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Chairperson: Ms. Picco (Monaco)

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

Agenda item 107: Measures to eliminate international terrorism (continued) (A/65/37, A/65/89 and A/65/175 and Add.1 and 2)

1. **Ms. Sahussarungsi** (Thailand) said that her country was committed to becoming a party to all the sectoral conventions and protocols on counter-terrorism. Thailand was currently reviewing its existing laws and introducing new legislation to ensure full compliance with and effective implementation of the sectoral conventions and protocols it had yet to ratify.

2. It would be useful to clarify the obligation to prosecute or extradite in the area of terrorism: in the case of concurrent requests for extradition by different States, it was often difficult to determine which State provided the best chance for a successful prosecution. She welcomed the progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 towards finalizing the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, which, once it entered into force, would fill the gaps in existing treaties and strengthen international efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of terrorist acts. The draft should include a clear definition of terrorism, in terms of both subject matter and *personae materiae*, and should distinguish between acts of terrorism and the legitimate struggle of people in the exercise of their right to self-determination under foreign occupation. The notion of State terrorism was extraneous to and therefore should not be included in the draft convention, which was to be a criminal law enforcement instrument targeting individual criminal responsibility and relying on enhanced international cooperation on the basis of an “extradite or prosecute” regime. Activities already governed by customary international humanitarian law and relevant treaties, including those undertaken by the armed forces of a State during an armed conflict, should be exempted from the scope of the draft convention. Her delegation supported the text proposed by the Coordinator in 2007, which was most likely to lead to general agreement on the text.

3. In terms of regional cooperation, her delegation was confident in the effectiveness of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Convention on Counter-Terrorism and the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism in providing clear obligations and a framework for coordinated actions to

prevent and suppress terrorism. With support from the Government of Japan, Thailand had recently hosted a capacity-building seminar on the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism aimed at promoting a better understanding of the Convention among practitioners and cooperation among ASEAN member States, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance.

4. The root causes of terrorism must be addressed if a sustainable solution was to be found. In addition to an effective legal regime and inter-agency cooperation on law enforcement, measures aimed at tackling economic grievances and social injustices were crucial to a comprehensive strategy on counter-terrorism. Thailand had been promoting dialogue between community leaders of different faiths and cultures to foster better understanding and enhanced integration among diverse groups. An effective counter-terrorism policy must strike a balance between legitimate security concerns and the protection of fundamental rights.

5. **Mr. Chidowu** (United Republic of Tanzania) said that in an effort to support regional capacity-building efforts and the sharing of good practices, the judiciary of his country, in collaboration with the International Crime in Africa Programme at the Institute for Security Studies, had hosted a regional training workshop for senior law enforcement, criminal justice and judicial officials on counter-terrorism and international crimes, specifically, the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism and related complex transnational crimes. The United Republic of Tanzania’s national counter-terrorism centre continued to improve the capacity of relevant experts in preventing and combating terrorism, money-laundering and terrorist financing.

6. Work on concluding a draft comprehensive convention on terrorism should be sped up, and he called on Member States to muster the political will needed to reach agreement on the outstanding issues. The longer the delay, the more sophisticated international terrorism became in its strategies and tactics.

7. His Government strongly condemned the recent terrorist bombings in Uganda and expressed solidarity with, and support to, the Government of Uganda and other neighbouring States in tracking down and prosecuting those responsible. The United Republic of

Tanzania encouraged Member States to step up cooperation for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and at the same time appealed for technical assistance in the development of its own national counter-terrorism strategy.

8. **Mr. Karanouh** (Lebanon) said that, over the previous five years, a number of Lebanese politicians and journalists had been murdered, including Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. Lebanese security forces had defeated one of the most dangerous terrorist groups, the Fatah al-Islam organization in the Nahr el-Bared camp. In addition, thousands of civilians in Lebanon had become the victims of Israeli State terrorism, which had targeted electrical, water and fuel installations; airports, bridges and civilian aircraft; hospitals and Red Cross emergency vehicles; and the United Nations base at Qana, where children, women and older persons had sought protection.

9. Terrorism could not be associated with any of the revealed religions. The Holy Koran, in particular, rejected terrorism and encouraged dialogue. Numerous Muslims had been among the victims of terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 and in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen and Somalia. However, a form of intellectual or cultural terrorism had given rise to the dangerous trend of Islamophobia. While freedom of expression deserved support, Islamophobia constituted incitement and ultimately fuelled terrorism.

