



Security Council

Seventy-second year

8148th meeting

Thursday, 21 December 2017, 3 p.m.

New York

Provisional

President: Mr. Bessho (Japan)

Members:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Mr. Inchauste Jordán
China	Mr. Lie Cheng
Egypt	Mr. Aboulatta
Ethiopia	Mr. Woldegerima
France	Mr. Delattre
Italy	Mr. Lambertini
Kazakhstan	Mr. Sadykov
Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
Senegal	Mr. Seck
Sweden	Ms. Schoulgin Nyoni
Ukraine	Mr. Yelchenko
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland . .	Mr. Hickey
United States of America	Ms. Sison
Uruguay	Mr. Rosselli Frieri

Agenda

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda was adopted

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

The President: In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representatives of Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, the Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2017/1051, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, the Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay.

The Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

The President: The draft resolution received 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2396 (2017).

I now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements after the voting.

Ms. Sison (United States of America): Three years ago, the Council, in an extraordinary meeting of our Heads of Government (see S/PV.7272), tackled the problem of foreign terrorist fighters. In 2014, the Islamic State in Iraq and the Sham (ISIS) was ascendant. Terrorists had just captured large swathes of territory, and ISIS's ideology was inspiring thousands to travel and join its ranks.

Today the tables are turned. ISIS is now on the run. The United States, alongside the defeat-ISIS coalition and its multiple partners, have liberated nearly all of ISIS's territory on the battlefield. Its ideology is discredited, but the threat of foreign terrorist fighters remains. Indeed, today ISIS is going underground and on the move. As its territory shrinks, some ISIS supporters are returning home, while others are moving on to other countries. We have seen hardened terrorists travel around the world to carry out deadly attacks in ISIS's name, and ISIS is calling on supporters — even those who never set foot in a conflict zone — to launch attacks from Jakarta to Manchester to the streets of New York City.

In recent years, we have learned more about the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighter travel. For example, today we see the return not just of fighters, but sometimes even their family members, some of whom have committed crimes and others who were victims of ISIS themselves. We also have learned lessons about the essential role of international cooperation in preventing, tracking and detaining traveling terrorists.

Given this evolving challenge, the United States applauds the Security Council for taking decisive action today. Resolution 2396 (2017), which was just adopted, will give countries around the world new tools and new obligations to protect all our citizens at home and the

international traveling public abroad. I will highlight four of its most impactful measures.

First, the world has taken unprecedented steps in this resolution to better detect and disrupt terrorist travel across borders. All countries, not just a few, will now develop the capability to collect and use airline passenger information — specifically Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) — data and biometrics to identify known and previously unknown terrorists any time they may try to board an aeroplane.

My Government has used API, PNR and biometrics data to bring terrorists and criminals to justice and to prevent them from carrying out their despicable acts in the first place. We have used this data in ways that respect the privacy, civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans and those who travel to the United States. Many other countries, including European Union members, are in advanced stages of installing their own PNR systems. A number of countries in the Middle East and elsewhere have pioneered the use of biometric technologies to ensure that even terrorists with false passports can be identified and prosecuted.

The time has come for airline passenger information and biometrics to protect not just those in America, Europe or the Middle East but the entire international traveling public, and to send a message to terrorists that they are about to lose any hope of being able to get on an aeroplane. We who have had the benefit of these technologies since 11 September now look forward to working with countries to make sure they have the assistance and means to fulfill these critical obligations.

Secondly, today's resolution, drawing upon the lessons of recent years, recognizes the need to counter this threat in a tailored, nuanced way. This is particularly key with respect to the prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters and accompanying families. To do this right, we need the involvement of civil society, including faith leaders and youth; indeed, we need a true whole-of-society approach. We cannot just rely on military and security sector means to fight terrorism, since terrorists' false narratives can live on, no matter how many terrorists we put in jail or kill on the battlefield.

