



**Statement by Mr. V. K. Nambiar, Permanent Representative, on Threats to International Peace and Security caused by terrorist acts at the Security Council on May 25, 2004.**

Mr. President,

We thank you for arranging this public meeting of the Security Council on an issue of particular importance and relevance to the United Nations membership.

The adoption of Resolution 1526 in January this year marked another important step in the work of 1267 (Al Qaeda/Taliban) Committee. We thank Ambassador Heraldo Munoz for his briefing this morning and for his exemplary stewardship of the 1267 Committee.

The Committee has been proactive in pursuing its mandate, one that is critical to the interest of the international community. The travels of the Chair to select states would undoubtedly enhance the Committee's understanding of situations peculiar to each state as well as the cooperation the Committee can elicit from the states concerned.

We are also confident that the establishment of the newly constituted Monitoring Team would impart further impetus to the Committee and increase its analytical and operational capacities. We believe that efforts of the Committee to expand the Taliban/Al Qaeda list; increase information sharing between the Committee and Member States; extend assistance to States in meeting their obligations under the relevant resolutions; pursue best practices; enhance cooperation between it and the Counter-Terrorism Committee; are all steps in the right direction.

Mr. President,

A few days ago, on May 23, thirty-three persons, including a number of women and children were killed when a vehicle they were travelling in was blasted along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway. The banned terrorist outfit, *Hizbul Mujahideen*, has claimed responsibility for the attack. Describing this as yet another instance of the grave threat terrorism posed to India's integrity and progress, the Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh declared that "*while we will continue to seek peaceful resolution to all outstanding problems, there can be no compromise on our solemn resolve to deal with the menace of terrorism with firm determination.*"

It is evident that the scourge of terrorism is increasing in intensity and spread worldwide. The increasingly sophisticated tactics and use of systems and equipment by terrorists, coupled with their continuing ability to elude restrictions placed by governments on their movements as well as their access to arms and financing, suggest that it is time for the international community

to pool its resources and come up with effective new counter-strategies to combat international terrorism.

In our view, the development of approaches and solutions to tackle terrorism has to cater to regional and national specificities. There is need to adopt a multi-track approach which takes account of differences in the stages of development and use of technology in different parts of the world. There are likely to be significant regional variations between Europe, Latin America, West Asia or South Asia in the handling of border controls, money transfers, small arms, counterfeit documents, narcotics and surveillance of communications. Although such variations are inevitable considering the different stages of economic development and use of technology between such regions, international counter-terrorism efforts must respect and respond to such diversity if they are to be fully effective or yield results.

We would like to emphasise the inter-linkages among different terrorist groups. They support each other, and their organisations' membership and ideologies mutate. They cannot thus be addressed on the basis of a segmented approach. We call upon the 1267 Committee to keep in mind this aspect of inter-linkages as it pursues work related to Al Qaeda and the Taliban.

The 1267 and Counter-Terrorism Committees and their operational arms will need to orient themselves to the different systems and loopholes that terrorist networks utilise to further their objectives. Such an approach implies close cooperation with officials and experts from countries with the required experience and expertise in dealing with such situations. The Committee must adjust its policies accordingly. In crafting its resolutions the Council must likewise sharpen the instruments available to it for tackling the varying strategies and techniques employed by terrorists. The furnishing by the Committee of complete details of identification to the maximum extent possible, of the terrorists included in the Al Qaeda/Taliban lists, will assist Member States in taking timely and effective action against such individuals.

It is a cold reality that the Taliban and Al Qaeda are far from finished. On the contrary, they have begun to "emerge from the woodwork" in different areas and are adapting and refining their tactics. The 1267 Committee represents a key multilateral component in containing the threat posed by these terrorist groups. Much will depend upon the Committee's continued and focused effort as well as its ability to face the issues head on, without fear or favour.

Mr. President,

The global ramifications of terrorist threats are unlikely to dissipate in the near future. No country can claim to be immune from the reach of terrorism. The international community will have to be united in sustaining and persevering with its collective campaign to root out this menace.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)