10. Lebanon upheld the human rights and fundamental freedoms set forth in international instruments and cooperated with United Nations entities, including the Security Council sanctions committees. His country was also committed to the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, the final text of which should include a clear definition of terrorism and should set forth measures to address its root causes, notably by eliminating double standards in the implementation of international law and by putting an end to foreign occupation, injustice, poverty and human rights violations. The convention should condemn State terrorism and distinguish between terrorism and the legitimate right to resist foreign occupation. The conclusion of such a convention was possible if the stakeholders adopted an approach that was objective and in keeping with international law.

11. **Mr. Stuerchler** (Switzerland) said that respect for human rights and the rule of law enhanced the legitimacy of anti-terrorist measures. The lack of progress both in finalizing the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and in planning a high-level conference on terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations was regrettable. A successful outcome of negotiations on the draft convention would underscore the General Assembly's role as an organ with universally recognized legitimacy and unique authority to set standards, including in the area of combating terrorism. He invited all Member States to participate actively in the negotiation of both the convention and the high-level conference.

12. **Mr. Starčević** (Serbia) said that his country had stepped up bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation regarding border and customs control in order to prevent and suppress terrorism effectively. In 2009, Serbia had passed a new law on the prevention of money-laundering and the financing of terrorism with a view to improving the legislative, institutional and operational counter-terrorism framework. His Government was working closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the joint programme on strengthening the legal regime in Serbia against terrorist financing and with the Council of Europe on the implementation of recommendations issued by the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL).

13. In addition to adhering to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), Serbia was actively implementing the knowledge management system of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute on the prevention of illicit trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear material in South-Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. The decommissioning of the Vinca nuclear reactor was a tangible contribution by Serbia to counter-terrorism and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The latest revision of his country's criminal code included the stiffening of sentences for major crimes and new provisions covering criminal responsibility for the violation of sanctions imposed by international organizations. He urged international civilian and military authorities in Kosovo to step up their efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates, to combat terrorism and provide safety and security for all the citizens living there.

14. Serbia attached great importance to the rapid finalization of the draft comprehensive convention on terrorism; to that end, it was prepared to accept the inclusion of some explanations in an accompanying resolution. Member States should neither attempt to rewrite the concepts already agreed within the Organization, nor try to reinterpret the existing norms of international law, including international humanitarian law. The draft convention should be read in conjunction with other similar conventions and relevant rules of international law, without the unrealistic expectation that it should encompass all aspects of terrorism.

15. **Mr. Gonzales** (Monaco) said that the United Nations, in particular the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), the specialized agencies, and regional and subregional organizations must continue to work together to help all States protect their citizens and to contribute effectively to the implementation of international conventions and Security Council resolutions. The rule of law, an effective penal system based on the principle of legality, respect for human rights, non-discrimination and assistance to and protection of victims were crucial components of the fight against international terrorism. Monaco looked forward to actively engaging in the continued negotiations on the draft comprehensive convention on terrorism, which he stressed was to be an international criminal law instrument established on the basis of the “extradite or prosecute” principle and which should not call into question the provisions of international law or humanitarian law.

16. **Mr. Al Ghailani** (Oman) said that his country had enacted a law on counter-terrorism in 2007 and one on money-laundering in 2010. Oman pledged its continuing support for and cooperation in the international efforts to combat and eliminate terrorism. It had acceded to 10 of the 13 universal instruments relating to terrorism.

17. Terrorism was an international phenomenon unconfined to any one people, race or religion; to associate it with a particular faith or group was liable to fuel hatred and violence among cultures and religions. It was also essential to identify and address the motives for and root causes of terrorism and to make a distinction between terrorism and the legitimate right of peoples to resist foreign occupation.

18. Counter-terrorism measures should be not only effective but also equitable; they must not be allowed to endanger States or innocent people. Oman supported the joint international efforts under way to combat terrorism in conformity with international law and the principle of international sovereignty.

19. **Mr. Gouider** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that despite the consensus that terrorism must be eradicated, the international community had unfortunately not yet agreed on the means to do so. The bitter truth was that the means adopted by the United Nations were far from realizing their intended aim. Although the objective was earnest cooperation, some of the views that had been expressed failed to transcend cultural stereotypes and ad hoc political alignments. The significant achievements of the General Assembly over the previous few years were in sharp contrast with other, counterproductive positions.