We instead also need to mobilize whole societies to counter violent extremism and fight terrorism while respecting and promoting human rights, including the freedom of expression. Indeed, the resolution reaffirms

that Member States must ensure that any measures taken to counter terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law and underscores that respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are complementary and mutually reinforcing with effective counter-terrorism measures. We must work together and holistically to address and counter the drivers of violent extremism as well.

Thirdly, the resolution puts a renewed emphasis on the need for countries to share a range of information, including lessons learned and threat analysis. The foreign terrorist fighter threat is transnational, so we ourselves must learn to work across borders and improve international cooperation. This includes sharing information and working with a broad range of partners, including the private sector.

Fourthly, and finally, the resolution will boost the United Nations own work addressing the foreign terrorist fighter threat. We know that different United Nations bodies have a vital role to play and all must contribute. The resolution will pave the way for tighter internal United Nations coordination, including on capacity-building and technical assistance. We hope the resolution will help the United Nations counter-terrorism bodies continue to harmonize their efforts, each focusing on its comparative advantage.

I would like to conclude by thanking all members of the Security Council for their collaboration on this technical resolution. This strong outcome shows that the Security Council remains firmly and unquestionably united in the face of the terrorist threat. We look forward to working with countries, United Nations bodies, civil society and the private sector to implement this groundbreaking resolution.

Mr. Aboulatta (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): At the outset, I would like to thank the delegation of the United States for resolution 2396 (2017), which was adopted today.

The phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters is one of the most dangerous aspects of the unprecedented terrorist threat that we are facing today. This phenomenon has become increasingly prevalent over the past few years. Terrorists have been able to move from Syria and Iraq to other countries and regions throughout the world. This phenomenon is therefore now linked to many other issues and factors, which the Egyptian delegation has tried to address in today's resolution.

Egypt voted in favour of resolution 2396 (2017), as it is at the forefront of counter-terrorism efforts. We did not want to abstain in the voting or vote against a counter-terrorism resolution, especially when it comes to countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, despite certain details of the resolution.

Although Egypt decided to vote in favour of the resolution, it believes that the text could have been much better than its current version if the opinions of the countries on the front lines of the counter-terrorism efforts had been sufficiently taken into consideration. For example, paragraph 3, on one of the most important aspects concerning the foreign terrorist fighters issue, could have been stronger and had more impact on the ground if it had included prescriptive language calling on Member States to notify, in a timely manner, upon travel, arrival or deportation of captured or detained individuals whom they have reasonable grounds to believe are terrorists, including suspected foreign terrorist fighters, and including, as appropriate, the source country, destination country, any transit countries, all countries where the travelers hold citizenship, and including any additional relevant information about the individuals, and further calls upon Member States to cooperate and respond expeditiously and appropriately, and consistent with applicable international law, and to share such information with INTERPOL, as appropriate.

The problem is that the current version of the paragraph is not sufficiently compulsory. Egypt has noted that fact and therefore suggested, during the consultations, that more compulsory language be used. However, that Egyptian proposal was rejected. The reasons for that remain unclear, given that the reports of expert panels have reaffirmed the importance of the issue that we tried to introduce into the resolution.

Furthermore, operative paragraph 12, whereby the Security Council decides that Member States shall implement the passenger name record (PNR) system, and operative paragraph 15, whereby the Security Council decides that Member States shall develop and implement systems for collecting biometric data, impose new and costly obligations on all States. Given the compulsory nature of both paragraphs and the expected cost of the implementation of these obligations by States, especially poor and developing countries, the delegation of Egypt sought to link such implementation to the availability of financial resources. However, we saw that the resolution included only non-compulsory

provisions on providing technical assistance and resources for capacity-building.

All this aside, we are convinced that the fact that the Security Council has adopted a resolution on countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters represents a complement to Security Council resolution 2178 (2014), which is very important. However, what is even more important is to have political will on the part of countries to implement these resolutions, and therefore we need follow-up by the Security Council and to hold accountable countries that are not implementing these resolutions, especially those supporting terrorism and providing shelter to terrorists. Furthermore, we must provide financial resources and the necessary technical assistance to countries so that they can shoulder their obligations under these resolutions. It is not enough for the Security Council to impose additional obligations on countries by virtue of these resolutions without providing such countries with the tools to implement these obligations.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that Egypt will continue to shoulder its obligations to be at the forefront of international efforts to counter and defeat terrorism while respecting international law, the rule of law and human rights.

