



EGYPT

مصر

The Permanent Mission of Egypt
to the United Nations
New York

بعثة مصر الدائمة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

**Statement by
The Delegation of Egypt**

**before
the Sixth Committee
on
Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism**

New York, 10 October 2007

Check Against Delivery

Mr. Chair,

The Delegation of Egypt aligns itself with the statements presented on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the African Group. It would also like to express its appreciation to the Secretary General, the Chair and Coordinator of the Ad hoc Committee established pursuant to the General Assembly Resolution A/51/210 for the reports they have prepared and for their efforts directed towards the conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention.

Mr. Chair,

The Delegation of Egypt reiterates its condemnation to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations regardless of its motivations or objectives. It also emphasizes the importance not to associate terrorism with any specific religion or culture, especially the Islamic religion, as it entails clear injustice and unfairness to religions and cultures. It instigates malice and hatred among peoples and ensures the importance of States to respect human rights in their measures to counter terrorism.

From this perspective, the Delegation of Egypt reiterates the necessity to address the root causes of terrorism and the eradication of political, economic and security factors that nourish it, in particular, through putting an end to conflicts, double standards in implementing international legitimacy, ending foreign occupation, recognizing the right of peoples for self determination, putting an end to States practice of State Terrorism, abolishing the foundation of injustice and the attack on human rights and dignity. Therefore, the Delegation of Egypt foresee the importance of finalizing the negotiations to conclude the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism as a fundamental step to address the legal issues that the sectorial conventions on terrorism did not address, in an attempt to strongly combat the terrorism phenomenon and to prevent its expansion.

Hence, the Delegation of Egypt asserts the necessity for States to engage in the negotiation process on Article 18 of the Comprehensive Convention in an attempt to reach an acceptable solution to all parties. The distinction should be drawn between the terrorist act and the legitimate acts in accordance with international humanitarian law that national liberation movements carry out while exercising their right of self determination and also the incrimination of acts committed by States against innocent civilians aiming at terrorizing them. The delegation of Egypt reaffirms its full commitment to start a new round of negotiations on this article and other pending articles in order to reach an agreement on it.

From the same perspective, the Delegation of Egypt emphasizes the importance of holding the high-level Conference on countering terrorism under the aegis of the United Nations aiming at reaching a concrete definition to terrorism that draws a distinction between the legal

rules to counter terrorism and the international humanitarian law. This may assist in the speed up of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention.

The Delegation of Egypt reiterates the vital role of the General Assembly in combating terrorism. Therefore, we have to seize the opportunity of reviewing the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy to consolidate this role and to strengthen the protective measures and means to counter terrorism from a wide and comprehensive approach, without leaving the matter to be addressed by a limited number of States within the Security Council. This shall entail the possibility of departing from the narrow security approach in countering the phenomenon of terrorism and to imply more democracy in the Organization. The Delegation of Egypt also welcomes the regular review of the strategy in order to cope with the international changes in countering terrorism issues.

Mr. Chair,

Finally, the Delegation of Egypt reaffirms its commitment to exert all efforts to conclude the negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention to combat terrorism with a broad-minded approach, so as the Sixth Committee can proceed in achieving progress in this regard and to conclude the Convention and hold the International Conference in order to reinforce the supremacy of international legitimacy and to strengthen the role of the United Nations in establishing international peace and security.

Thank you Mr. Chair.