20. His own country had taken a range of counter-terrorism measures, which had been acknowledged by the Counter-Terrorism Committee in its 2009 visit. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had been among the first States parties to the international counter-terrorism conventions, and had continued to call for an international conference to define the concept of terrorism in a way that dealt with both the symptoms and the causes. A counter-terrorism code of conduct was also necessary.

21. Since the outset, his country had supported the idea of a comprehensive convention. The delays incurred by successive working groups, however, might raise doubts about the working methods currently in place. It was difficult to understand how a committee concerned with legal matters could fail to agree on such a vital issue, or to distinguish between terrorism and the right to struggle against foreign occupation. That right was recognized under international law and could hardly be called into question. Ignoring it would mean legitimizing injustice and occupation, which bore no relation to counter-terrorism. If the objective was to eliminate all forms of terrorism, the actions of armies in such regions as the Middle East could not be overlooked without perpetuating an opaque policy of double standards. His delegation would spare no effort in order to reach a rapid consensus on the outstanding issues.

22. **Mr. Alshemali** (United Arab Emirates) said that all Member States must strengthen multilateral efforts

to overcome terrorism, which was closely linked to other types of transnational organized crimes. His Government reaffirmed its support for efforts aimed at further developing existing counter-terrorist mechanisms, in accordance with international law and resolutions, to ensure transparency and non-selectivity. He called upon the international community to condemn and prevent hateful provocations that attempted to confuse terrorism with Islam, as they did not fall within the scope of freedom of expression, but instead constituted acts that fostered terrorism.

23. The United Arab Emirates had demonstrated its continued commitment to combating terrorism through the introduction of legislative and other measures, including in the area of banking, border control and immigration. A federal law criminalizing money-laundering had recently been enacted and his Government had acceded to 16 United Nations counter-terrorism conventions on combating terrorism. Bilateral, regional and subregional cooperation had been strengthened in the area of intelligence and exchange.

24. He welcomed the second biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by the General Assembly and the presidential statement made at the high-level meeting recently held by the Security Council (S/PRST/2010/19). He was further encouraged by the appointment by the Secretary-General of Judge Kimberly Prost as Ombudsperson to assist the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) in its consideration of de-listing requests, which it was hoped would strengthen the integrity and effectiveness of that Committee. He looked forward to further improvements in the other sanctions regimes relating to combating terrorism under the rule of law.

25. **Mr. Ayoob** (Afghanistan) said that while the Afghan people and Government, with the support of the international community, were making significant progress in stabilizing and rebuilding their country, the major destabilizing factor still remaining was the presence of terrorist and extremist groups in the region, led by the Taliban and Al-Qaida. They and other criminal groups were responsible for brutal acts that resulted in the deaths of thousands of civilians.

26. He reaffirmed his Government's conviction that terrorism could never be justified and must not be associated with any religion, nationality, race, faith or

culture. As an active partner in the war against terrorism and extremism, his country had taken a number of specific measures to secure peace and stability in Afghanistan and the region. Nevertheless, terrorism continued to expand and posed a serious threat to international peace and security. The international community must engage in a strategy to effectively dismantle organizations and networks that continued to provide support to and harbour terrorists and radical militants.

27. He called on all interested delegations to cooperate in resolving the outstanding issues regarding the draft comprehensive convention on terrorism with a view to its adoption at the Committee's current session. The coordination of the specialized agencies by CTITF was particularly valuable in terms of strengthening the leading role of the United Nations in counter-terrorism efforts. CTITF should be ensured a solid financial basis to help countries in need to build the necessary capacities to effectively fulfil their counter-terrorism responsibilities.

28. **Mr. Al-Ateeqi** (Kuwait) said that his Government condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorism was an unjustifiable criminal act, which must not be associated with any religion, nationality or cultural or ethnic group. His delegation opposed the application of double standards in combating terrorism, as such standards contravened international humanitarian law, human rights law and the rule of law. States should form a united front to combat terrorism, espouse the values of tolerance and peaceful coexistence, reject extremism and violence and adopt moderate, centrist approaches that addressed the root causes of terrorism, particularly those related to economic, social and political conditions.