Mr. Lambertini (Italy): As highlighted in our statement of 28 November (see S/PV.8116), resolution 2178 (2014) was a milestone in the fight against international terrorism. Its clear and timely guidelines enabled the Security Council to introduce coherent measures that could respond to the seriousness and the scope of the new phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters.

In the spring of 2015, Italy fully implemented the provisions of the resolution. First, it updated its law, adding new types of offences regarding travel, training and forms of terrorist funding. Secondly, it adapted its mechanisms and working methods dedicated to combating terrorism to emerging needs. These changes have brought positive results, and a few judgments have been handed down in Italian courts sanctioning the conduct of foreign terrorist fighters.

Many things have changed in the past three years in terms of combating terrorism on the ground, but the global threat posed by terrorists continues to evolve and diversify, which is why measures tackling the phenomenon of returning or relocating foreign terrorist fighters have become urgent. This is a complex issue

that encompasses the political, legal and operational fields of activities.

Today's important resolution (resolution 2396 (2017)) introduced provisions that touch on all these aspects and in particular point to the centrality of international cooperation. Along with the greater efforts required on the part of all Member States, the resolution underscores the need for greater efficacy in technical assistance, capacity-building and support for countries that request it.

Italy attaches great importance to the fact that the text, together with the measures on foreign terrorist fighters to be adopted, also includes specific measures for the family members of foreign terrorist fighters, especially children. We welcome the efforts of the Council to reconcile the need for a criminal-justice response when crimes have been committed and the need to adapt measures tailored to individual situations and to promote the integration of foreign terrorist fighters and their families into the community. This has proved to be the best way to prevent further radicalization and the emergence of new threats to society. The comprehensive protection of human rights and the rule of law is of vital importance to the fight against violent extremism and terrorism.

In this context, we value as particularly relevant projects conducted during terms served in prison, and the Nelson Mandela rules are an advanced tool at the disposal of every country. Just as relevant is the engagement of civil society in reintegration and prevention programmes.

Italy hopes that future resolutions will contribute to better defining the legal provisions regarding the return and travel of foreign terrorist fighters to their country of nationality or residence. This was not addressed in resolution 2178 (2014), but proved to be a difficult issue for the authorities of transit and destination countries alike. We trust nonetheless that the resolution guidelines and the cooperation of States and bodies with the United Nations will enable us to find a shared solution to be applied uniformly.

Italy is honoured to have contributed to the adoption of a text that complements the fundamental resolution 2178 (2014), adapting it to the challenges that we are all currently facing. Solving the difficult problem of returnees and relocators through the adoption of balanced and effective measures is a necessary step in countering the new and emerging threat of international

terrorism. But this is not enough. The new resolution must be rapidly implemented, and Member States, United Nations bodies and international organisms are called on to take coordinated action, also in support of those countries that do not have the resources or capacity necessary to implement all the important obligations that this resolution contains.

Italy will end its mandate in the Security Council in a few days, but remains steadfast in its will to contribute to the common efforts and give constructive assistance to those countries requiring support.

Mr. Iliichev (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): Our delegation voted in favour of resolution 2396 (2017). We share the view that the mass outflow of fighters from areas of armed conflict, first and foremost from Syria and Iraq, entails additional threats to security and requires an appropriate response from the Council. We consider that this document does not cancel earlier decisions of the United Nations on fighting terrorism but, rather, complements them.

Of special importance here are the commitments to criminalize various aspects of terrorist activity as well as the prosecute or extradite rule, as enshrined in the anti-terrorist conventions and resolutions of the Security Council. It is vital to ensure that they are implemented in full, while being guided by the principles of the inevitability of punishment and the punishment being commensurate with the crime. Any attempts to extend either direct or indirect assistance to returning terrorist fighters, including providing them with the possibility to move freely, recruit new members and incite to terrorism, would be a direct violation of the resolution that we adopted today.

