



*Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations*

866 U.N. Plaza, Rm 304, New York, NY 10017

STATEMENT

BY

**MR ARTHUR ANDAMBI**

MINISTER COUNSELOR/ HEAD OF CHANCERY

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

DURING THE

**INFORMAL MEETING ON THE FIFTH REVIEW OF THE UN  
GLOBAL COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGY**

13 May 2016

UNITED NATIONS, New York

Check Against delivery

## **INFORMAL MEETING ON THE FIFTH REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL COUNTER TERRORISM STRATEGY**

---

**Messrs co-facilitators',**

Thank you for giving me the floor,

First, let me congratulate you for assuming the leadership of the fifth review of the global counterterrorism strategy.

We also take this opportunity to thank the President of the General Assembly for entrusting this important task to you as co-facilitators.

The Kenya delegation wishes to acknowledge, with thanks, the efforts of the United Nations in the war against terrorism. Ten years ago UN Member states adopted the Global Counterterrorism Strategy and its four pillars to guide the war against terrorism. The strategy provided a solid benchmark from which member states, including Kenya have adopted and domesticated their own strategies against terrorism.

**Messrs co-facilitators,**

We acknowledge the contribution of the current global strategy to Kenya's current efforts against terrorism. The strategy has continued to guide capacity building and other technical assistance to Kenya by the UN through the UN Counterterrorism Implementation Taskforce (CTITF) and the Counterterrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) among others.

Despite the persistent challenges, we can attribute our achievements in countering terrorism to continued partnership with the UN and other bilateral partners.

We welcome the Report of the Secretary General on the Activities of the United Nations System in Implementing the United Nations

Global Counterterrorism Strategy. We hope the lessons learnt during its implementation for the last ten years will guide the current review. We concur with the report's observation that the dynamics of terrorism and violent extremism have evolved remarkably the last 10 years.

In order to consolidate the gains of the last ten years in implementation of the current global strategy, there is need to isolate the weaknesses, improve on the strengths and look out for better ways of countering terrorism.

**Co-Facilitators,**

The Kenya delegation welcomes the Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. We believe it provides a solid basis to address the weaknesses of the current strategy while consolidating its major strengths.

The Plan of Action's 'Whole of Society' 'Whole of UN' approach and its focus on preventive approaches is timely. The Plan of Action aligns well with the outcomes and recommendations of the other 3 UN reviews on peace operations including the emphasize on conflict prevention to achieve sustainable peace and security.

The Plan of Action provides an excellent analysis and concrete recommendations moving forward towards a new approach to prevent violent extremism, addressing the drivers of violent extremism and enhancing international cooperation and solidarity.

**Co- Facilitators,**

We need to translate the recommendations in the Plan of Action into meaningful outcome through the current review.

Allow me to point out a few issues that we consider to be crucial in achieving meaningful outcomes even as we wait for more comprehensive guidance from the Capital:



**First,** we believe coordination of our collective efforts against violent extremism is key to success. We need to define parameters for improving coordination within and between member states. We also need to review how the UN coordinates its efforts against violent extremism to make it more efficient and accountable. Harmonizing the various instruments at the disposal of UN is crucial. Efforts of the Security Council and the General Assembly need to be more well aligned and coherent to avoid duplication.

**Secondly,** International cooperation is crucial to unifying our efforts and sustaining their momentum. We may need to define how best to collectively check the progress of our efforts, to share best practices and experiences. The UN remains by far the most ideal convening forum and its potential in countering/preventing violent extremism remains not fully utilized.

**Third,** Inclusivity should guide our efforts at all levels. Countering and preventing violent extremism must involve all relevant stakeholders to succeed. The role of women, youth, the faiths and the civil society should be well defined and enhanced.

**Fourth,** the critical role of regional and sub regional organizations. Preventing violent extremism must shift from headquarters to the field. The role of UN Country teams must be well defined going forward. Similarly, the potential and capacities of regional and sub regional organization's in addressing cross cutting issues crucial to prevention of violent extremism needs to be emphasized.

**Co-facilitators,**

In conclusion, allow me to re-affirm my delegation's commitment to the realization of a stronger UN Counterterrorism Architecture through the current review of the global strategy.

We hope that the outcome of the intergovernmental process will result in a substantive resolution outlining our broad aspirations and solidarity against violent extremism.

**I thank you**