29. His delegation attached the utmost importance to the adoption of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, which should include a clear and comprehensive definition of terrorism that distinguished it from the inalienable right of individuals or groups to defend themselves and resist aggression in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations. His delegation also welcomed the recent review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and reaffirmed the need to implement all of the strategy's provisions without selectivity. All relevant Security Council resolutions should also be implemented, and the Security Council sanctions committees should work in a fair and

transparent manner, with clear procedures for the listing and de-listing of individuals and entities.

30. Recent counter-terrorism initiatives at the national level included the establishment of the Kuwaiti Peace Centre for the treatment and rehabilitation of persons accused in terrorism cases and the formation of a national committee to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. The latter was responsible for oversight of the fund-raising activities of charitable institutions. All Kuwaiti charitable organizations were non-profit entities providing humanitarian assistance to developing countries and working under the supervision of the Kuwaiti Government.

31. His Government reiterated its support for both the Saudi Arabian proposal to establish an international centre, under United Nations auspices, to combat terrorism and the idea of convening a high-level conference on terrorism, also under United Nations auspices.

32. **Mr. Benítez Versón** (Cuba) said that Cuba rejected terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including State terrorism. Accordingly, it had adopted comprehensive legislative and non-legislative measures to combat that scourge. His country had never allowed and would never allow its territory to be used for carrying out, masterminding or financing terrorist acts against another State. Having ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, Cuba was now party to 13 universal counter-terrorism instruments. It was important for the international community to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in particular its pillars 1 and 4, which referred respectively to measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, and measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

33. Unilateral and arbitrary measures, acts of aggression, interference in the internal affairs of other States or flagrant violations of human rights and humanitarian law by any one State under the guise of combating terrorism must be condemned by the international community. Certification of countries and the drafting of politically motivated lists of good and bad States should be seen as an illegitimate practice.

Cuba rejected the groundless and spurious decision taken by the Government of the United States of America to include Cuba in a list of States that allegedly sponsored international terrorism. That decision was as irrational as the long and cruel economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by that Government against Cuba.

34. The United States of America was still refusing to comply with its international obligation either to try the notorious terrorist Luis Posada Carriles or to extradite him to Venezuela to face charges. Mr. Posada Carriles had yet to be prosecuted for his terrorist acts, even though the United States Government had acknowledged his criminal record and was in possession of evidence against him, including some supplied by Cuba since 1998. Meanwhile, five Cuban heroes remained incarcerated in the United States, their sole offence being that they had fought to defend their people against such terrorists.

35. Cuba was fully committed to combating terrorism and would endorse the adoption of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism which would establish a clear standard definition of the concept of terrorism. That convention must include the activities of States' armed forces, which were not regulated by international humanitarian law. His delegation reaffirmed its commitment to work towards strengthening the role of the United Nations in the adoption of measures and the establishment of the legal framework for combating international terrorism.

36. **Ms. Schonmann** (Israel) observed that terrorists were private individuals operating in the shadows of States, who blended effortlessly into the civilian population yet often wielded State-like power. The result was that groups that flouted humanitarian principles were empowered with military capabilities previously found only in the arsenal of some States. They represented a new kind of threat which required innovative thinking from the international community. In her region of the world, terrorists acted with cynical brutality, as evidenced by suicide bombers who wore belts that were designed not only to kill, but also to maximize the number of living wounded who would bear testimony to the terrorists' attacks.

37. International law and human rights instruments were central to any counter-terrorism strategy. Although democracy demanded that all rights, including those of terrorists, should be respected, the

rights of the victims should be paramount. The biggest challenge was therefore to strike a balance between human rights concerns and security considerations in combating terrorism. Israel supported the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#). As a party to the core United Nations conventions on terrorism, Israel had enacted legislation to fulfil its international obligations and had developed a unique body of knowledge and capabilities in the field of counter-terrorism.

38. It was important for the international community to address not only active, but also passive State sponsorship or support of terrorism. Terrorism did not take root in a vacuum. Incitement to perpetrate acts of terrorism, especially suicide terrorism, fostered the kind of culture in which terrorism could flourish, and too little attention had thus far been paid to the phenomenon of incitement. The calls to address the underlying causes of terrorism were too often a poorly disguised attempt to justify the unjustifiable. Any honest discussion of the underlying factors must address the problems of incitement, extremism, intolerance and the lack of democracy, which fed a culture of hate that glorified murder as martyrdom. Her delegation urged the international community to conduct its discussions on a standard definition of terrorism in a professional manner, and to ensure that the definition was not compromised with exceptions which would in effect strip the term of any true meaning.