Rehabilitation and reintegration programmes cannot be used as an alternative to the criminal prosecution of these kinds of criminals. We also note that it is important to develop international cooperation in order to combat foreign terrorist fighters.

We attach special importance to the provisions of the resolution on information exchange. In this regard, a meeting of the heads of special services, security agencies and law-enforcement organizations is held every year in Russia, and we also have a databank on combating terrorism. They both have proved their worth.

Within the framework of working with returning foreign terrorist fighters, we need to bear in mind that

one of the key aims of terrorists is to spread the ideology of terror everywhere. We think that it is only right that the document we have adopted today represents a development of many of the provisions of Security Council resolution 2354 (2017), on countering terrorist narratives. Overall, we must continue improving the criminal and legal measures we have in this area. If we limit ourselves to abstract slogans, the battle for the hearts and minds of young people will be lost.

We will be able to attain results in countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters only if we act collectively, with States in the leading role, and by tapping the potential of specialized international organizations, the private sector and civil society structures. All anti-terrorist measures should be adopted in compliance with the norms of international law and in line with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We expect the new resolution on countering foreign terrorist fighters to contribute substantively to that kind of work.

Mr. Lie Cheng (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): In recent years, returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters have launched terrorist attacks in many parts of the world, seriously threatening the security and stability of countries of origin, transit and destination. All Member States should enhance cooperation in order to bring to justice foreign terrorist fighters who have been involved in terrorist attacks, and take measures to break up and neutralize mobility networks used by terrorists so as to respond collectively to the challenges posed by terrorism.

The Security Council has just adopted resolution 2396 (2017), which contains many important and positive elements, including respect for the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations; respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of States; and not linking terrorism to any specific religion or ethnicity. The resolution calls on Member States to step up border controls, information-sharing, law enforcement and judicial cooperation. The coordinating role of the United Nations should be given full play and efforts must be made to curtail the terrorist organizations' use of the Internet for propaganda, recruitment and other terrorist activities.

We voted in favour of the resolution and hope that it will be effectively implemented. China has always strongly opposed terrorism in all its forms and

manifestations. As an important member of the counter-terrorism community, we are ready to work with other countries and organizations to respond collectively to the threats and challenges posed by terrorism in order to maintain international peace and stability.

Mr. Delattre (France) (*spoke in French*): France welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2396 (2017), on foreign terrorist fighters. I should like to particularly thank the United States for having taken the initiative of submitting the resolution, which very usefully complements and updates the framework established three years ago by the adoption of resolution 2178 (2014).

Those same fighters who several years ago went to Syria and Iraq are today leaving the conflict zone either to return to their countries of origin or to move to a third State. In the case of France, as I have already mentioned, there are currently some 700 French nationals or residents of France in Syria and Iraq. In addition to those individuals are hundreds of children who were taken to the conflict zone by their parents or were born there. More than half of them are less than 5 years old. With regard to returnees, some 245 adults have returned to French territory since 2013.

The diverse range of profiles, such as the notably high number of women and children, the many degrees of radicalization and the ongoing attraction of the barbaric Da'esh ideology — which is still too easily relayed through the Internet — are some of the major challenges that we must confront. The resolution that we have just adopted constitutes a new and major step in our collective mobilization against terrorism. The resolution effectively and importantly complements the normative framework defined by the Security Council for addressing the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters and strengthens the toolbox at our collective disposal.

More specifically, the resolution calls on Member States to undertake supplementary measures in many areas with the support of the United Nations, such as in information-sharing — with a particular need to improve the use of INTERPOL tools — border management, cooperation with the private sector to prevent the use of the Internet by terrorists, the need to bring the foreign terrorist fighters to justice — along with the central issue of gathering evidence — and measures for reintegration into society, with a particular focus on children. The resolution — and this is a point

that France has particularly underscored on the basis of its own experiences — emphasizes on the case of children who should be taken care of in a targeted way with appropriate psychological, sociological and educational support.

