



**MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA SUISSE
AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES**

Seul le texte prononcé fait foi

**61^{ème} session de l'Assemblée générale
6^{ème} Commission**

Point 100 de l'ordre du jour

Mesures visant à éliminer le terrorisme international

**Déclaration
de
M. Jürg Lauber
Mission permanente de la Suisse
auprès des Nations Unies**

Check against delivery

**61st session of the General Assembly
6th Committee**

Item 100

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

**Statement
by
Mr. Jürg Lauber
Permanent Mission of Switzerland
to the United Nations**

New York, le 11 octobre 2006

Mr President

Switzerland has always supported the idea of strengthening the role of the General Assembly in the fight against terrorism, given this organ's universal legitimacy in normative matters. It is pleased that that UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted on 8 September 2006. For the first time in its history the UN has adopted a full action plan to fight against terrorism on a global scale.

The adoption of the Strategy by consensus underlines that the General Assembly has the will to contribute effectively to the fight against terrorism and that it is in a position to do so. Switzerland hopes that the General Assembly will adopt without delay the text of a general convention on international terrorism, which will complement the sixteen existing conventions and protocols. It regrets that the existing differences of opinion between member States on questions as fundamental as the definition of terrorism itself have not yet been overcome. It hopes that work on this text can be resumed in the same spirit of international cooperation that prevailed during the discussions on the Strategy. It would welcome the establishment of an ad hoc working group tasked with continuing this work by next spring or at the latest for the sixty-second General Assembly.

The global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is coherent and balanced. Switzerland believes that it is essential that the international community puts in place the necessary international and national structures. The institutionalisation of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force within the General Secretariat is a first encouraging step in this direction.

The Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy stresses, amongst other things, that the fight against terrorism, respect for the rule of law and of human rights are measures designed to achieve the same goals and are reciprocally reinforcing. Switzerland is convinced that in order to enhance the legitimacy of counter-terrorism action, increased respect for human rights and the rule of law is necessary. It is necessary, for example, to establish transparent procedures for the listing and delisting of persons on UN sanctions lists. In this context, Switzerland welcomes the publication of the white paper entitled "Strengthening Targeted Sanctions Through Fair and Clear Procedures" as document A/60/887 and S/2006/331 respectively of the General Assembly. This document, written on the initiative of the German, Swedish and Swiss governments by the Targeted Sanctions Project of the Watson Institute for International Studies of Brown University (Providence, Rhode Island), analyses the current practice of sanctions committees and makes recommendations about the strengthening of procedures for United Nations targeted sanctions. We are glad that it is hence available to nourish reflections leading to the necessary improvements of the listing and delisting.