



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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STATEMENT BY MR. HIROSHI TAJIMA
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ON THE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON MEASURES
TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SIXTH COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2006
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to convey my delegation's sincere appreciation to Ambassador Rohen Perera for his efforts on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism as well as his report on the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210.

Terrorism cannot be accepted or justified for any reason whatsoever. This year we commemorate the fifth anniversary of the simultaneous terrorist attacks on the United States on 11 September 2001, and the efforts by the international community to combat terrorism have been making steady progress. At the same time, however, terrorists have devised new means of carrying out their activities, terrorist actors have become more diverse and terrorism still remains a serious threat all over the world. Terrorists have continuously challenged the international community through barbaric acts of terrorism, including the simultaneous bomb attacks on commuter trains in Mumbai, India, on 11 July and an uncovered plot to destroy multiple passenger aircraft flying from the United Kingdom to the United States in August this year. Under such circumstances, counter-terrorism strategy needs to be further strengthened through international coordination. Japan is determined to continue the fight against terrorism, and we hope that the deliberations in the Sixth Committee will lead to discussions on concrete counter-terrorism measures.

Mr. Chairman,

Japan welcomes the adoption by consensus of the General Assembly resolution on the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in September. The Strategy is the first comprehensive

document that contains principles and a plan of action to strengthen the capacity of the UN in its counter-terrorism efforts, and it should be regarded as a milestone in the history of the UN in this field. We particularly appreciate that the General Assembly has agreed to send a unified message on behalf of the international community as a whole. The Strategy welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to institutionalize the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force within the Secretariat. Upon its institutionalization, it is important that the Task Force play an effective role in coordination and implementation of the measures provided in the Strategy, including the capacity-building of developing States. Japan is ready to contribute to enhancing the coherence of UN counter-terrorism activities by striving to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlap, in cooperation with other Member States.

Mr. Chairman,

As my delegation has repeatedly stated, it is vital to establish an international framework to bring to justice those who are responsible for terrorist acts in all cases. From this point of view, our primary task is to advance our discussion on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. Japan encourages all Member States to engage positively in the negotiations on the Convention and maintain the required momentum to reach an agreement. We are committed to participate in the discussions in a constructive manner, and in the inter-governmental process as well, with the aim of realizing an early conclusion of the Convention.

Thank you.