In facing a threat of such magnitude, only close international cooperation with the United Nations and the relevant regional organizations and the involvement of civil society will allow us to act effectively. The Council can be assured of the ongoing commitment to and total determination of France in this fight.

Ms. Schoulgin Nyoni (Sweden): I would like to thank the United States for introducing resolution 2396 (2017). We welcome its unanimous adoption and recognize the new obligations that it creates. We are pleased to have been a sponsor. We hope that the implementation of the resolution will make a meaningful contribution to our common commitment to impede, impair, isolate and incapacitate the threat of foreign terrorist fighters. Ensuring that States cooperate in identifying suspected terrorist travel and notify others when interventions are made is one of the key deliverables of the resolutions.

We welcome the fact that the resolution underscores that measures taken to counter terrorism need to comply with international laws and that it so clearly underscores the fact that respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law is complementary and mutually reinforcing with effective counter-terrorism measures. Aggressive counter-terrorism operations should not inadvertently fuel other conflicts and deepen the disorder that terrorist actors so expertly exploit. With this resolution, the Security Council is imploring Member States to forcefully address the challenge of foreign terrorist fighters in a way that builds resilience, solidifies the rule of law and strengthens the legitimacy of the State.

During the negotiations, we insisted on the need to balance necessary security measures with preventive action. We welcome the international momentum in that regard. A range of United Nations agencies and programmes are taking the lead in creating interventions aimed at tackling the underlying causes. The Secretary-General has spearheaded the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy gives a clear mandate to address the conditions conducive to terrorism.

Some 300 Swedish citizens have joined various terrorist movements in Syria and Iraq. Preventing future radicalization to violent extremism is now a Government priority, with the backing of all major political parties. Our long-term view of that challenge has led us to create a national centre for the prevention of violent extremism, and we urge others to think in similar terms.

Since the adoption of resolution 2178 (2014), many States, including Sweden, have criminalized terrorist travel. Today's resolution emphasizes that obligation, while also recognizing that the threat has evolved. Children travelling with foreign terrorist fighters cannot be doubly victimized when they return to their home country. It is reassuring to note that the new mandate given this week to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate includes, for the first time, the rights of children in its operative paragraphs.

Earlier this year, the Secretary-General told the General Assembly that:

“As soon as we begin believing that violations of human rights and democratic freedoms are necessary to win the fight, we might as well have lost the war” (*A/72/PV.3, p.2*).

For that reason, in all measures to combat terrorism, States must comply with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, as well as the principle of the rule of law.

Mr. Hickey (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom welcomes the adoption this afternoon of resolution 2396 (2017), on foreign terrorist fighters. We thank the United States for its leadership as penholder on this important subject.

Foreign terrorist fighters are an international problem that require an international solution. These fighters do not consider national borders. The international community can effectively address that threat by acting in a coherent manner, including through the Security Council. That becomes ever more important as the terrorist threat adapts to become more dispersed and well networked. The resolution reiterates our resolve to unite, share solutions and adapt to changing threats. It is a joint solution to a joint problem.

The measures we have adopted today address three crucial areas.

First, these measures address foreign terrorist fighters who travel to, from and between areas of conflict. That allows us to detect and apprehend them, including through Advanced Passenger Information and Passenger Name Records (PNR). Today, we have called for the International Civil Aviation Organization to work with its member States to establish a standard for collecting, processing and protecting PNR data to ensure that this capability is used with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Member States are further required to develop biometric data collection to support our ability to pursue foreign terrorist fighters. Collectively, the United Nations, Member States and relevant organizations have a responsibility to support each other in doing this.

Secondly, these measures address the threat we face from would-be extremists who are no longer encouraged to travel to Iraq and Syria, but whose focus is on conducting inspired attacks in their home countries. Many of those individuals have used the Internet for terrorist purposes. That is why we welcome the focus of the resolution on whole-of-Government counter-terrorism strategies and on the importance of working with civil society organizations and industry to help prevent radicalization. Industry-led approaches, such as the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism, are a good example of how industry can play a positive role in preventing terrorist use of the Internet.

