ghana aligns herself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representatives of Iran and Uganda, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the African group respectively and wishes to make the following three additional points from the national perspectives.

#### Mr. Chairman,

First, the threat of terrorism has assumed a degree of intensity and given rise to alarming levels of civilian impact that all Member States are required to confront and address with all the resources at our disposal. Cognizant of the growing incidence of terrorism in the Sahel, Ghana has over the past few years deployed a multisectoral all-of-government-and-society approach to contain any possible spillover of terrorism and violent extremism from the Sahel. My country continues to implement a well-thought-out military strategy and implementation plan to deal effectively with Ghana's external threats. It is therefore not surprising that Ghana continues to be relatively stable within a subregion that has been beset with a myriad of security challenges.

#### Mr. Chairman,

Second, in the past decade, the activities of violent extremist organizations (VEO) and terrorist armed groups (TAG) have preoccupied regional and national security discourse. A major concern is the southward thrust of the VEOs and the TAGs in West Africa and the Sahel into the coastal states along the shared borders of West Africa.

As a founding member of the Accra Initiative, the Government of Ghana continues to strengthen multilateral cooperation, through information- and intelligence-sharing with Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Nigeria and Mali to prevent the threat of terrorism and violent extremism in the subregion through the Accra Initiative and other bilateral arrangements.

So far, Operations Koudanlgou I, II, III and IV have been conducted along the shared borders of the Accra Initiative countries with relative success, and upon the agreement of the parties to the Accra Initiative, a joint border operational plan has been developed. The plan was initiated in the latter part of 2021, and the Headquarters of the Multinational Joint Task Force was established in Tamale, Ghana following the appointment of the force commander. One of the key elements of regional security has been the adoption of non-kinetic approaches to security through building resilience and national cohesion. Recently, Ghana launched a project called "See Something, Say Something" to bring everybody — all aspects of the society — onboard in the fight against terrorism.

### Mr. Chairman,

On the third point, my delegation welcomes the initiatives that have been taken within the confines of the United Nations to address terrorism and calls for cooperation at all levels to address this issue. Ghana believes that cooperation can be enhanced at the bilateral, Sub-Regional, Regional and International levels through intelligence sharing and early warning systems, capacity building and technology transfer.

To complement these initiatives, the Government of Ghana is also increasing state presence across the country so that there would be no ungoverned spaces anywhere, and also decentralizing development and presence of the security and intelligence agencies across all parts of the country.

### Mr. Chairman

Let me conclude by emphasizing that the impact of national and military efforts is yielding the needed results, as such collaboration with strategic partners remains critical and necessary to consolidate our gains. Consequently, Ghana's resolve to maintain bilateral and multilateral relations is grounded on peaceful and democratic states ensuring the survival, safety, and well-being of its citizens from imminent and potential threats.

## I thank you Mr. Chairman