39. **Mr. Nyun** (Myanmar) said that, as prescribed in General Assembly resolution [51/210](#), all States had a responsibility to condemn all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed. Myanmar took an unequivocal stand against terrorism and opposed its use to achieve political ends. It had never allowed its territory to be used for hostile acts against any State or as a safe haven for terrorists. It was a party to 11 of the universal counter-terrorism instruments and a signatory to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Convention on Counter-Terrorism.

40. At the subregional level, Myanmar had been participating actively in conferences, symposiums and seminars on the subject of terrorism. At the national level, it had adopted legislation to control money-laundering and organized crime. Its implementing regulations, drafted with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, met international standards.

41. Myanmar rejected any attempts to link terrorism with any religion, race, culture or ethnic group or to interfere in the internal affairs of other States on the pretext of combating terrorism. As terrorism was a scourge that caused destruction around the world, his country attached importance to the role played by the United Nations and regional organizations, and stood ready to work with the international community to ensure that terrorism was defeated.

42. **Mr. Sodnom** (Mongolia) said that his Government unequivocally condemned all forms of terrorism and called on States that had not yet done so to accede to the various international treaties and conventions against terrorism. In order to step up efforts to suppress terrorist acts, pursue perpetrators and limit illicit access to the tools of terrorism, universal accession to those instruments should be the goal. Furthermore, efforts should be redoubled to reach agreement on the outstanding issues and conclude a comprehensive convention on terrorism.

43. The United Nations had a central role to play in coordinating counter-terrorism efforts and providing technical assistance in accordance with the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which Mongolia fully supported. His delegation welcomed the recent review of the Strategy and the progress towards institutionalizing the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

44. It was of utmost importance to address the political, social, and economic conditions that were conducive to the spread of terrorism and to suppress financing for terrorist activities, in particular by countering illicit drug production and trafficking. Mongolia was participating actively in the efforts of the United Nations and the European Union in that regard. It remained committed to Security Council resolutions [1540 \(2004\)](#) and [1373 \(2001\)](#) and had recently hosted a regional workshop, organized by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to promote adherence to the latter resolution.

45. **Mr. Chekkori** (Morocco) said that terrorist attacks in the past year in a number of regions had shown that the fight against terrorism was far from won. Individual action by States to combat terrorism, while unquestionably important, were no substitute for collective action and commitment. Terrorism operated across borders and could emerge in any society. His delegation firmly rejected any attempt to link terrorism

with any particular religion, race, culture or ethnic or racial group; terrorists acted in disregard of all religious, legal and moral standards. It supported dialogue between civilizations in response to any attempt to target religions or to denigrate their values and symbols.

46. The United Nations offered its Member States a legitimate universal framework to forge a collective response to terrorism. It was essential to finalize the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, which would complete that legal framework. His delegation was ready to assist in overcoming the obstacles and fully supported the efforts of the Coordinator. At the same time, those consultations, which had continued for over 14 years, should not be allowed to become an end in themselves or to erode the collective will. Instead, delegations should draw on the positive spirit that had made possible the biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

47. Morocco had adopted a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to counter-terrorism, in compliance with the rule of law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant international resolutions and instruments. However, those efforts would remain incomplete without an unconditional regional and international commitment to addressing the roots of terrorism, including regional sources of tension, and the sources of terrorist financing, notably organized crime.

48. His delegation was deeply concerned at the increase in terrorist activities along the Sahel-Sahara axis. Such developments were connected with the trafficking of persons, small arms and drugs, and could also threaten other African regions and the Euro-Mediterranean area. Narrow political calculations must give way to joint responsibility and constructive partnership with capacity-building organizations.

49. He reaffirmed his delegation's support for the Saudi proposal for a counter-terrorism centre, the Egyptian proposal for a high-level conference and the Tunisian proposal for an international counter-terrorism code of conduct.

50. **Mr. Eriksen** (Norway) said that his Government joined others in condemning all forms of terrorism. International terrorism was one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and an integrated, long-term approach that balanced preventive and combative measures was needed in order to fight it

effectively. Failure to adopt such an approach could lead to the emergence of new, stronger terrorist groups with greater popular support. A range of methods, including political, humanitarian, economic, legal and military measures, should be brought to bear in the fight against terrorism, but at the same time respect for human rights and the rule of law must be ensured.

