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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ESCOVAR SALOM (Venezuela)
later: Mr. MAZILU (Romania)
(Vice-Chairman)
later: Mr. ESCOVAR SALOM (Venezuela)
(Chairman)

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AGENDA ITEM 151: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 151: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM (A/51/70-S/1996/135, A/51/74-S/1996/163, A/51/84-S/1996/211, A/51/87, A/51/208-S/1996/543, A/51/210, A/51/216-S/1996/563, A/51/261, A/51/284, A/51/336, A/51/374, A/51/387-S/1996/767)

1. Ms. WILLSON (United States of America) said that in 1995, acts of international terrorism had taken place in 51 countries and had continued to threaten civil society and peace processes. In addition to causing political and psychological damage, terrorism had high economic costs in terms of the money spent to guard against it and its discouragement of foreign investment and tourism in the countries affected. Technological developments had aided terrorists, who benefited from modern communications and transportation, global sources of funding, computers and the mass media's unwitting assistance in spreading images of terror, but those developments had also aided law enforcement officers in tracking and arresting terrorists.

2. Through its Anti-terrorism Assistance Program, the United States Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security had trained over 18,000 foreign government officials from over 80 countries in counter-terrorism techniques and aviation security. In April 1996, the Organization of American States had adopted the Declaration of Lima to Prevent, Combat and Eliminate Terrorism. The report of the Secretary-General (A/51/336) provided valuable information that would help to enhance international cooperation to fight terrorism, including the table on participation in international conventions pertaining to international terrorism. She hoped that delegations would revive the practice of approaching States which were not parties to those conventions to encourage them to ratify or accede to them.

3. Since most terrorist acts involved the use of bombs or other incendiary or lethal devices, the United States had proposed the elaboration of an international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings. At the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris in July 1996, the Group of Seven and the Russian Federation had endorsed that proposal, as well as the Russian Federation's proposal to elaborate a convention on cooperation in combating acts of nuclear terrorism, and she hoped that the General Assembly would establish an intersessional ad hoc committee to prepare those instruments.

4. The participants in the Ministerial Conference had also adopted 25 measures to prevent terrorism and strengthen international cooperation to fight it, and had invited all States to adopt those measures to impart greater efficiency and coherence to their efforts and to facilitate practical cooperation. The kidnapping of six people in Kashmir the previous year, and the brutal murder of one of them, served as a tragic reminder of the obligation of all countries to work together to eliminate international terrorism.

5. Mr. Mazilu (Romania), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

6. Mr. ABDELLAH (Tunisia) said that his country welcomed the adoption, at the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, of the 25 measures to prevent terrorist

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activity enumerated in document A/51/261, especially those concerning fund-raising by terrorists and the exchange of information; he hoped that the General Assembly would also adopt such measures. His country had always stressed that the humanitarian institution of political asylum must not serve to benefit those who funded, organized, committed or advocated terrorism. The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Declaration on Territorial Asylum and the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism clearly established the obligation of States to see that political asylum was not misused, and any State which granted protection to persons who had been prosecuted in their country of origin for terrorist acts violated that obligation.

7. He supported the United States proposal on an international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings, as well as Poland's proposal on an international convention against transnational organized crime. Tunisia had participated in all regional initiatives concerning the issue. At the international level, it advocated the adoption of a single, legally binding instrument which would cover all aspects of terrorism and would approach the individual criminal responsibility of terrorists on the basis of the principle of aut dedere aut judicare.

8. The United Nations was the most appropriate forum for promoting cooperation in combating terrorism. In that connection, he hoped that the Sixth Committee would reactivate the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism, which should be open to all Member States. The Organization's efforts must be underpinned by a firm political will to implement all anti-terrorism measures to the fullest extent possible, in order to safeguard the security, stability and economic and social development of all peoples.