Finally, we would like to highlight the step we have taken today in pushing forward action on rehabilitation and reintegration. Those measures address the need to collaborate with all parts of civil society to ensure that reintegration is successful.

This is a shared endeavour. We are united in ensuring implementation, and we remain committed to working with other Member States to strengthen and adapt our response.

Mr. Rosselli Frieri (Uruguay) (*spoke in Spanish*): The phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters is a threat that looms over the international community as a whole. The commitment and cooperation of all States are needed in the fight against terrorism, given its global nature. Resolution 2396 (2017), which we have just adopted, has 51 operative paragraphs containing calls, in some cases urgent, for States to take action in different areas, and in other cases requiring them to act accordingly. These measures seek to achieve an effective worldwide response in order to stop the

movements and activities of foreign terrorist fighters. For that reason, we believe that anything undertaken to that end must be done with full respect for the Charter of the United Nations and of international law.

We also believe that it is important to highlight that, although the resolution is directed to all States equally, not all States have the same capacities to implement its provisions. There are undoubtedly countries that have adopted many of these measures already. Others will have no major difficulty in doing so. Others will need technical assistance, training and financing for that purpose, and will probably receive them. But there are others that may also need to cooperate to strengthen their capacity and to implement the provisions of the resolution, but may not receive assistance as they are not considered priority countries.

We thank the penholder and the delegations that supported the resolution. While we note the difficulties involved in implementation, we encourage States that are able to do so and the competent bodies of the United Nations to provide assistance to States that need and request it in order to implement the provisions of the resolution. Uruguay reiterates that it will continue to do its utmost to adapt to the new requirements imposed by the international context by joining in the shared effort to fight the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon and its protagonists while respecting international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr. Sadykov (Kazakhstan): Kazakhstan welcomes the adoption of the resolution 2396 (2017), which supplements resolution 2178 (2014), on complex measures to combat foreign terrorist fighters. We thank the United States for its initiative to consolidate the efforts of Member States with a view to preventing and suppressing the activities of foreign terrorist fighters.

Resolution 2396 (2017) contains a number of new and important aspects that all States Members of the United Nations are called on to pay great attention to in the framework of ongoing regional and national activities in countering international terrorism. In the wake of recent developments in the successful liberation of the territories of Syria and Iraq from the terrorist group the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, some terrorists are considering how to implement their evil intentions in their countries of origin or nationality or third countries. The international community has to take preventive, coordinated and effective countermeasures in that regard.

One timely and important measure is to strengthen information exchange and the control of passenger traffic in order to identify foreign terrorist fighters. In that regard, the role of the International Civil Aviation Authority, INTERPOL and other international and regional organizations that have information on individuals involved in terrorist activities is significant. Kazakhstan, for its part, will take all the necessary measures to implement the new resolution on foreign terrorist fighters in order to counter the threat of terrorism and radical ideologies.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate Kazakhstan's strong commitment to working with all partners in our region and with the international community to prevent and combat the activities of foreign terrorist fighters.

The President: I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of Japan.

I would like to express my gratitude to the United States for its leadership in creating the important and timely resolution 2396 (2017), addressing foreign

terrorist fighters (FTFs), in particular returning and relocating FTFs. Japan is pleased to have co-sponsored the resolution.

Resolution 2396 (2017) will promote the use of Advanced Passenger Information, Passenger Name Records and biometric data. It will also promote the connection of INTERPOL databases to airports and border checkpoints. Sharing data not only among countries but also among agencies within each country will strengthen our collective ability to address FTFs. I stress the importance of moving from adoption to implementation. Japan is always ready to work closely with other countries to enhance their capacities. We must unite against FTFs, including returning and relocating FTFs, by implementing this resolution.

I now resume my functions as President of the Security Council.

There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.