

EGYPT



مصر

The Permanent Mission of Egypt
to the United Nations
New York

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**Statement by
The Delegation of Egypt**

**before
the Sixth Committee
on item 107**

Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

Madame Chair,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau for your election and pledge my delegation's support to all your efforts towards a successful outcome of this session. The Delegation of Egypt aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. We would also like to express our 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 before us today and for their efforts directed towards the conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention and convening the High Level Conference.

Madame Chair,

The Delegation of Egypt reiterates its condemnation to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever, by whomever, against whomsoever committed including those in which States are directly or indirectly involved, which are unjustifiable whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them. My delegation also emphasizes the importance not to associate terrorism with any particular religion or culture, and to promote instead the culture of tolerance that all religions call for. Experiences have evidenced that establishing such a link inflames hatred among peoples and provides an opportunity for terrorists to exploit such factors and to spread their ideas and activities.

From this perspective, the Delegation of Egypt reiterates the necessity to address the root causes of terrorism and eliminate its underlying causes, in particular the political, economic and security factors, through putting an end to conflicts, eliminating double standards, politicization and selectivity in implementing international obligations, ending foreign occupation, recognizing the right of peoples for self determination, putting an end to State Terrorism and abolishing injustice.

In this regard, the Delegation of Egypt underlines the importance of finalizing the negotiations to conclude the Comprehensive Convention on Countering Terrorism, as an important step to complement the existing sectoral conventions on terrorism, and thus effectively strengthen the legal framework in addressing this phenomenon. It is important for the Convention to include a clear definition of terrorism that should distinguish between acts of terrorism and the legitimate struggle of peoples in the exercise of their right to self-determination under foreign occupation and colonial or alien domination.

Furthermore, the scope of the acts covered by the draft convention needs to be carefully addressed. There is no doubt that time has come to bridge the differences in views to complement such international efforts and to reach agreement on the outstanding issues in the Draft Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism, in order to fill the remaining gaps in the current international legal regime. The Delegation of Egypt reaffirms its commitment to engage fully in a new round of negotiations in order to reach an agreement by consensus.

In the same context, the Delegation of Egypt highlights the importance of holding the High-Level Conference on countering terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations, to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism and to further solidify cooperation among member states in the implementation of their commitments under international law and international humanitarian law. This may assist in the speedy conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention, and in responding positively to the demands in the final document of the Sharm el-Sheikh Summit of Heads of State and Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement in July 2009, and the consecutive Summits and Ministerial meetings of the African Union and the League of Arab States Summits reiterating the importance of convening this High Level Conference.

The Delegation of Egypt further welcomes the successful Second review of the United Nations Global Strategy on Counter-Terrorism in September 2010 and notes in particular the recognition that States have the primary responsibility for its implementation, with a view to turning the Strategy into an ongoing effort and a living document, which continues to be updated regularly. We reiterate our support

for the Counter-terrorism Implementation Task Force, welcome its institutionalization and look forward for its enhanced engagement, close cooperation and coordination with member states.

Madame Chair,

Finally, the Delegation of Egypt reaffirms its commitment to exert all efforts to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to defeat terrorism and to achieve international peace and security.

Thank you Madame Chair.