UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – SIXTH COMMITTEE ITEM 107:

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

STATEMENT

BY

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madam Chair

Liechtenstein strongly condemns all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We also reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the fullest extent to the international fight against terrorism in all its aspects, including through cooperation with the relevant UN bodies. Liechtenstein has ratified all 13 universal counter-terrorism treaties and the amendments thereto. We will continue our dialogue with the Security Council's Counter-terrorism Committee, to which we will submit our seventh report later this year.

Turning to the work ahead for this Committee under this agenda item, we would like to reiterate that we should spend as little time and resources as possible on the ritualistic negotiation of the annual resolution. Instead we should focus our attention on the conclusion of the negotiations on the draft Comprehensive Convention against Terrorism.

Madam Chair

We commend the efforts of our Coordinator, Mrs. Maria Telalian (Greece), during earlier sessions of the Sixth Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee. The number of delegations that have expressed strong support for, or interest in, her compromise proposal, continues to grow. We continue to believe that the approach taken in the Coordinator's proposal is the only possible avenue for a compromise. It is a legally sound and politically realistic proposal that deserves a substantive response by all stakeholders in the negotiation. We have during past sessions extensively commented on the substance of this proposal, and we look forward to a substantive exchange in the Working Group. We will therefore not repeat these comments during this debate. Nevertheless, we would like to recall our understanding that the compromise proposal clarifies issues related to the application of international humanitarian law in a manner that could already be

read into Article 18 of the Coordinator's text, in particular as paragraph 1 of the existing draft article already refers to the integrity of IHL. We therefore consider the compromise proposal to be consistent with other conventions adopted by this Committee in the area of counter-terrorism, most notably the Bombing Convention.

Given that the compromise proposal has been on the table since 2007 and has so far not met with any public objection by any delegation, we hope that we can finally make some progress during this session. Otherwise, and in the interest of the credibility of this organization, we would have to question the wisdom of convening under the umbrella of either the Ad Hoc Committee or the Six Committee twice a year and should be looking for an exit strategy instead.

I thank you.