51. Combating terrorism must remain a priority for the United Nations. Norway remained firmly committed to the implementation of all Security Council and General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conventions on the issue. The appointment of the Ombudsperson pursuant to Security Council resolution 1904 (2009) was a welcome development, and his delegation called on all Member States to assist in making the role of the Ombudsperson known.

52. His delegation welcomed the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and expressed the hope that it would be provided with the resources needed to fulfil its important mandate. His Government was supporting the Task Force through its sponsorship of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism Initiative and was also boosting efforts aimed at implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia. In addition, Norway had co-sponsored an international workshop of national counter-terrorism focal points in October 2009 and was currently supporting regional follow-up conferences aimed at fostering greater support for the Global Strategy and for comprehensive approaches to counter-terrorism.

53. His delegation attached great importance to the adoption of a comprehensive convention against terrorism and was of the view that the Coordinator's proposal of 2007 could provide a basis for consensus. The matter had been under consideration for some time and it was to be hoped that States would show the necessary flexibility and political will to conclude the convention. A high-level conference on terrorism could provide an excellent opportunity to identify needs and resources for implementing the comprehensive convention, and his delegation looked forward to the convening of such a conference as soon as the convention had been adopted.

54. **Mr. Yun Yong Il** (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that terrorism was one of the greatest threats to international peace and security and to the sovereignty of States. Military aggression directed against sovereign States, interference in their internal

affairs and the extreme violations of human rights resulting from such acts were being condoned under the pretext of combating terrorism. In order to succeed in the battle against terrorism, it was essential to understand its root causes and to establish international relations based on sovereign equality, justice and fairness. Member States should respect one another's ideologies, systems, cultures and traditions and actively promote international cooperation for common development and prosperity. The draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism currently under discussion should lay down a basis for establishing such international relations and for putting a stop to terrorist acts by State armed forces.

55. His delegation reaffirmed its support for the convening of a high-level conference on terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations. Such a conference would afford the opportunity to highlight the root causes of terrorism and take acceptable measures. The fight against terrorism should be consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant international instruments. It should not be abused by individual States for their own political ends. Any attempt to categorize another country as a State sponsoring terrorism or to pressure it, impose sanctions on it or use force against it should be resolutely rejected. His Government opposed all forms of terrorism and assistance to terrorists. It had acceded to several international counter-terrorism instruments and was collaborating fully in international efforts to combat terrorism and build a peaceful world.

56. **Mr. Ben Lagha** (Tunisia) said that his country had recently acceded to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and was thus now a party to 13 international counter-terrorism instruments, thereby demonstrating his Government's conviction that the struggle against the global scourge of terrorism must be a collective effort of all Member States. It was to be hoped that other Member States would also become parties to the various counter-terrorism conventions in order to send the right political message and demonstrate their will to form a strong, united front against terrorism.

57. With regards to the draft comprehensive convention, it was important to bear in mind that its adoption should not become an end in itself. The objective should be to put in place an instrument of practical utility that would bridge the gaps in existing

sectoral instruments and be integrated into domestic laws, thus also serving as a law enforcement instrument. Above all, the comprehensive convention should be an instrument that would enable concrete progress to be made and enhance effective cooperation in the struggle against international terrorism. Those objectives could be reached only through a clear, unambiguous and consensual text to which Member States would accede in high numbers and without reservations.

58. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) had visited Tunisia in March 2010 in order to enhance monitoring of the implementation of Security Council resolutions [1373 \(2001\)](#) and [1624 \(2005\)](#) and facilitate the provision of technical assistance for such implementation. The visit had proved mutually beneficial, revealing how Tunisia could further improve its performance and identifying some areas in which it could benefit from international cooperation. His Government looked forward to working with CTED on the implementation of the various recommendations of the visit, especially with regard to technical assistance.

59. Capacity-building was a key element in the struggle against terrorism. Political will and accession to international legal instruments alone were insufficient. Many countries needed technical assistance in order to meet their obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, yet the matter of technical assistance specifically for counter-terrorism efforts had never been exhaustively debated at the United Nations. While CTED played a key role in linking providers with recipients, much technical assistance was currently being provided unevenly or sporadically through bilateral cooperation channels. The General Assembly should play a leading role in the consideration of those issues.

