



**Statement**

**On behalf of the Organization of Islamic Conference**

**By**

**H.E. Bashar Jaafari**

**Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United  
Nations**

**Agenda item 107**

**Measures to Eliminate International terrorism**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**I have the honour to speak on behalf of the OIC Group on the agenda item “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”.**

**At the outset I would like to express the OIC Group’s full support for the efforts aimed at finding a solution of the contentious issues under consideration.**

**Mr. Chairman,**

It has been very well known to the International community that the OIC Group strongly condemns all acts and practices of terrorism and remains convinced that terrorism, irrespective of its motivation, objectives, forms and manifestations, committed by whomsoever and wherever, can never be justified.

We wish to draw the Committee’s attention to the Final Communiqué of the OIC Summit held in Dakar, Senegal on 13-14 March 2008 (document #:OIC/SUMMIT-11/2008/FC/Final), the OIC Group Resolution No. **20/37-POL** adopted by the **37<sup>th</sup>** meeting of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Minister (ICFM) held in **Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 18-20 May 2010** as well as the Joint Communiqué of the OIC-Annual Coordination Meeting held in New York in September 2010.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The OIC Group reaffirms that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, race, faith, theology, values, culture, society or group. NO religion or religious doctrine encourage or inspires acts or terrorism, and, thus, none should be portrayed as such. In this increasingly globalized world, we need more than ever before, understanding, harmony, mutual respect, and building of bridges among all cultures and peoples.

The OIC Group also reaffirms its commitment to strengthen mutual cooperation in the fight against terrorism. Only through a coordinated approach the

international community's fight against terrorism will yield effective results. To achieve this objective the OIC Group support a comprehensive strategy to combat terrorism that must address the root causes of terrorism including unlawful use of force, aggression, foreign occupation, festering international disputes, denial of the right of peoples living under foreign occupation to self-determination, political and economic injustices, and political marginalization and alienation.

The Group reiterates once again the need to make a distinction between terrorism and the exercise of legitimate right of peoples to resist foreign occupation and would like to stress that this distinction is duly observed in International Law, International Humanitarian Law, Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and the General Assembly resolution 46/51 which also endorses this position.

The Group reaffirms that the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GA resolution 60/288) constitutes an ongoing effort and is a living document, which should be up-dated and examined regularly. The Group also reaffirms that the Counter-Terrorism Strategy should be implemented in all its aspects.

The OIC Group considers that the financing of terrorism is a matter of grave concern for the international community and recognized that the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups constitutes one of the main sources of financing of terrorism. The Group urges, in this regard, the member States to cooperate for banning the payment of ransoms claimed by terrorist Groups

**Mr. Chairman,**

The General Assembly remains seized to the pending issue of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT). The OIC Group reaffirms its commitment to the process of negotiations and underscores the need for progress in this process. We reiterate our previous proposal on the scope of the draft Convention. The Group is still willing to continue consideration of the Coordinators latest proposal. We reaffirm our determination to make every

effort to reach a consensus agreement on the draft convention, by resolving the outstanding issues including those related to the legal definition of terrorism, particularly on the distinction between terrorism and the struggle for the rights of self-determination by people under foreign occupation, and colonial or alien domination, as well as on the scope of the acts covered by the draft Convention.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The OIC Group reiterates the call to hold a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to conclude an agreed definition of terrorism.

The Group reaffirms its support for the proposal of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud to establish an international centre, under the United Nations, to combat international terrorism.

The Group also reiterates its support for the effort aimed at developing an International Counter-Terrorism Code of Conduct within the framework of the United Nations.

**I thank you Mr. Chairman.**