

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE
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MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. Chairman,

Liechtenstein strongly condemns all acts of terrorism, irrespective of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed. We 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. We strongly believe that the General Assembly must continue to play a key role in shaping the work of the United Nations to combat terrorism, along with the Security Council and the Human Rights Council.

Mr. Chairman,

Liechtenstein has ratified all UN counter-terrorism treaties and their amendments. We also cooperate fully with and have implemented the decisions of relevant UN bodies. And we continue to take all necessary measures, in conformity with the rule of law and applicable human rights standards, to prevent any potential abuse of our financial center for terrorist purposes. All States must uphold human rights when undertaking concrete measures to counter terrorist financing. This also holds true for measures undertaken by the UN itself. The UN must lead by example in areas where it acts to prevent and combat terrorism. We therefore very much value the work of the Office of the Ombudsperson to the ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee and welcome the appointment of the new Ombudsperson. We continue to

advocate for the mandate of the Ombudsperson to extend to other sanctions regimes and to ensure the necessary resources and support for the Office. Full respect for human rights, including due process rights, while countering terrorism is not only an obligation under international law, but also an essential part of an effective fight against terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

Regrettably, measures to ensure human rights and respect for the rule of law as a fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism are often just an afterthought. Governments actively involved in combating terrorism must avoid contributing to outcomes that betray the values that we all seek to uphold. The adoption of the sixth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a step in the right direction and we are hopeful that States can work together to find a better balance among its four pillars. In particular, much more can be done to prevent violent extremism. One of our greatest challenges remains effectively addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. In this regard, it is important to recall that implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy requires us to place young people at the center of our efforts. Young men and women are often the most vulnerable for radicalization. Thus, both the UN and its Member States must also engage with and invest in the youth to successfully combat terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

This Committee has made important contributions to our collective response to terrorism in the past, in particular by drafting numerous relevant international conventions. Following these efforts, we should make sure to streamline our work accordingly and avoid a duplication of discussions in various fora. We therefore hope that at the very least the suggestion of the European Union and others to bi-annualize the discussion on this item can be taken up.

Thank you.