60. Tunisia had cooperated fully in the recent review of the Consolidated List of individuals and entities subject to sanctions, maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1267 \(1999\)](#), and had welcomed the opportunity for enhanced dialogue and cooperation with the Committee. One way to encourage further cooperation with non-members of the Committee, especially the States of nationality of listed individuals, would be for the Committee to take into consideration their views and concerns before deciding on listing or de-listing their nationals. In addition, the guidelines for the Committee's work should be improved so as to make its procedures more

transparent. In that connection, his delegation welcomed the appointment of the Ombudsperson, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1904 (2009).

61. The General Assembly's review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in September 2009 had yielded a resolution that laid the foundation for a more transparent and inclusive framework for the integrated implementation of the Strategy. It was to be hoped that that resolution would encourage more engagement on the part of Member States, which were primarily responsible for the implementation of the Strategy. His delegation thanked the delegations that had voiced support for Tunisia's initiative to convene an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to draw up a code of conduct for the fight against terrorism and joined others in calling for the organization of a high-level conference on the matter.

62. **Mr. Çorman** (Turkey) said that his Government condemned terrorism in the strongest terms and rejected any attempt to associate it with a particular religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. Terrorism was a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, and measures to prevent it could be effective only if they addressed the numerous social, economic, political and other factors that contributed to its existence. Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) had been instrumental in the fight against terrorism, but there were still gaps in their implementation, owing to the lack of either political will or capacity. The international community should adopt a uniform approach to identifying and bringing to justice those responsible for terrorist activities. Full compliance with the provisions of all counter-terrorism conventions was crucial to success in the battle against terrorism. In addition, Member States should make every effort to conclude the negotiations on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

63. As revenue generated from organized crime was a primary source of terrorist financing, combating corruption and money-laundering should be a priority. In that context, international judicial cooperation in respect of terrorist organizations and organized crime groups was as important as cooperation on security issues. Full implementation of the principle of "extradite or prosecute" was essential to finding, denying safe haven to and bringing to justice those who supported, facilitated or participated in terrorist activities. In the absence of an international convention on the matter, the United Nations could and should

assume a more proactive role in the area of judicial cooperation. At the same time, effective border controls, improved cooperation among the competent authorities and expeditious exchange of information should be ensured in order to prevent the movement of terrorists across national borders and stem the supply of weapons to terrorist groups.

64. Continuing international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations could help counter the forces that fuelled polarization and extremism and prevent the indiscriminate targeting of religious and cultural groups in the fight against terrorism. That was the aim of the Alliance of Civilizations, which sought to facilitate harmony and dialogue by emphasizing the common values of different cultures and religions. His delegation welcomed the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 27 September 2010 (S/PRST/2010/19) as a guideline for integrating the different aspects of the fight against terrorism and charting the way forward.

65. **Mr. Donovan** (United States of America) said that his Government firmly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and recognized the global nature of the common challenge that Member States faced in addressing the threats posed by terrorism and violent extremism. His country was committed to deepening and broadening its partnerships with other countries in order to strengthen the international cooperation that was critical to dealing effectively with those threats.

66. His Government also strongly supported full implementation of the United Nations counter-terrorism framework. The United Nations had a critical role to play in the fight against terrorism, including through norm creation and promotion; capacity-building and other technical assistance to help countries meet those norms; working with countries to enable them to address the conditions that were conducive to the spread of terrorism; and providing a platform not only for policymakers and practitioners to exchange experiences and best practices in counter-terrorism, but also for victims of terrorism to speak out against the violent extremist ideology that lay at the root of many terrorist acts. Moreover, the United Nations was uniquely positioned to promote international cooperation between States in devising effective, practical measures for the prevention of such acts and for the prosecution and punishment of those who committed them.

67. The many universal counter-terrorism instruments developed to date had established a thorough legal framework for combating the various facets of terrorism. His Government supported efforts to promote ratification and full implementation of those instruments, as evidenced by its recent increase in funding for the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing training to national criminal justice officials.

68. His delegation also supported efforts to enhance the legal counter-terrorism framework, including the drafting of a comprehensive convention that would reinforce the critical principle that no cause or grievance justified terrorism. Member States had long strived to reach consensus on a text that would draw upon existing language on military activities, which had been widely accepted in the international community. While his delegation remained willing to consider solutions consistent with the fundamental principles it had outlined previously, it was also of the view that continued impasse on the matter would only serve to highlight the issues that divided the international community. It was preferable to focus on the many areas in which Member States were united in the collective fight against terrorism.