9. Mr. OWADA (Japan) said that the relief and optimism generated by the end of the cold war were increasingly being eroded by the growing threat of terrorism. In recent years the world had witnessed a spate of terrorist bombings, explosions and other lethal acts. The United Nations was the most appropriate and effective forum for international cooperation to combat terrorist violence. A number of multilateral conventions on the subject were already in force, including the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly in 1994.

10. The seriousness of the problem had been underscored by the decision taken at the Group of Seven Summit, held at Lyon in June 1996 to give absolute priority to the fight against terrorism. To that end, the Group of Seven and the Russian Federation had convened the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris in July 1996. The final document issued by the Conference (A/51/261) listed 25 concrete measures to be adopted by States with a view to enhancing the efficiency and coherence of the fight against terrorism.

11. A draft resolution was currently being prepared by some of the countries which had participated in the Conference, calling on all States to adopt those measures and to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. His delegation expressed its sincere appreciation to the French delegation for preparing the draft, of which Japan was considering becoming a sponsor. In order to be truly effective, the 25 measures must be implemented by

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all Member States. His delegation hoped that the Committee would adopt the draft resolution by consensus as a decisive step towards achieving that goal.

12. In its efforts to combat international terrorism, the international community must guard against those who used their refugee status as a pretext for engaging in terrorist acts. His country, while second to none in its respect for the norms of international law and for human rights relating to political asylum and the status of refugees, firmly believed that such a status must not be used in a manner contrary to the purposes for which it had been instituted. For that reason, his delegation welcomed the United Kingdom proposal, and hoped that it would become a useful addition to the anti-terrorist arsenal.

13. There had recently been an alarming increase in the terrorist use of powerful explosives which took a heavy toll in innocent human lives. It was imperative to strengthen international cooperation to prevent such acts. Among the measures recommended by the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism was the preparation of an international convention on terrorist bombings, an area not covered by the existing multilateral conventions. Japan was prepared to work closely with other like-minded States in drafting such an instrument.

14. Mr. HAYES (Ireland), speaking on behalf of the European Union and Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, said that he strongly supported the General Assembly's 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism and that the strict implementation, by all States, of the principles laid down therein would represent a significant step towards the elimination of terrorism.

15. The Maastricht Treaty provided the framework for cooperation among the member States of the European Union in fighting terrorism. More recently, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of those States had issued the Palermo Declaration on the subject, and member States had participated in a number of international initiatives. In particular, he drew attention to the 25 anti-terrorism recommendations, which were directed to all countries, in the document issued at the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism. Moreover, the United Kingdom intended to introduce in the Committee a draft declaration to strengthen the implementation of the General Assembly's Declaration; the European Union hoped that all delegations would give it serious consideration.

16. Although the report of the Secretary-General (A/51/336) indicated that the number of acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation had declined between 1994 and 1995, the number of terrorist incidents remained high and should prompt intensified international efforts to combat terrorism. He expressed sympathy to the victims of terrorist violence and their families, and said that efforts to obtain the release of the individuals kidnapped in Kashmir the previous year and to bring the perpetrators to justice would be continued.

17. The effectiveness of efforts against terrorism would be strengthened by wider participation in the principal international conventions on the issue. No single nation or group of nations could win the battle against terrorism on its own. His delegation pledged its unremitting support for international

cooperation at all levels to rid the world of terrorism, which was one of the scourges of the late twentieth century.

18. Ms. WILMSHURST (United Kingdom), after expressing her delegation's support for the statement made by the representative of Ireland on behalf of the European Union, introduced a draft proposal entitled "Further declaration in implementation of the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism", which the United Kingdom hoped would be adopted by the General Assembly at the current session. The draft declaration was a new practical measures designed to combat the misuse of the right to political asylum and refugee status for terrorist purposes.

19. The proposal had two main aims. The first was to make it clear that those who financed, planned and incited terrorist deeds were acting contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and therefore could not claim protection under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. While the draft declaration would not have the effect of amending the Refugee Convention, it might be relevant to the interpretation of the Convention. In her country, for example, the courts would be able to take the new declaration into account in interpreting the Government's responsibilities under the Convention.

