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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. MR. NEVILLE GERTZE
AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
DURING THE 72ND SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
UNDER AGENDA ITEM
“109 MEASURES TO ELIMINATE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”**

03 OCTOBER 2017

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. I wish to congratulate you Mr. Chairman and other members of the bureau on your deserving election. Kindly be assured of Namibia's cooperation and support.
2. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and Algeria on behalf of the African Group.
3. Namibia strongly and unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
4. We welcome the Secretary-General's report on measures to eliminate international terrorism. In this regard we value the sincere engagement of the Secretary-General for a successful review of the UN counter terrorism architecture. We also welcome the improvement of the Office for Counter Terrorism. We join others in congratulating Mr. Vladimir Ivanovich Voronkov on his appointment as Head of the Office and express our hope that he will work closely with the regional groups and the entire UN family.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Namibia notes the need for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention for combating international terrorism. We believe that all Member States will cooperate in resolving the outstanding issues, towards the elaboration of the convention. Namibia will work closely with other delegations to refine the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy as well as to achieve consensus regarding the draft comprehensive Convention on international terrorism. There is need for an increased cooperation between the regional organizations and the United Nations on this matter.
6. The proposal to convene a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate an international response to

terrorism in all its forms and manifestations should be given priority attention.

Mr. Chairman

7. We believe that terrorism should not be automatically linked to any particular religion and that the genuine struggle for independence, by people whose territories are under occupation, should not be equated to terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Member States need to put in place vigorous and regular screening mechanisms (checks and balances) to ensure that those who have committed terrorism acts do not enjoy refugee status. Verification of screening to ensure that their integrity is not undermined. Namibia is concerned over the possible danger of the use or search of asylum as a pretext to commit terrorist acts in other countries.
9. Countries should have the capacity to prosecute their nationals when they are accused of carrying out terrorist acts, irrespective of where the crime was committed.
10. International cooperation between law enforcement and judicial agencies is a necessity. National laws should limit chances for funding terrorists. Member States should also cooperate in finding and sharing evidence on terrorism acts.

Mr. Chairman,

11. Namibia is engaged in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. The Government of Namibia has undertaken numerous measurements to enhance the capacity of relevant institutions to address the scourge of terrorism. We have also encouraged and

participated in the development of regional processes to facilitate the exchange of intelligence among States.

12. In compliance with relevant United Nations Conventions on the combating of terrorism and relevant Security Council resolutions, the Namibian Government has passed the Prevention and Combating of Terrorist and Proliferation Activities Act of 2014. It has also adopted regulations relating to the implementation of the Act. Namibia together with other Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) are implementing the SADC Strategy on Countering Terrorism in the Region and the Protocol on Extradition and Legal Mutual Assistance.
13. Finally, we call on all Member States of the United Nations to implement and adhere to the United Nations Convention on the Suppression of Financing of Terrorist Activities.

I thank you for your attention.