69. **Mr. Ajawin** (Sudan) said that his country unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms, including State terrorism. In consequence, the Sudan had ratified 12 counter-terrorism conventions and was studying the procedures for acceding to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. In 2005, it had hosted a second African regional counter-terrorism conference, whose final declaration contained an undertaking by the States of the region to combat terrorism. International cooperation and constructive dialogue were vital in combating terrorism, given the rising trend to identify specific religions with the phenomenon.

70. His delegation urged the international community to arrive at a consensus with regard to the definition of terrorism. For combating terrorism, it was important to first address its root causes, including religious xenophobia, political injustice and poverty. The struggle for self-determination, a right that was enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, should not be confounded with terrorism. The global fight against terrorism must be conducted in accordance with international instruments relating, in particular, to international humanitarian law and human rights.

71. The Sudan supported the Saudi Arabian proposal for the establishment of an international centre under the auspices of the United Nations to combat terrorism. The struggle against terrorism was a long process that required coordination and cooperation among all members of the international community. His country was determined to support all international initiatives that aimed to reach comprehensive agreements on combating terrorism.

72. **Ms. Valenzuela Díaz** (El Salvador) said that terrorism was a global phenomenon which no longer respected national borders and resulted in enormous loss of life and material damage in many countries. It was incumbent on the international community to take joint action to eradicate that phenomenon. El Salvador had incorporated the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as well as the Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism into its domestic legal system, with the promulgation of a special counter-terrorism law. The country had also taken measures to fulfil its obligations under international instruments and Security Council resolutions on terrorism.

73. El Salvador had created a port and airport security committee composed of members of the national police, the armed forces and the port and civil aviation authorities. It had tightened security around its airports and seaports and was closely monitoring the list of people considered to be international terrorists. It was exchanging information with international financial bodies and police intelligence services in order to combat gangs involved in organized crime and drug trafficking. El Salvador was a member of the Amazon Group, which collected police data on terrorist groups and shared that data with various countries in an effort to combat terrorism and organized crime. The Government had promulgated various laws to comply with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the country's obligations under international counter-terrorism treaties to which it was a party.

74. The international legal framework for combating terrorism must become more vigorous and effective. Her delegation would therefore cooperate fully in the work of completing a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

75. **Mr. Donovan** (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that although his Government did not generally comment on pending extradition matters, it did wish to respond

to the statements made by the Government of Cuba regarding the case of Luis Posada Carriles. It had informed the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela that the United States did not have sufficient basis under domestic law or its extradition treaty with that Government to carry out the latter's request for extradition and had identified and explained a number of deficiencies in the request. Mr. Posada Carriles was currently facing federal prosecution in the United States of America on a number of charges, including charges that he had lied to officials of the United States Government about his involvement in terrorist bombings that had taken place in Cuba in 1997. His trial was scheduled to commence in January 2011.

76. **Mr. Delgado Sánchez** (Cuba), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that while the representative of the United States of America had explained that Mr. Posada Carriles had not been extradited to Venezuela because of technical flaws in the extradition request and that he would be tried in the United States in January 2011, he had failed to acknowledge that Mr. Posada Carriles was being tried for immigration misdemeanours and not for his terrorist activities. Although Central Intelligence Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation documents identified Mr. Posada Carriles as the mastermind of many terrorist attacks, and even though he was a confessed terrorist, he was still free to roam the streets of Miami and organize and foment terrorist attacks against Cuba and other countries in the hemisphere. As recently as 27-28 February 2010, it had been reported in the press that Mr. Posada Carriles had been a guest of honour at the congress of Alpha 66, a terrorist organization, and had proposed that violent action should be undertaken against Cuba. To that end, the group was planning to acquire new vessels fitted with machine guns.

77. In July 2010, in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the international terrorist Francisco Antonio Chávez Abarca had been arrested. He had been recruited and trained personally by Posada Carriles. He had confessed that Mr. Posada Carriles was planning to sink oil tankers en route to Cuba. That represented a threat not just to the lives and property of Cuban citizens, but also to the environment and ecosystem which Cuba shared with other countries, including the United States. Meanwhile, Mr. Posada Carriles, like other terrorists inside the United States, continued to walk the streets a free man.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.