20. Other provisions of the Refugee Convention, such as articles 32 and 33, allowed States to expel a refugee in cases where the refugee was a threat to national security or public order or where the refugee had been convicted of a particularly serious crime and thus constituted a danger to the community. Those articles, however, applied to persons who had already been granted refugee status. In the United Kingdom currently, once a person had claimed asylum, he or she might be entitled to remain in the country until the claim had been determined and legal appeals had been exhausted, a process that could take years. The purpose of the draft declaration was to emphasize that the process of seeking asylum might not be available to those participating in or actively supporting terrorism.

21. The draft proposal was closely related to the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 49/60. Her delegation's initiative should not be construed as making an unwarranted link between refugees and terrorism or as in any way weakening the protection afforded by the Refugee Convention. The United Kingdom had a long and proud tradition of granting asylum to persons fleeing persecution and complied fully with its obligations under the 1951 Convention.

22. The situation that the draft declaration was intended to address was one in which individuals escaped from one State and established themselves in another State in order to plan, fund or incite terrorist acts to be carried out in their home State or elsewhere. Thus, paragraph 3 provided that States must also take their own measures to ensure that refugees in their territory did not prepare or organize terrorist acts abroad. In that connection, her Government had recently undertaken a study of its criminal-law provisions in the light of proposals to extend the jurisdiction of the courts to cover acts of conspiracy and incitement in the United Kingdom aimed at the perpetration of serious offences in other countries.

23. The proposal's second aim was to encourage further cooperation among States in bringing terrorists to justice. In that connection, she drew attention to paragraph 5, which encouraged States, when they concluded extradition arrangements, to consider limiting the political offence exception in its application to terrorist acts.

24. The last paragraph of the draft urged States to become parties to various anti-terrorist conventions. Paragraph 34 of the Secretary-General's report (A/51/336) pointed out that many of the agreements already in force were still far from being universal and that quite a number of countries were not parties to any of them. Her delegation hoped that, at the current session, the General Assembly would issue an appeal to States to become parties to the existing instruments.

25. The draft declaration would, if approved by Member States, need to be adopted by means of a General Assembly resolution. Her delegation was prepared to work constructively with other delegations on the wording of the covering resolution.

26. Mr. PEDRAZA (Bolivia), speaking on behalf of the Rio Group, said that international terrorism was a serious and disturbing phenomenon which affected all peoples without distinction, and thus required concerted international action to eradicate it. Under no circumstances could any social, political or economic goal justify the killing of innocent human beings. Such criminal acts could endanger international peace and security and relations between States. The countries members of the Rio Group also expressed their deep concern at the links between terrorism and other criminal acts, such as drug trafficking and the illegal arms trade.

27. Important steps had been taken at the international level to strengthen the legal framework of the fight against terrorism. The Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/60 was an especially significant development which laid the groundwork for intensified efforts to combat terrorism. The Rio Group reaffirmed its support for the Declaration and its readiness to join in efforts to promote further measures to combat and eliminate international terrorism.

28. Significant progress had also been made at the regional and subregional levels. The Inter-American Specialized Conference on Terrorism, held in Lima, Peru, in April 1996, had concluded with the adoption of the Declaration of Lima to Prevent, Combat and Eliminate Terrorism and the Plan of Action on Hemispheric Cooperation to Prevent, Combat and Eliminate Terrorism.

29. The Declaration of Lima and the Plan of Action recognized that terrorist acts were serious common crimes and called for the ratification and implementation of international instruments on terrorism, exchanges of information in all areas, the provision of mutual legal assistance and the strengthening of bilateral, subregional and multilateral cooperation to combat terrorism.

30. The Rio Group attached special importance to the adoption of measures to facilitate the prosecution or extradition of perpetrators of terrorist acts, while ensuring full respect for the domestic jurisdiction of States and their sovereign laws on extradition.

