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STATEMENT

BY

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TO THE

SIXTH COMMITTEE

ON

AGENDA ITEM 108:
“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”

DURING THE

70TH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2015
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is delighted to see you chairing this Session of our Committee. I congratulate you and members of your bureau on your election. I assure you of my delegates support.

Kenya associates herself with the Statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement; and South Africa on behalf of the African Group.

My delegation welcomes the Secretary-General's report.

Mr. Chairman,

We live in very dangerous times. Terrorism remains our biggest challenge to global peace and security. As a country that has been a victim of terrorist atrocities, Kenya is fully committed to combating terrorism in all its aspects. We welcome renewed efforts to mobilize support to fight the grave threat posed by terrorism.

My delegation believes it requires coordination and harmonization of our efforts as well as the increased mobilization of the international community. We are convinced that without a coherent plan to fight terrorism, we will not be able to attain our collective objective.

Unfortunately, all our major efforts so far have been focussed on the effects of terrorism but not its more profound causes.

For instance, state failure of the kind seen in some countries creates ideal conditions for terrorist activities. When a government loses control over its territory and the institutions of governance; security implodes and criminal conduct becomes endemic.

Mr. Chairman,

Kenya attaches the highest priority to peace and security. We continue to initiate measures aimed at strengthening our capacity to counter terrorism.

At the national level, we have established a National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC). It is an interagency organization that coordinates the implementation of National Counter-Terrorism Strategy anchored on four United Nation's pillars) to DETER, DISRUPT, DETECT and DEFEND (4Ds) against the threat to terrorism.

We have also developed an elaborate National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism, addressing both the push and pull factors that make Kenyan youth and society at large more vulnerable to violent extremists' ideology. This strategy with input from the regional conferences on CVE held in Nairobi on 15th June, 2015 , focuses on three components: Preventive Actions, Curative Measures and Community Resilience Initiatives.

The Government has also taken measures to disrupt the sources of funding for terrorists and their networks.

The establishment of the Financial Reporting Centre that analyses financial transaction in liaison with our security agencies will contribute significantly to dealing with support transactions linked to terrorists. Our efforts are beginning to bear fruit. Recently, we listed 85 individuals and entities suspected of financing and providing other material support to terrorists. Consequently, their accounts were frozen.

Kenya continues to work closely with local, regional and international partners to implement counter-terrorism and CVE efforts. We reaffirm our commitment to implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the other attendant international covenants and instruments including Security Council Resolutions 1373(2001), 1624(2005) and resolution 2178(2014).

Mr. Chairman,

You will recall that the 69th Session of the General Assembly resolved that more time was required to achieve substantive progress on outstanding issues. It recommended the establishment of a working group during this session to finalize the draft convention on terrorism. This includes the item included in its agenda by GA Resolution 54/110 concerning convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

My delegation believes the United Nations must have a central role in combating international terrorism.

We welcome the invaluable role that has been carried out in drafting a comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

We call upon all states to exercise flexibility and accommodation in the interest of our long-term objectives.

It is my delegation's hope that we can find inspiration in the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations, to successfully conclude the convention. This would be a wonderful gift to all the peoples of the world.

Finally Mr. Chairman, Kenya has ratified all the 14 major conventions on terrorism and urges all those states that have not done so, to do so.

My delegation reiterates once again, that if we do not address the root causes of terrorism our efforts will come to naught. We must therefore work together. None of us can solve this problem single handedly.

Thank you for your attention.