



**UGANDA**

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**STATEMENT**

**TO**

**THE SIXTH COMMITTEE**

***AGENDA ITEM 107,  
"MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM"***

Please Check Against Delivery

New York, October 6, 2010

**Madam Chairperson,**

I congratulate you and other members of the bureau upon your election to guide the work of this Committee. You can count on my delegation's support and cooperation for a successful outcome of the 65<sup>th</sup> session.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by Ghana on behalf of the African Group; Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Group; and Syria on behalf of the OIC.

**Madam Chairperson,**

Uganda condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, for whatever purpose and by whomsoever. Terrorism can never be justified under any pretext. We reiterate our position that in order to succeed in the fight against terrorism, we must resolve to collectively take the hard decisions, through a comprehensive approach. There is need to assign a comprehensive definition to terrorism, to expose terrorists for what they are. It should no longer be tenable for terrorists to hide under the cover of legitimate struggles.

It is essential to deny terrorism conditions under which it may thrive, as an important step in ultimately eradicating the threat it poses. You can only eradicate the problem by tackling its root causes and not just by combating the symptoms. We commend the global efforts against money-laundering and terrorism financing.

**Madam President,**

We commend renewed impetus by the international community in the fight against terrorism, as well as the international organisations which have played an important role. My delegation commends the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its continued work to provide technical assistance on criminal justice aspects of counter terrorism within the framework of its global project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism. We also commend the International Maritime Organisation for developing legal instruments and associated training and guidance material, especially assisting Governments to implement the provisions of chapter XI-2 of the 1988 Convention and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, through its technical cooperation programme.

It would be absurd to associate terrorism with particular religious beliefs, race, or civilization. Indeed no effort should be spared in dispelling such ill-conceived perceptions. Accordingly, my delegation welcomes UNESCO in the work undertaken to pursue efforts in various areas pertaining to the dialogue among civilisations, cultures and peoples, as well as the culture of peace.

In our sub-region, Uganda continues to make its contribution under the aegis of AMISOM in the fight against one of the anarchical terrorist outfits, the Al-Shabaab in Somalia. We call on the international community to assist in supporting AMISOM and building the capacity of the Transitional Federal Government and Somali. Piracy could be used as a conduit for delivering arms to terrorist groups. Therefore the TFG should be assisted with institutional development so as to attain the necessary capacity to take on the terrorist organisations which look at Somalia as a safe haven for their criminal enterprise. Our collective efforts should fundamentally aim at denying terrorists any havens, eradicating sources of terrorist financing, reducing state vulnerability, and enhancing emergency preparedness and response capabilities. It is by so doing that we can preserve the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state, and ensure the safety of citizens.

**Madam Chairperson,**

On July 11, this year, Uganda suffered a terrorist attack by suicide bombers which resulted in indiscriminate loss of life. This particular incident highlights the fact that terrorism can take place anywhere, and that terrorism has evolved into a threat to international peace and security which must be fought by global collective effort. Accordingly we call for capacity building in order to conclusively deal with terrorist activity in our region, with the culprits being brought to justice. Cooperation in security matters is just as important as international legal cooperation so that perpetrators of terrorist activities would not find a safe haven anywhere.

The IAEA in its current report has revealed troubling statistics that out of the 124 incidents of terrorist incidents that occurred in 2009, nine involved illegal possession and attempts to sell nuclear material or radioactive sources. Another 115 incidents involved thefts or losses of radioactive sources, and discoveries of uncontrolled material, unauthorized disposals and inadvertent unauthorized shipments and storage of nuclear materials, radioactive sources and radioactively contaminated materials. This leads me to address the deplorable dumping of toxic waste material off the coast of Somalia. My delegation has time and again voiced this concern that the toxic waste dumping sites could one day be turned into ready arsenals by terrorists if they could recycle the material in their quest for weapons of mass destruction. These reprehensible dumping actions must stop and the culprits should be held accountable for their indiscretions.

Thank you.