31. Mr. Escovar Salom (Venezuela) resumed the Chair.

32. Ms. VARGAS de LOSADA (Colombia) said that her country, which had been and continued to be a victim of terrorism, shared the views expressed by the Bolivian representative. International terrorism remained one of the international community's biggest and gravest concerns, despite the efforts made to combat and eliminate it.

33. International terrorism made no distinction between large and small States, developed and developing countries, dignitaries and ordinary citizens, in many cases using the most advanced technology to achieve its lethal aims. Nevertheless, developing countries had the greatest difficulties in dealing with the devastating consequences of terrorist acts and were thus in need of international assistance and cooperation.

34. As noted in the Secretary-General's report (A/51/336), the existing anti-terrorist conventions did not cover every type of criminal activity associated with terrorism. For that reason, her delegation supported the suggestion that States should consider whether a more global approach to counter-terrorism could be taken in addition to the sectoral efforts made so far. Paragraph 36 of the report listed some of the areas in which international treaties could be concluded to facilitate cooperation in countering terrorism within the framework of respect for the principles and norms of international law, human rights, State sovereignty, the principle of non-intervention and the rights and duties laid down in the Charter of the United Nations.

35. Mr. HOLMES (Canada) said that Canada had not been immune from international terrorism in the past year: a Canadian had been killed in a terrorist attack on tourists in Egypt, and within Canada there had been violence against religious and political institutions. Those incidents, as well as the new wave of international terrorism, had caused the Government to review its counter-terrorism measures and create new laws and new security and police services. Domestic measures were not enough, however, to combat the new technologies which provided terrorists with greater cross-border mobility. Any steps to provide protection from new dangers must be taken in concert with the international community. But arbitrary violence should not be fought with arbitrary measures - that would nourish the disaffection which enabled terrorist organizations to recruit new members. New measures to combat terrorism must also be consistent with existing international human rights standards.

36. Three aspects of the 1994 United Nations Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism warranted particular attention. The first priority should be a review of the international legal framework against terrorism. Universal ratification, implementation and enforcement of the existing conventions was needed to send a strong, united signal to terrorists. His delegation called on States that had not yet done so to adhere to those instruments. Canada was willing to share its experience in implementing those

conventions and incorporating their provisions into domestic law, with a view to promoting universal ratification. The conventions must also be reviewed to identify omissions. For instance, the United States of America had proposed a new convention on terrorist bombings, which would be an important contribution.

37. A second area of focus was the potential abuse of the refugee system by terrorists. Member States must be vigilant that mechanisms put into place to protect individuals were not exploited by persons who had no respect for the rights of others. His delegation supported the United Kingdom initiative to rein in such abuses through a new declaration to be put before the General Assembly.

38. The third area of concern was the potential for new threats from terrorist use of materials capable of mass destruction. The international community should not lose an opportunity to prevent, rather than react to, innovations by technologically sophisticated terrorists. Canada was reviewing its domestic legislation to ensure that, for example, effective measures were in place to deny public access to materials covered by the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

39. The multifaceted character of an effective legal regime to counter terrorism required that the work of the Committee should both inform and support initiatives taken by regional organizations and in other multilateral forums. Consistency and coordination should be the watchwords of the international community in moving that agenda forward.

40. Mr. BIORN LIAN (Norway) said that the Norwegian authorities were currently examining the 25 recommendations adopted at the 1996 Ministerial Conference on Terrorism and were also studying with interest the proposal by the United Kingdom in implementation of the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism.

41. There being no universal definition of terrorism, Norway believed that the convening of an international conference on the subject would not be helpful in achieving common aims, and might run the risk of emphasizing existing differences. The best approach remained to promote universal adherence to existing international agreements on terrorism.

42. While his delegation welcomed the increased attention being given to the question of terrorism, it feared that parallel discussions in different forums might lead to conflicting recommendations. The Sixth Committee should be the focal point of efforts to combat international terrorism. The nearly universal participation in the Committee would ensure that all views on that difficult subject could be presented and considered.

