



*Check against delivery*

**Statement by H.E. Eddy Pratomo  
Director-General for International Law & Treaties Affairs  
of the Republic of Indonesia  
on  
Agenda Item 100  
“Measure to Eliminate International Terrorism”**

**New York, 12 October 2006**

Let me first congratulate you upon your assumption of the chairmanship of this Committee. We also congratulate other members of the bureau, and welcome them to office. Let me assure you of my delegation's support and cooperation in the work of this Committee.

Before continuing, my delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by Vietnam on behalf of ASEAN member countries.

Mr. Chairman,

We are meeting today against the backdrop of our recent success in the adoption of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This achievement is a testament to the earnest efforts of the international community to seek collective answers to this scourge.

It reflects our determination to strengthen international cooperation to combat terrorism as one of the greatest threats to our common humanity. And it further strengthens the role of the UNGA as our central platform of engagement on such paramount issues.

The task before us now is to implement the strategy assiduously so that it will yield tangible results.

Mr. Chairman,

Because of the first-hand experience of Indonesia, we are a frontline state when it comes to fighting terrorism. Terrorism is a clear and present danger to

our people. And we continue to condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. It is a matter of top priority in our national security policy. We are highly committed to fighting the scourge, and remain focused on finding effective ways, including multilateral cooperation, to eradicate its multi-faceted root causes.

No one would argue that terrorism is a threat to international peace and security. We certainly need to enhance the partnership at the global level and the international community must address the multifaceted root causes if we want success in this undertaking. In our view, the international campaign against terrorism can only be won through a comprehensive and balanced approach in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, international law, and international human rights covenants.

For its part, Indonesia has enacted several laws to curb terrorism, including Anti-Terrorist Law No. 15/2003 which covers the rights of defendants and of victims. We are party to six relevant international legal instruments. Two of the legal instruments that have been ratified recently include the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing (1997), and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999).

We have also submitted written reports to the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) established under resolution 1373, as well as the Sanctions Committees established by resolutions 1267 and 1540, detailing various national measures that have been undertaken in the implementation of those Security Council resolutions pertaining to terrorism.

In addition to individual efforts at the domestic level, Indonesia - in collaboration with Australia - has established *the Jakarta Center for Law Enforcement Cooperation* (JCLEC) for the Asia and Pacific region. The Centre has been fully operational since December 2004. We believe that the establishment of such a center for the region would help strengthen our concerted measures to fight this menace effectively.

Mr. Chairman,

While we are prepared to continue these efforts until terrorism is defeated, we reject any notion that would associate terrorism with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. We note with great concern the growing tendency to suggest this link or association. We regard it as extremely important therefore to build cultural bridges, using the tool of dialogue, to promote mutual understanding.

And if we really want to succeed in combating terrorism we need to deploy the power of dialogue with elements in the society. We should embrace community leaders, scholars as well as the mass media in the process since they can influence change at the grassroots level.

This is why Indonesia is consistently in exploring interfaith dialog as a tool for nurturing mutual understanding and tolerance among people of different cultural and religious backgrounds. The latest of such endeavors, "Global Intermedia Dialogue" — which we organized jointly with Norway in September this year in Bali — focused on enhancing dialogue with the international media. We also convened "APEC Intercultural and Faith Symposium" held on 5-6 October 2006 in Jogjakarta.

We are pleased that initiatives of this nature are now taking place in different parts of the world. We consider this to be important in our venture to promote tolerance and mutual understanding. Likewise, this process would assist us in promoting awareness among the populace about the danger of embracing radicalism and extremism, which may fuel terrorism.

Of equal importance, in this regard, is commitment to redressing and resolving in a just manner the prolonged conflicts caused by foreign occupation, and local grievances deriving from socio-economic marginalization caused by the development process. Only through concerted efforts in these endeavors can we win the hearts and minds of people as envisaged by the Plan of Action.

Mr. Chairman,

While it is necessary to establish and maintain mutually beneficial global partnerships—*inter alia* through sharing information and building the requisite capacity of the governmental machinery to fight terrorism—Indonesia believes we also need to establish strong legal foundation to combat this scourge.

This is important if we want to implement a strategy capable of comprehensively rooting out terrorism in all of its aspects and manifestations. For this reason, we believe that the adoption of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy has generated great momentum by which to expedite the conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) at the earliest convenience during this 61<sup>st</sup> session.

What we need at this stage is to take advantage of this momentum to seek a convergence of viewpoints on the complex issue of a definition of terrorism. If Member States could exercise flexibility in the negotiation of the UN Global Strategy, they can certainly do so in pursuing the objective of a comprehensive legal framework to fight international terrorism. And in order to facilitate this objective, we are supportive of the proposal to convene a high level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

We urge Member States, therefore, to redouble their efforts to settle outstanding issues that are intrinsic to the Convention and in the framework of the Working Group.

I thank you.