

**Statement delivered by H.E. Naseer A. FAIQ, Charge de Affairs of the
Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations**

**UNGA Sixth Committee
Agenda Item 109: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism
New York, 7 October 2025**

Mr. Chair,

Afghanistan aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and wishes to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Afghanistan condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed. Terrorism recognizes no borders, no faith, and no justification.

No political, ideological, or religious pretext can legitimize the deliberate targeting of civilians or the destruction of communities. It remains one of the gravest threats to international peace and security and a direct assault on the principles of the UN Charter.

Mr. Chair,

For decades, the Afghan people have paid the highest price for the actions of terrorists, extremist groups, and their enablers and supporters. These groups and their affiliates, including the Taliban, have turned our homeland into a battlefield for global terror networks.

They have bombed schools, targeted mosques and hospitals, and forced millions into exile. They have taken the lives of thousands of civilians and left millions of households orphaned, widowed, or disabled. Entire generations have grown up under the constant shadow of violence and fear.

The 36th report of the Security Council Monitoring Team confirms that Afghanistan remains a key node in the global terrorist landscape. The Taliban continue to provide safe haven to groups such as Al-Qaida, TTP, and foreign terrorist fighters, maintaining fighters and training sites across several provinces and threatening the wider region.

Under Taliban rule, Afghanistan has witnessed a sharp rise in *jihadi* madrasas over 21,000 established since 2021 compared to just 106 regular schools. These institutions often promote militant ideologies while marginalizing secular education. This alarming trend risks radicalizing Afghan youth and deepening the country's educational and social crisis.

The absence of accountable, legitimate, and inclusive governance in Afghanistan has created a dangerous security vacuum.

Effective counter-terrorism requires a credible and legitimate government committed to its international obligations, particularly under Security Council resolutions 1267, 1373, and 2615.

Terrorism thrives where governance fails and rights are denied. The international community must not allow Afghanistan to once again become a sanctuary for global terrorism. The Taliban must be held accountable for harboring and facilitating terrorist networks, and those who support or finance them must face scrutiny and consequences.

Mr. Chair,

The Taliban's actions have dismantled Afghanistan's national security institutions and reversed decades of progress in counter-terrorism cooperation and the rule of law.

Their persecution of former security personnel, journalists, and civil society especially their systemic repression of women and girls undermines stability and fuels radicalization.

These grave violations are committed under the guise of Sharia law, distorting faith to justify gender apartheid and other crimes that amount to crimes against humanity. Such weaponization of religion must be unequivocally rejected.

We welcome international initiatives aimed at promoting accountability, including efforts under CEDAW and the International Court of Justice to hold the Taliban responsible for gender-based persecution.

We also support the International Criminal Court's arrest warrants for Taliban leaders on charges related to gender-based crimes and crimes against humanity. These are important steps toward ending impunity.

Mr. Chair,

We welcome General Assembly resolution 79/129, reaffirming the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and emphasizing respect for international law, including human rights and humanitarian principles.

Counter-terrorism measures must never be used as a pretext for repression; they must be grounded in justice, accountability, and human dignity.

Afghanistan calls for intensified engagement with credible Afghan representatives, experts, and civil society actors who continue to work for a peaceful and democratic future.

Rebuilding institutions, empowering communities, and ensuring the participation of women and youth are essential to countering radicalization and preventing terrorism.

We also call for stronger regional cooperation. Terrorism is a transnational threat that cannot be tackled in isolation.

Counter-terrorism must be genuine and non-selective; terrorism knows no borders and threatens all of humanity. We urge the revitalization of mechanisms under the UN, SCO, and SAARC to strengthen border security, intelligence sharing, and efforts to disrupt terrorist financing.

Mr. Chair,

Afghanistan supports the finalization of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism a long-delayed instrument that would close gaps in the legal framework and reinforce the principle that no act of terrorism is ever justifiable.

We also underscore the importance of recognizing and supporting victims of terrorism, consistent with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

Afghanistan's experience shows that repression breeds extremism. Counter-terrorism cannot succeed where terrorism is tolerated as a tool of governance, or where women are silenced and education denied.

The people of Afghanistan especially its women and youth are both the first victims and the first line of defense against extremism.

The international community must therefore:

1. Reinforce counter-terrorism efforts, including targeted sanctions against all terrorist entities and their supporters;
2. Prevent the use of Afghan territory by any group to threaten the Afghan people or others; and
3. Support Afghan voices advocating pluralism, democratic values, human rights, and education, as the most effective antidote to violent extremism.

Mr. Chair,

Terrorism in Afghanistan is not a local crisis; it is a global warning. The world cannot afford complacency. The Afghan people continue to resist terror and tyranny with courage and dignity. They deserve solidarity and action, not abandonment.

Our Mission stands ready to work with all Member States, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and regional partners to eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We believe that only through genuine multilateral cooperation, governance grounded in the rule of law, justice, accountability, and respect for international law, can we move toward a world free from the scourge of terrorism.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.