43. Turning to the question of whether terrorism violated human rights, Norway reiterated its view that only States, not individuals or groups of individuals, could violate human rights under international law. Humanitarian law, however, had long-standing provisions for individual responsibility, and it was necessary to distinguish clearly between human rights and humanitarian law in that respect. Acts of terrorism might indeed harm individuals, but they should be

regarded as violations of national law and not of international human rights. The protection of human rights was a State responsibility and combating terrorism did not justify non-observance of human rights.

44. In 1995, a Norwegian tourist had been abducted and murdered in Kashmir. Efforts to clarify the circumstances of his death and to obtain the release of the German, British and American citizens abducted by the same terrorists would continue, along with endeavours to hold the perpetrators accountable for their actions. Violence directed at innocent people to promote political objectives could in no way be justified, and the persons responsible for such actions must be brought to justice; no State should grant safe haven to terrorists. Only through the joint and intensified efforts of the international community could the common goal of eliminating terrorism be achieved.

45. Mr. ZMEYEVSKIY (Russian Federation) said that the United Nations had a special role to play in uniting States to combat international terrorism because it had always unconditionally condemned terrorism in all its forms. The adoption by the General Assembly in 1994 of the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism was an important step that should be followed by concrete measures for its implementation.

46. First and foremost, the international legal basis for cooperation against terrorism must be strengthened through universal accession to the existing international conventions. His delegation welcomed the report of the Secretary-General (A/51/336) and the useful work of the Secretariat in producing a compendium of national laws and regulations regarding the prevention and suppression of international terrorism and the review of existing possibilities within the United Nations system for assisting States in organizing workshops and training courses. They would be helpful to individual Governments and provide opportunities for an exchange of experience.

47. There were hopeful signs from various regions of increased political will to eliminate terrorism and to implement the results of the major anti-terrorism forums held in recent years. Therefore, the strengthening of regional efforts should be another priority for the United Nations. The Russian Federation, noting the importance of bringing terrorists to justice, supported further steps to prevent the granting of asylum to terrorists. It believed that the draft declaration submitted by the United Kingdom, after some further work, could be adopted at the current session of the General Assembly. The Russian Federation also welcomed the United States initiative for a convention on terrorist bombings.

48. With regard to gaps in the system of international legal instruments against terrorism, his Government was proposing a convention to combat acts of nuclear terrorism, acts which could have the most serious consequences for international peace and security. The new convention would fill the gaps in the 1979 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. It would focus not on physical protection of such materials but on effectively countering acts of nuclear terrorism. It would extend the scope of the definition of "nuclear material" to include objects and materials for military use, but would not address nuclear non-proliferation, which was dealt with in other instruments. The new convention would also contain a clearer definition of the crime of

illegal acquisition of nuclear materials for terrorist purposes, which had not been included in the 1980 Convention. It would likewise address terrorist acts against nuclear power plants, vessels with nuclear power sources and the use of automatic nuclear devices. It would provide a clearer definition of the number of States which must establish their own jurisdiction for that category of crime. A draft convention was in the final stage of preparation and would be submitted in due course, possibly in time for consideration in 1997 and 1998.

49. Mr. HAMDAN (Lebanon) said that the Lebanese people shared a profound hatred for terrorism in all its manifestations. Lebanon had accordingly acceded to the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft; the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft; and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation. For years, however, the people of Lebanon had been victims of a devastating war, as a result of the terrorist policies of Israel, which was violating Lebanon's right to self-determination, continuing to occupy parts of Lebanon following its invasions of that country in 1973 and 1982, and continuing to violate the provisions of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978).

50. Since the end of the war, the Government of Lebanon had resumed the process of acceding to international instruments pertaining to terrorism. In 1994, it had acceded to both the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf. It was currently completing the constitutional formalities required for accession to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, and to the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection. At the domestic level, the Penal Code had recently been amended to provide for certain crimes to be characterized as terrorism and to specify the penalties for such crimes.

