

**Joint Statement during the ID with the SR
on Human Rights and Counter Terrorism**

Madam President,

I have the honor to read this statement on behalf of Bangladesh, ^{Belarus} China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Venezuela, ^{Vietnam}

We thank the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and protection of human rights while Countering Terrorism, Mr. Ben Emmerson for his report. We agree with his opening premise that acts of terrorism constitute a violation of the human rights of the victims of terrorism and that it is the general duty of States, under Article 6 of the ICCPR, to protect the right to life of the citizens on their territory. We also subscribe to the SR's observation that counter terrorism measures must be in full compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law. They must respect, most important of all, the right to life of non-combatants. As the SR notes in para 25 of his report, the use of counter terrorism measures that violate fundamental human rights have been recognized by the General Assembly as one of the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

We unequivocally condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. However, we believe that exclusive reliance on the use of indiscriminate force only perpetuates the vicious cycle of violence and exacerbates the problem. There is a particular responsibility lying on all States to avoid casualties-among non combatants. It is vital to ensure respect for the rule of law and due process of law, to avoid illegal practices like torture, renditions, deprivation of justice and targeted and extrajudicial killings, to name a few, and to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States in the shared campaign against terrorism.

Madame President,

The Charter of the United Nations explicitly prescribes situations and conditions when armed force can be used. In any other situation, the full body of international human rights law applies which include the prohibition of extrajudicial and targeted killings on the territories of other countries, in particular through drone attacks or any other means. The problem is compounded when these attacks result in deaths of innocent civilians and non-combatants. Both the present and the former UN Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions have raised serious concerns on the use of drones.

Building on the conclusions made by the Special Rapporteur we would also like to urge states to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing, training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities. It is nothing but complicity to the human rights violations and should be regarded as such.

We call on the Special Rapporteur to look into the issues highlighted here, in his future work. We also need to remember that an effective counter terrorism strategy is to strengthen international peace and promote common development.

I thank you