51. While Lebanon stood ready to cooperate with the international community in the implementation of the instruments to which it had acceded, it insisted on its legitimate right under international law and the Charter of the United Nations to oppose the Israeli occupation of its territory. The two things should not be confused and, it would be useful to convene an international conference to establish a clear definition of terrorism which should not be subject to the political whims of certain parties. It was generally agreed that the Israeli presence in Lebanon amounted to an occupation and he had no doubt that the populations of each of the countries represented in the Sixth Committee would resist such an occupation of their own land. The violence would end only when Israel agreed to abide by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly. For its part, the Government of Lebanon was committed to peace in the region after the withdrawal of Israeli forces.

52. Mr. CASSAR (Malta) said that the Government of Malta unequivocally condemned as criminal and unjustifiable all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever and by whomsoever committed. Terrorism was a grave violation of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, threatened international cooperation and undermined respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and

the democratic bases of society. Terrorism was not the poor man's war and could never coincide with an ideal. Rather, it involved the murder of the innocent and cowardly acts which no civilized society could accept. Its victims were not only those who suffered loss but also the institutions of society which it undermined.

53. Malta agreed that in order to combat the growing international character of terrorism there was need for enhanced international cooperation, particularly through the exchange of information, the effective implementation of the relevant international conventions and the conclusion of reciprocal judicial assistance and extradition agreements at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. More effective coordination among States was also needed to combat the crimes closely connected with terrorism, including drug trafficking, illegal arms trading, money laundering and the smuggling of nuclear and other potentially deadly materials. Malta had strengthened its legislation in that field with a view to apprehending traffickers more effectively, halting the flow of drugs and confiscating the funds thus illegally acquired.

54. In addition, Malta had acceded to the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft and the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection. It had also acceded to a number of conventions of the Council of Europe: the European Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism and the European Convention on Extradition. His Government was examining the legal provisions of the other existing treaties concerned with international terrorism with the intention of ratifying as soon as possible those to which Malta had not yet acceded.

55. A number of measures had also been taken at the domestic level, including an increased exchange of information between Maltese and other security forces, including Interpol, the establishment of a national security service to combat organized crime, espionage, terrorism and sabotage, and the harmonization of domestic anti-terrorism legislation with that of the European Union. In November 1995, the Government of Malta had hosted the second Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean. The final document of that Conference had called on Mediterranean States to draft a convention on the fight against terrorism, which was a particularly serious threat in that region, and on the extradition of terrorists. Such a convention would also provide for political and economic measures against States which were directly or indirectly engaged in terrorism. His Government welcomed the document adopted at the conclusion of the 1996 Ministerial Conference on Terrorism in Paris.

56. The people of Malta were united in their abhorrence of all acts of violence and hatred, which distressed communities and destabilized nations and regions. Only through the joint efforts of the nations of the world could that cancer be extirpated.

57. Ms. MATROOS (Botswana) said that Botswana unequivocally rejected all acts of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable. They were a source of strained relations among States, hindered international cooperation and caused unnecessary deaths and untold human suffering. The economic consequences of terrorism were particularly felt in the tourism industry which, while an important source of revenue in developing countries, was dependent on transportation by aircraft, which were often the targets of terrorists.

58. The United Nations should redouble its efforts to combat terrorism and establish international machinery to bring terrorists to justice in the shortest possible time. For their part, States must take all necessary steps to combat terrorism and refuse to harbour known terrorists. They should effectively promote and implement in good faith the provisions of the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism. National legislations governing the fight against terrorism should also be harmonized and consolidated in the form of an ad hoc international instrument which could be added to existing international conventions in the field.

59. Her delegation supported the view that Member States must share expertise and information about terrorists, their movements and support systems, as well as information concerning the investigation and prosecution of terrorists.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.